

BENNINGTON RESCUE SQUAD

The Bennington Rescue Squad, Inc. remains a non-profit 501(c)3 Paramedic Emergency Medical Service staffed by career and volunteer members. We are proud to serve the citizens of Shaftsbury who may be in need of out-of-hospital emergent and non-emergent medical care. This year we responded to a total 134 emergency calls in the Town of Shaftsbury.

Bennington Rescue strives to provide the communities we serve with the latest in emergency equipment. We have recently purchased a Kubota RTV900 Side-by-Side ATV off-road rescue vehicle. This vehicle gives us the capability to respond to and rescue anyone anytime of the year. The Kubota is equipped with a backboard, advanced life support equipment and a seat for the EMT to attend to the patient. It also has a set of tracks that can be installed for winter use.

Our volunteer and career staff attend monthly training sessions to hone their skills and to stay current on the latest updates and changes in emergency medicine. Bennington Rescue's staff currently consists of 11 Paramedics, 11 EMT- Intermediates, 21 EMT Basics, two First Responders and three Trainees. Bennington Rescue continues to have the capability for snowmobile and off-road rescues. We also have our Mass Casualty Incident mobile command and rehab trailer which remains a vital part of our resources. The unit contains medical supplies for mass casualty incidents and firefighter rehab and is capable of managing up to 50 casualties.

The NorShaft Community First Response group, a division of Bennington Rescue, first responds to emergencies in the Shaftsbury and North Bennington area. These trained providers living in your community, arrive on-scene before the ambulance to provide immediate emergency medical care. They also pass on important information to the responding ambulance crews, which is essential to assess the level of care needed. They are equipped with radios, pagers, first aid kits and Automatic External Defibrillators (AED's). This group of dedicated volunteers is always looking for new members. Think about making a difference in your community and volunteer.

We continue to provide other services which include cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) classes to the general public, various demonstrations and displays. This year we were at the Mayfest, Garlicfest, Maplefest events, demonstrations at elementary schools and participated in the annual Memorial Day parade. If you would like to schedule a class, have us provide a demonstration, or attend an event please contact us.

Bennington Rescue continues to support our Boy Scouts of America Explorer Post. The post consists of young adults, male or female who have completed the 8th grade and are from ages 14-21 who desire or have an interest in Pre-hospital emergency care. If you have or know of a young adult interested in medicine, this group would be a good place for them to start.

We desire to recruit and train anyone who truly wants to make a difference and help their friends and neighbors. So, if you think you might be interested in volunteering or just want to see what we do, stop by the squad house at 120 McKinley Street in Bennington and see us. You can also visit our web site at www.benningtonrescue.org or e-mail us at bennresq@comcast.net.

Respectfully submitted

William E. Hathaway, BS, NREMT-P, Director