



NEWALD FIRE DEPARTMENT

We're There When You Need Us • Courage, Commitment, Community • Chief Paul Behrens

Fire Department Report to Town Board - for the month of: March 2026

There was 1 call in Newald and 0 calls in Popple River for the last month.

Last month's training was on ice rescue and incident command, in a joint training led by Chief Behrens and attended by 7 area fire departments. Training was conducted on long lake and utilized an inflatable Rapid Deployment Craft. Our department training also included wildland fire preparation and learning about the Wildland Urban Interface - the area where the forest meets our neighborhoods and homes. We discussed structure protection tactics and goals.

Next month's training will be preparing for Wildland Fire season and possibly meeting with the forest service or DNR.

The Dept is in the process of fulfilling our DNR grant purchases for the 2025 grant. The application period for the 2026 grant opens in April.

Thanks to the efforts of Chief Behrens the department has been awarded a grant for four full sets of brand new turnout gear through the NVFC's Globe MSA Grant. The gear includes four sets of coats, pants, and helmets with fronts, with a value of approximately \$20,000. We thank the NVFC and Globe for awarding this grant to Newald Fire Dept, and we thank Conway Shield for the fulfillment. This gear will protect our members for years to come. The grant alleviates some of the taxpayer burden of the requirement that local governments provide each firefighter with a new set of gear every 10 years, which can cost up to \$6-\$7k per firefighter.

Department meetings and trainings are held the first Monday of the month at 6pm and anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Paul Behrens