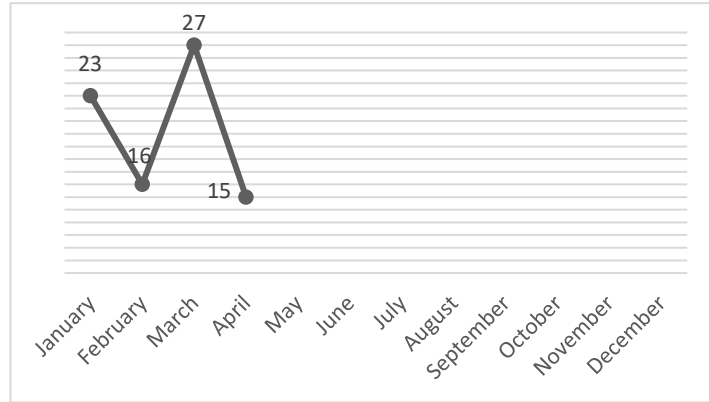




To: Honorable Mayor and Houston City Council
 From: Christian Hartley, Fire Chief *CH*
 Thru: Mayor's Office
 Subj: Fire Chief's Report – May 2023

Fire – Local	3	Fire – Aid	8
Rescue	3	Comm Service	2
EMS	11	Landing Zone	1
TOTAL CALLS -		28	
CALLS TO DATE – 2022			39



April was a fairly calm entry into wildland season due to the continued snow pack and we are using this to our advantage to get as many firefighters certified in wildland firefighter as possible. We are also working on our Strategic Plan for the department to set out road map for the next five years.

Houston FD will be participating in several public events this month including National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day event at West Lakes Fire Department that we partner with them annually, Houston's Clean Up Days May 16-20, Little Susitna River Cleanup on June 3, and others. We are always out in the community encouraging safety, providing education, and we appreciate this council's support that allows that to happen.

We installed two carbon monoxide alarms, three smoke alarms, and also responded to several carbon monoxide calls in April. Never let your guard down, and keep those alarms installed and tested.



Tender 92 assisting on a mutual aid fire

Just a reminder that we are in our wildfire season. Any fire larger than a 3x3 campfire requires a permit which is available at no cost. The fire department continues to work with the Burn Barrel Advisory Commission.

Here are the State's requirements for burn permits:

- **Burn Permits are required in Alaska from April 1st to August 31st.**
*Burn permits are required state-wide unless area is covered by a more stringent local or federal permit.
- **Small Scale Burn Permits** are required for burn barrels, burning a maintained lawn of less than 1 acre, and a brush pile of organic material not exceeding 10 feet in diameter by 4 feet in height.



- **Large Scale Burn Permits** are required for any burning of wooded debris that exceeds the size and complexity of the small-scale burn permit including agricultural parcels, land clearing, and logging operations. Additional equipment and site inspection may be required.



- Campfires less than 3 feet in diameter do **NOT** require a Burn Permit.

