



FIRE DEPARTMENT
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(NEWS/PRESS)**

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APPLE VALLEY ACHIEVES CLASS 2 RATING

APPLE VALLEY, MN -- The City of Apple Valley's fire insurance rating has improved and the result could be lower insurance premiums for homeowners and businesses.

The City of Apple Valley has received a Public Protection Classification (PPC) rating of Class 2 from the Insurance Services Office (ISO). This rating is the best in the State of Minnesota and in the top 4% of cities nationwide.

In August 2017, ISO evaluated Apple Valley's ability to effectively suppress and prevent fires in each of the following categories; Emergency Communications (911), Water Supply, Fire Department, and Community Risk Reduction. In each area, ISO uses a uniform set of criteria, incorporating nationally recognized standards developed by the National Fire Protection Association and the American Water Works Association. Upon completing the evaluation, a PPC grade is assigned from 1 to 10. Class 1 represents an exemplary fire protection program and Class 10 indicates that the area's fire protection program does not meet ISO's minimum criteria.

The classification earned plays a role in insurance companies marketing, underwriting, and establishing fair premiums for homeowners and commercial fire insurance. The price of fire insurance in communities with a lower PPC grades is substantially lower than in a community with a higher PPC grade, assuming all other factors are equal.

The improved classification is a reflection of the City of Apple Valley's commitment to provide quality public safety services to the citizens of Apple Valley.

Fire Chief Nealon Thompson said in a statement, "this is the culmination of excellent training, high expectations, and public outreach to prevent fires." Furthermore he recognizes and would like to thank the Firefighters of Apple Valley for their commitment and dedication, along with their partners at the Dakota Communications Center (911 dispatching), and the City of Apple Valley Utilities Staff (water department). It takes a team of departments to eliminate or reduce the effects of fire.

Previously Apple Valley held a Class 3 rating since 1998. The new Class 2/2x rating will become effective April 1, 2018.

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