



AUBURN FIRE & EMS

OUR ORGANIZATION

The Auburn Fire Department has four functional areas with managers in those areas reporting directly to the Chief of the Department:

- **Operations:** including all emergency response personnel (65 sworn firefighters, including 4 Battalion Chiefs) housed within 3 fire stations, Emergency Medical Services, and special operations (Confined Space Rescue, Hazardous Materials, Rope Rescue, and Water Rescue).
- **Logistics:** including the acquisition of supplies, station and vehicle maintenance, and technology management.
- **Administrative Services:** including financial reporting, payroll, office-support functions, and the Training Division.
- **Fire Prevention:** including fire and life-safety code enforcement and inspection, plans review, new construction inspection, fire investigation, emergency management team participation, maintenance of facility plans, Auburn Right-to-Know information, and public education services.

An all-career operations staff works a 24/72-hour shift with 15 firefighters and 1 Battalion Chief per shift. Staffing is dispersed over 2 pumpers, 1 quint, and 2 ambulances. Non-administrative firefighters are represented by the Auburn Firefighters Local 797, a local chapter of the International Association of Firefighters. We actively participate in the labor/management process and seek to resolve issues through discussion and collaboration rather than potentially confrontational means.

The Auburn Fire Department Community

The Auburn Fire Department provides primary coverage for the City of Auburn, the 5th largest community in Maine and part of the 2nd largest metropolitan area in the state. Though the City of Auburn is home to 23,126 residents, the metropolitan area is comprised of approximately 75,000 people, including our twin city of Lewiston and several surrounding bedroom communities. The City of Auburn, located in central Maine, encompasses 65 square miles: 59.8 square miles of land (30% of which is protected by water hydrants) and 6.4 square miles of water. 37.5 miles of the City are forested. Auburn is the hub for 4 major arteries with a 7-mile section of Interstate 95 (Maine Turnpike) passing through it.

Being a rural-suburban community within a metropolitan area, we have all the challenges of both: such as being prepared for all the industrial, commercial, and urban hazards faced by communities; protecting a daytime influx of people into the City which swells the population to 60,000; while being required to meet firefighting challenges in rural areas such as wildland firefighting and rural water rescue. Our critical infrastructures include:

- *Lewiston/Auburn Municipal Airport:* The 2nd busiest general-aviation airport in the state – with an average of 144 runway operations per day or 52,750 annually
- *Central ME Community College:* 135-acre campus hosting 5000 students
- *Lake Auburn:* the sole drinking-water supply for approximately 100,000 people
- *An acetylene production plant*
- *Norway Savings Bank Ice Arena:* hosting concerts and trade shows in addition to sports events
- 54 miles of electrical transmission-line corridors
- 2 large and 6 smaller hydroelectric dams
- 4 miles of *underground petroleum pipeline*
- 5 large, *commercial factories*
- *Several spacious recreation areas*, including 16.8 miles of off-road biking/hiking trails, 38.6 miles of snowmobile trails, a ski area and a lodge
- 2 *rail lines* with a total of 17.1 miles of track
- *a customs zone* where freight - arriving by rail or air - is held until Customs' officers inspect it
- Major *Androscoggin River*, one large pond & several smaller rivers, brooks, and streams
- Seven miles of the *Maine State Turnpike*

Auburn has a strong city-manager form of government. In this form of government, the city council develops legislation and policies to direct the City. The city manager, hired by the city council, provides administrative direction to the organization, oversees personnel and operations, and carries out the city council's direction. Auburn has nearly 240 employees and a \$41 million budget. The City of Auburn is service-oriented and a welcoming organization that provides services through six departments:

- Administrative Services
- Fire and Emergency Medical Services
- Police
- Library, Recreation and Cultural Services
- Planning and Development
- Public Service