



DEDHAM/LUCERNE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Chief's Monthly Report for April 2026

Your Dedham/Lucerne Firefighters responded to 35 calls for service for the month of April.

This month has kept us busy with calls for service. We've been working with Code Enforcement and have started completing short-term rental inspections. These have been going great so far. This has also been a great opportunity for some of our crew to get into these homes and see everything we wouldn't normally get to before an emergency occurs. We've really enjoyed being out and about as it gets warmer speaking with residents of our community.

I would like to announce the promotion of full-time firefighter Tim Hall. Tim has been promoted to the rank of Captain. Congratulations Tim! On Tim's days off from Dedham, he also works as the Fire Chief in Etna, which makes him a great addition to our officer staff.

I completed my CDL class B program that was sponsored by the Hancock County Firefighters Association. I'm happy to announce that I passed the written exam and now hold my CDL Class B permit. Next, I'll need to take a driving test to obtain my license.

Training has been going very well with lots of member participation. Area training officers have gotten together and established a plan to start having more mutual-aid trainings together. It will be great to get back to this again as we work side by side on many incidents. Over this past month we've completed a couple of trainings with Ellsworth Fire, Holden Fire, and Eddington Fire. Over next month, crews will attend live-fire trainings in Ellsworth.

We've begun issuing seasonal burn permits; if you are interested in having one, please give us a call at the station to get added to the list for someone to come inspect your fire pit and issue you a permit for the 2026 season. Please be sure to check the fire danger before starting any open burning. If you're looking to burn grass or a field, those permits must be obtained at the Fire Station. Crews may ask to come to the area to make sure that it's going to be safe for you to complete your burn.

Engine 372 went into the shop for emergency leaf spring replacement after finding the rear springs broken. This was not an anticipated repair, but a special thank you to Allegiance for getting the truck in and back to us quickly.

Beginning in June, we will be hosting a Basic Fire School that will run over the course of a couple months to get all of our new members' training up to where they can start going and helping on more calls for service. I'd like to thank Captain Hall for taking the time to put this class together and to all of our new members for being willing to put in the time and dedication to obtain this training for our community.

Firefighter Tim O'Neill will be attending the Penobscot County Fire Academy this summer. Tim completed his physical agility test last weekend and passed. Congratulation Tim! Once Tim completes this program, he'll obtain his Pro-Board Firefighter 1 & 2 certification and Hazmat

Operations. We're very excited for Tim and look forward to watching him grow within our department.

Burn permits are available at the station every day, 9:00AM-6:00PM. In addition, permits are available online and are now free of charge. Please read the permit for restrictions and do not burn if it's windy. Just search up Maine Open Burn Permit or visit dedhamme.org.

In April, the D/L FD responded to 35 requests for service as follows:

EMS	10	Seasonal Burn Permits	11
Fire Service	1	Fire Alarm Activation	3
Wildland Fire	2	M/A Building Fire	1
Utility Problem	2	M/A Wildland Fire	1
Short-Term Rental Inspection	4		

Zack Cronkhite
Fire Chief
Dedham/Lucerne F.D.