

History of the West Grey Fire Service

In 2004, the West Grey Fire Service was formed by dissolving the Durham & District Joint Board of Management. The joint board was a partnership between the Municipality of West Grey and the Township of Southgate, who had an ownership agreement with the Durham & District Fire Department. The West Grey Fire Service was formed by amalgamating the former Ayton Normanby, Durham & District, and Neustadt Fire Departments into one cohesive unit.



The new fire service is overseen by a Fire Chief with the assistance of three (3) Deputy Chiefs, one at each station in Durham, Neustadt and Ayton. Each station also has three (3) Captains to assist each Deputy Chief with their duties.

The Municipality is also serviced by two jointly-operated Fire Departments; the Elmwood Fire Department jointly owned by the Municipality of West Grey and the Municipality of Brockton, and the Markdale and Area Fire Department, jointly owned by the Municipality of West Grey and the Municipality of Grey Highlands. In addition to these two Fire Departments, the Municipality of West Grey buys service from the Hanover Fire Department and the Mount Forest Fire Department. The West Grey Fire Service is also a member of the Grey County Fire Aid Association and has agreements for mutual aid assistance with all neighbouring Departments and Counties.

The seven Fire Stations cover an area of about 750 square kilometres and a population of about 12,000 (which increases during the tourist season).

Fire trucks are a welcome sight in local parades and afford the department the opportunity to showcase new and vintage equipment.

