

THE BLAZE

July 6, 2018

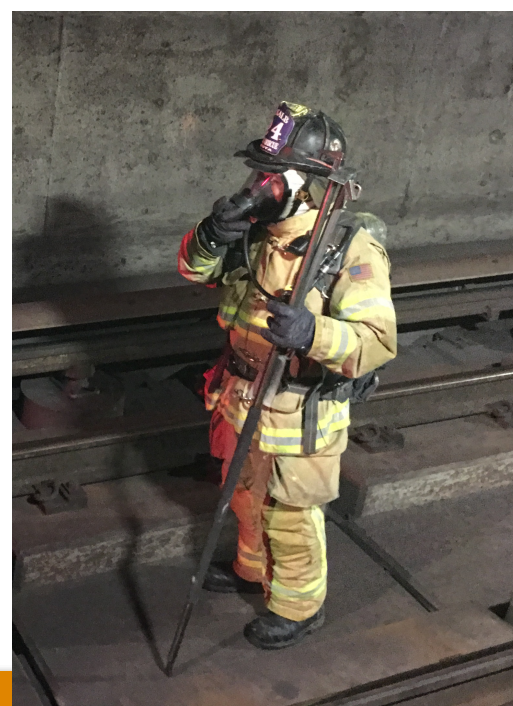
DeKalb County Fire Rescue

- ◆ The Marta Drill
- ◆ Recruit Hiring
- ◆ 2017 Run Totals
- ◆ Cooking Safety





Crew working to bypass high powered electrical rail through a technique called shunting.



MARTA Drills Test Firefighters

DeKalb County Fire Rescue recently participated in its annual drill which tests the overall preparedness to respond to emergencies at county Marta facilities. The first stage of this massive multistage drill, facilitated by Marta officials, provided DCFR personnel training in tunnel access points, working around energized rail systems, bypassing high powered electrical supplies, and basic train operations. During the second stage of the drill, crews responded to a simulated Marta train fire with entrapment at the Avondale Marta Station.

DeKalb crews responded to the drill May 23-25, 2018, between 2 and 4 a.m., as a part of their normal call volume. The drill was a part of their 24-hour call volume day. For video highlights of the drill please see the DCFR Facebook page at www.facebook.com/DeKalbCountyFireRescueDepartment.

