

# Etna Volunteer Fire Department

## Strategic Plan 2024-2029



# Etna Volunteer Fire Department

## Our History

The Etna Volunteer Fire Department (EVFD) was established in 1974 by a team of motivated residents in the Hamlet of Etna. In 2012, the department was established as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

We serve a growing population of 2,500 residents across residential and commercial properties in our service area of nearly 15 square miles that spans the Town of Dryden and the Town of Ithaca. We are proud to provide fire protection and first response emergency medical services, basic life support (BLS) throughout our community. Responding to an average of 200 calls per year, we also receive & provide mutual aid to our fellow Fire Departments in the Town of Dryden, as well as the surrounding departments in Tompkins County, including the Tompkins County Regional Airport. Our Apparatus includes: 2 engines, 1 rescue truck, 1 brush truck, 1 tanker and 1 off road 4x4 utility vehicle.

## Mission Statement

**“Nothing Stronger Than the Heart of a Volunteer”**

The Etna Volunteer Fire Department upholds our long-standing commitment to provide emergency response services, education and outreach to members of our community as we work to advance Fire Department volunteerism in the Town of Dryden and New York State.

## Vision Statement

The Etna Volunteer Fire Department endeavors to meet the dynamic and growing challenges facing Volunteer Fire and EMS Services. To ensure the safety of our community in the context of changing technology and demands on volunteerism, we continue to provide emergency services, identify recruitment strategies and promote engagement through education and risk reduction for our members and community.

## Core Values

- Our Volunteer Members have a passion to help, by always putting the interest of the community we serve first.
- Combine individual strengths to create collaboration, positivity and maximize teamwork.
- Achieve long term sustainability through dedicated members, effective planning and department leadership.

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## Leadership Team

The Etna Volunteer Fire Departments elected officer positions are the following: Chief of Department, First Assistant Chief, Second Assistant Chief, Third Assistant Chief, Fire Police Captain, EMS/Rescue Captain, (2) Fire Captains and Safety Officer.

The elected administrative officer positions are the following: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Property Clerk, (2) Training Officers and (8) Board of Directors.

The EVFD Leadership team works together to manage the daily obligations & responsibilities to keep the department operations running cohesively, with many members serving in multiple roles. Our primary goal is protecting the lives and property of the residents and visitors to the Etna Community, Town of Dryden and surrounding areas.

## Protection, Prevention, Safety, Education and Training

- Our strategic plan is a living document and will require periodic updates, due to the ever-changing environment of the Fire and EMS Services.
- We will provide prompt, reliable service to our community during any emergency and will adequately equip ourselves to mitigate all incidents.
- We must continue to ensure full cooperation and collaboration with our mutual aid Fire Departments and take every opportunity to initiate Town wide Training, Team-Oriented Work Environment and Education.
- We must be flexible and adapt to achieve growth within the community and our members.
- We must prepare the next generation of department leaders through proper mentoring and member involvement to ensure the longevity of our department
- Training is a critical aspect of safe and effective operations. It is our duty to ensure our members are trained to perform their responsibilities effectively. It is our obligation to ensure we meet the expectations of the community and our members.
- We must ensure that our department members support and maintain a work environment that promotes equality, compassion and integrity.

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## APPARATUS

- Engine 301 – 2010 KME Pumper  
1,000 gal. water capacity, Replacement year 2030



- Engine 302 – 2002 Sterling Pumper  
1,500 gal. water capacity, Replacement year 2042  
Full truck rehab in 2022 to meet current NFPA standards



- Tanker 321 – 2013 KME Tanker  
3,000 gal. water capacity, Replacement year 2033



- Brush Truck 341 – 2015 Ford F350  
250 gal. water capacity, Replacement year 2035



- UTV 342 – 2022 Polaris Ranger North Star  
100 gal. water capacity, Replacement year 2042



- 2022 Haulmark Enclosed Trailer  
For transporting Polaris Ranger & Equipment



- Rescue 343 – 2017 Chevy Tahoe  
Replacement year 2037



# Etna Volunteer Fire Department

FIRE STATION – 26 Wood Rd, Freeville, NY

Community hall used for events and fundraisers



TRAINING BUILDING – 231 Lower Creek Rd, Ithaca, NY



# Etna Volunteer Fire Department

## Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities & Threats (SWOT)

### ➤ **Strengths**

- ✓ We have one of the larger tankers in the Town of Dryden providing fire service to our area as well as aiding our fellow departments when called upon.
- ✓ Our professionals collaborate alongside all our fellow departments as a team when we are called to serve the community in their time of need.
- ✓ Our Department's Leadership Team is well organized and efficient
- ✓ Our member's experience is diverse and their backgrounds are helpful when we are called to service our community.

### ➤ **Weaknesses**

- ✓ All our volunteer members work full time and most are unable to leave work to answer calls during the day.
- ✓ Location of Fire Dept is on a less traveled road with limited access to public transportation.
- ✓ Limited NYS Training Availability

### ➤ **Opportunities**

- ✓ Continue to Collaborate with other Town of Dryden Fire Departments (Trainings, Member Recruitment, Community Events, etc.)
- ✓ Build a bunk house to incentivize recruitment and have members onsite available to respond to calls.
- ✓ Mentor current members to be the next generation of our Leadership Team.
- ✓ Proactively engage in community outreach and related functions to foster relationships and trust within the communities we serve.

### ➤ **Threats**

- ✓ Electric Cars – need to learn more about where the wiring is located, cut points, make a guide for the different makes of electric cars.
- ✓ Solar Panels – Protection- Make sure we have response plans for fires where the solar fields are located at.
- ✓ Make sure our apparatus and/or personnel have more ways in and out if a situation arises where blocked in by fire, hazard or other apparatus

# Etna Volunteer Fire Department

## Strategic Plan – Goals

### **Strategic Goal #1:** Membership Recruitment & Retention

#### **Action Steps:** Year 1-5

- Create EVFD Recruitment Pamphlets to go door to door in our community
- Increase Active Membership by 10% each year
- Community Open House Events in the Spring and Fall
- Develop a Retention/Incentive Program for Current & New Members

#### **Outcome by Year:**

### **Strategic Goal #2:** Plan to Build a Future Bunk House

#### **Action Steps:** Year 1-3

- Design Structure and Floor Plan for Bunk House
- Setup Financial Plan for Building Materials & Obtain Contractor Quotes
- Obtain Building Permit
- Start Construction of Bunk House

#### **Outcome by Year:**

### **Strategic Goal #3:** Training

#### **Action Steps:** Year 1-5

- Increase In-House training with all members
- Schedule Quarterly Town-wide trainings
- Enroll Members in Training Courses outside our County (if needed)

#### **Outcome by Year:**