



St. Charles Countryside Fire Protection District

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www.sccfpd.org

SCCFPD Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who is the SCCFPD and what do they do?

The SCCFPD is the rural area surrounding St. Charles that is NOT inside the city limits of the City of St. Charles. Although the border is rather irregular, it is roughly Rt. 38 on the South, McDonald/Stearns Roads to the North, Knollwood Road (The Windings subdivision) to the West, Munger Road to the East (just West of Route 59). The area is about 34 square miles, covering St. Charles Township, Campton Township, and Wayne Township.

The SCCFPD is directed by five appointees by the Kane County and DuPage County Boards: Ed Malek, Chuck Dunham, Terry Jeglum, Bob Handley and John Gamboa. It is their job to ensure that SCCFPD residents and businesses receive the fire and emergency medical protection they require.

2. So who provides this emergency help to me if I need it?

Every year, the Board contracts with the St. Charles Fire Department (STCFD) to provide fire and ambulance care in the SCCFPD. These are certified fire and medical professionals who have the latest training and equipment available. Most of them live here as neighbors. These professionals are remarkable servants, highly invested in serving their community.

3. When I dial 911, who responds to the call?

An employee of the STCFD would show up on your doorstep. So although the trucks say "St. Charles Fire Department" on the side, the services are contracted and paid for by the SCCFPD, which means you, the taxpayer.

4. Should I be concerned about our coverage?

The three St. Charles fire stations are quite a distance from the outer reaches of the SCCFPD. This distance, coupled with the increasing road congestion, has dramatically increased the time it takes to provide that emergency care to SCCFPD residents. This can have dramatic impact on safety of your family and home.

5. How long does it take?

The map on the SCCFPD Web site can help you identify where you live and how long it takes your address to receive urgent support, whether it's a medical or fire fighting emergency.

In the areas closest to the stations, support can be as fast as 7-8 minutes from the time you call 911 to the time help arrives to your home. In the far reaches, it takes longer than 13-14 minutes on average.

6. Why should I be concerned with this response time?

If your medical emergency is a diabetic issue, a bee sting allergy or cardiac arrest, this amount of time to receive medical care can be a problem. Statistics show that a person who has been in cardiac arrest longer than 5 minutes will have long-term brain damage, and 85% of those people die.

Fire statistics show that a home can become engulfed in flames and beyond saving after 10 minutes of a fire starting in your house. In this situation, called flashover, as a small fire continues to burn, the temperature within the house builds so high so quickly that anything flammable just ignites instantaneously. The house, in many cases, cannot be saved.

Edward Malek
President

Robert Handley
Treasurer

John Gamboa
Secretary

Chuck Dunham
Trustee

Terry Jeglum
Trustee

Julia Glas
Administrator