

## VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND EMS WORKERS SAVE YOUR TAXPAYER DOLLARS!

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Around 94% of fire departments in New York are volunteer departments (USFA) consisting of nearly 81,000 volunteers.

There are about 33,000 volunteer EMS workers operating out of more than 1,100 ambulance services.

Without volunteers it would cost New York taxpayers an additional \$4.7 billion annually.

New recruitment efforts and incentives are vital as the number of volunteer firefighters nationwide has

Niagara County would face a 43.7% increase in property taxes if there wasn't volunteer fire departments.

Information provided by https://www.usfa.fema.gov/statistics/states/newyork.html and https://fasny.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/FASNY-Economic-Study-2023.pdf

declined.









In efforts to make our incredible volunteers feel supported and attract more volunteer sign ups, I have made it a priority to sponsor and co-sponsor legislation in Albany:

- **A.2654-** This gives state income tax credit to volunteer firefighters and members of volunteer ambulance corps in good standing up to \$2500.
- AH094- Allows active volunteer firefighters or EMS workers to receive money back who use their personal vehicle in the fulfillment of their emergency response duties.
- **A.2520-** Prevents an employer from firing an employee who is also a volunteer firefighter or EMS worker when they miss or are late to work because of an emergency they were dispatched to.
- A.4401- Gives volunteer firefighters and members of a volunteer ambulance service free use of state parks and campsites.

I encourage any individual interested in giving back to their community to visit their local volunteer fire company and explore the options available to them and sign up to this year's RecruitNY On April 13-14, 2024!



## VISIT:

https://www.recruitny.org/ or scan this QR code for more information





