

CIVIC EDUCATION SERIES

Class #3: Public Safety and Emergency Services

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the roles and responsibilities of Rindge's Police, Fire, and EMS departments.
2. Learn how emergency services are funded and staffed.
3. Gain insight into emergency response protocols and disaster preparedness.
4. Discover ways residents can support and engage with local emergency services.

INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES

(10 MIN)

- Overview of Rindge's public safety structure
- How police, fire, and EMS services work together to keep residents safe.
- Key Message: Emergency services are more than just crisis response – they are essential to our community's well-being and safety.

RINDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

(20 MIN)

- Mission & Responsibilities: Law enforcement, crime prevention, and community policing.
- Staffing Structure: Chief of Police, patrol officers, detectives, and support staff.
- Funding & Budgeting: Overview of expenses (staffing, equipment, training)
- Emergency Response: How officers respond to urgent situations and maintain public order.
- Community Programs: Initiatives such as the Crime Watch, Youth Outreach (etc) and public safety events.

RINDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

(20 MIN)

- Mission & Responsibilities: Fire suppression, rescue services, and fire prevention education.
- Staffing Structure: Fire Chief, firefighters (full-time and volunteer), and administrative support.
- Funding & Budget: Major cost factors (vehicles, protective equipment, and station upkeep).
- Emergency Response Protocols: How the fire department coordinates during house fires, hazardous spills, and rescue operations.
- Fire Safety Programs: Smoke detector installations, home safety checks, and fire prevention workshops.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OVERVIEW

(20 MIN)

- Mission & Responsibilities: Responding to medical emergencies, providing pre-hospital care, and patient transportation.
- Staffing Structure: Paramedics, EMTs, and support personnel.
- Funding & Budget: Equipment costs, ambulance maintenance, and training.
- Emergency Medical Protocols: How EMS responds to medical calls, accidents, and life-threatening situations.
- Community Health Programs: CPR training, first aid workshops, and wellness checks for seniors.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESIDENT INVOLVEMENT (15 MIN)

- How residents can prepare for natural disasters, power outages, or medical emergencies.
- Overview of the Emergency Management Plan and coordination with neighboring towns.
- Encouraging residents to create a 72-hour Emergency Kit for personal preparedness.
- Volunteer opportunities with programs like CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) or as a Volunteer Firefighter.
- Activity: Provide a sample checklist for building an emergency preparedness kit.

CLOSING REMARKS AND Q&A

(10 MIN)

- Recap of key points.
- Open floor for participant questions.
- Distribute handouts with contact information for emergency services, fire safety tips, and disaster preparedness resources.