

A few of the residents of Thompson started to talk about fire protection and formed the Thompson Hose Company in 1935. The Thompson Hose Company Incorporated in 1938. The Department started with a 1937 Dodge Truck with a front mount pump built by a local resident Merrill Hathaway. This Truck was replaced by a 1952 Ford with a 500 gallon Darley Pump which at the time cost \$10,000 dollars. A few years later a 1959 Jeep was constructed for fighting brush fires. Merrill Hathaway also constructed this vehicle.

In the 1960's a second pumper was added to the Company due to a growing population and service to the neighboring townships. A Maxim 1,000n GPM pump was purchased from a Fire Company on Long Island New York. At this time the Company had out grown the present building so an addition was built on the right side of the present building. This building was located on the corner of Main and Jackson Streets in the Borough of Thompson.

In the early 70's a 1939 Dodge 1,000 gallon tanker was purchased from the East Main Fire Company in Broome County New York. This was purchased for a \$ 1.00 and was put into service in order to a larger water supply to the fleet. In 1974 a new Ford Pumper with a 750 GPM Darley pump and 750 gallon tank replaced the Maxim truck. The cost of this truck was \$ 29,000 dollars.

In 1974 the Thompson Hose Company purchased a 1975 Chevy Brush truck. They also purchased a 1972 International Tanker from a local milk hauler. The Tanker had a 2200 gallon capacity and was stainless steel in construction. These vehicles replaced the Jeep and the Dodge Tanker. In 1979 the Hose Company purchased a 1980 Dodge Power Wagon with a 750 GPM Hale pump. This Mini Pumper is still in service today.

In 1979 Dr Noyes saw a need for our community to have a ambulance. Dr. Noyes approached the Fire Dept to see if they would be interested in staffing an ambulance for the community. Dr. Noyes bought a seventy something Cadillac Ambulance and donated it to the Department. The Ambulance arrived before all of the staff were trained but the Thompson Hose Co. was well on their way to adding ambulance service to the list of community services. With this addition we had to add on to the building again, this time it was on the left side. This construction was done by a few of the membership. This made a 5 bay fire house, with our meeting room upstairs. We continued to use this ambulance for a few years until we could afford a new ambulance. In 1984 we purchased a Yankee Coach on a Ford Econoline van chassis. At that time we had 15 ambulance crew members and 11 of them were Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT). In 1999 the Yankee Coach was replaced with a 1999 Ford E450 Wheeled Coach modular type ambulance. We are still running with 15 EMT's and 4 First Responders.

In 1989 the Company grew again with the addition of a 3,000 gallon Tanker. This was on a Ford chassis and was purchased from Miller Place Fire Company located on Long Island New York. At this time the Company has 2 Pumpers, 2 Tankers, and Brush Truck and 1 Ambulance.

In 1993 it was decided to build a new station on Water Street. We moved into this building in summer of 1993. Our new building has a banquet room as well as our engine room. This allowed us to have everything on one floor which made our meeting room handicap assessable. The cost for this project was \$ 220,000.

In 1995 the Company received a donation from Father Cappelloni of a 1964 Haun Fire Engine. He purchased this engine for \$ 1200.00 dollars. This replaced the 1974 Pumper. The Hahn was taken out of service and in December of 2004 and was

purchased by 2 members for \$ 1100.00. They formed Thompson Hose Co. Antique Association.

In early 2000 we accepted a donation from Mastic Beach Fire Dept of a Ford 900 pumper with a 1000 GPM Waterous Pump This is our present Engine 5. We also purchased a 1993 Western Star Tractor from a Kenworth dealer in Dunmore. We removed the fifth wheel and had a 3500 gallon tank built on this chassis. This Truck is powered by a 425 Caterpillar motor and has a 13 speed transmission. We also had put together a Rescue truck with donations from Columbia Hose Co. and Susquehanna Fire Dept. This rescue truck was short lived at Thompson Hose Co. and was sold to Equinunk Fire dept for a \$ 1.00.

In 2004 we purchased a new engine for \$250,000 dollars. This replaced the Hahn. Our new engine is a 2004 Crimson which is on a Spartan chassis. It is powered by a 400 horse power Cummins diesel. This has a 1250 GPM Hale pump. We had applied for grants for new equipment and was awarded \$85,000 for equipment. With this money we purchased new Jaws of Life, 5 in Hose, Radio equipment, and 10 new sets of turnout gear.

2005 we purchased a 1997 GMC pick up truck and converted it to a Brush Truck. The tank was donated from Mastic Beach Fire Department. After a few modifications it was ready for service in Late March. The Brush truck also has a plow frame on it for winter time.

2007 The Thompson Hose Company added a second ambulance. This is a 2007 AEV on a 4 Wheel Drive chassis. The second ambulance is especially helpful when we respond to Motor Vehicle Crashes. The four wheel drive is for the inclement weather that is noted for Susquehanna County.

For current pictures of the Thompson Hose Company please click [here](#). The Thompson Hose Company currently has approximately 50 members. To Date the Thompson Hose Co. has had 11 different Fire Chiefs with Chad Wallace as the current chief. They train regularly and attend classes put on by The Fire Academy to serve our community better. The Ambulance service at the Thompson Hose Co. has had 6 different Captains with Kim Conklin as the current Captain. Our EMT's need 24 hours of continuing education to remain certified. Some of the Fire Chiefs and Ambulance Captains have been in charge of our company before, taken a break and then been reassigned as chief or captain.