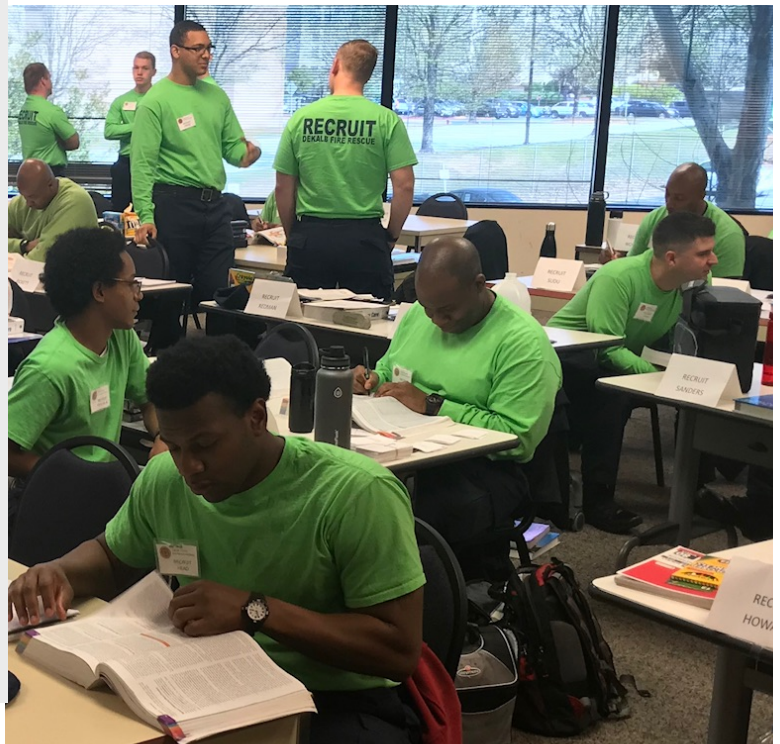


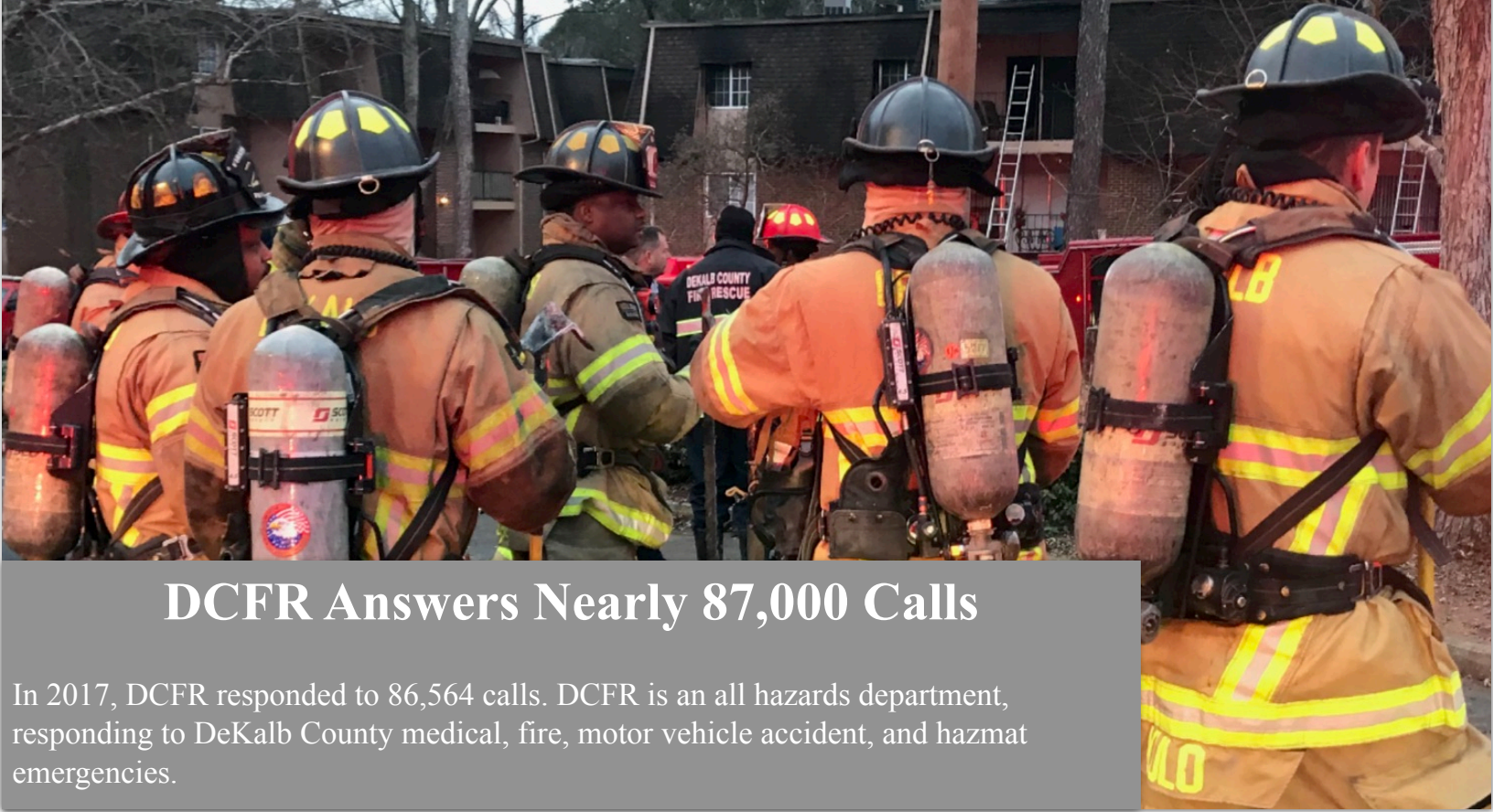


Recruits practice team extinguishment.

Recruits Complete Accelerated Training Academy

A recent group of 118 recruits is proof that DCFR is committed to filling all available firefighting positions. Twenty-three of these recruits graduated on April 12 and have been placed in the field. Another 45 of them have completed the EMT portion of their training, and are in firefighter training. While fire recruit training typically lasts 40 weeks, 17 recruits with prior EMS or fire experience completed an accelerated academy in 20 weeks. The remaining recruits are in a regular 40-week fire academy. For information regarding applying to DCFR call 678-406-7778.





DCFR Answers Nearly 87,000 Calls

In 2017, DCFR responded to 86,564 calls. DCFR is an all hazards department, responding to DeKalb County medical, fire, motor vehicle accident, and hazmat emergencies.

Cooking Safety

Cooking brings family and friends together, provides an outlet for creativity and can be relaxing. But did you know that cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries? By following a few safety tips you can prevent these fires.

"COOK WITH CAUTION"

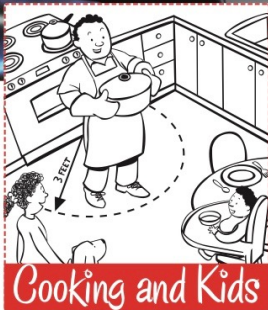
- » Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.
- » Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- » If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- » Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.

If you have a small (grease) cooking fire and decide to fight the fire...

- » On the stovetop, smother the flames by sliding a lid over the pan and turning off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- » For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

If you have any doubt about fighting a small fire...

- » Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- » Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number from outside the home.



Cooking and Kids

Have a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

FACTS

- ! The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.
- ! Most cooking fires in the home involve the kitchen stove.



Cooking is a leading cause of residential fires

1. Never leave a stove unattended while frying, grilling, or broiling.
2. If you have to leave the kitchen while cooking, simply turn the stove off.
3. Keep the stove free and clear of flammable materials.
4. Never put water on a grease fire.
5. Have a lid that matches the pot or skillet that you are cooking in; it can be used to smother fires in either the pot or skillet. Baking soda, as well, can be poured onto grease fires to bring about extinguishment.
6. Have a fire extinguisher located in a visible place in your kitchen.
7. If a fire occurs in the oven, then leave it closed and turn the oven off; the fire in the oven will go out on its own if the oven door remains closed. If a fire occurs in the microwave, then leave it closed and simply unplug it or trip the breaker powering the microwave; the fire will go out on its own if the microwave remains closed. Remember, always use your best judgment while cooking. If the fire does not go out for any reason, evacuate your family and yourself out of the house and call 911.

