

Our department was awarded a 2010 Polaris Ranger 6x6 All Terrain Utility Vehicle in June of 2010 by a grant from the US Smokeless Tobacco Company. The department applied every year for this grant for over ten years. The value of this vehicle is approximately \$15,000, which is a significant benefit to our community.

The goal for this all terrain vehicle was to transform the unit into a rescue and fire suppression vehicle to aid in emergency service in rural mountainous terrain or during weather emergencies where travel is limited. Each year our department responds to a multitude of rescues and fires in the Michaux State Forest as well as other limited access areas such as the Bear Mountain Home Association. These areas require special access due the terrain.

In November 2010, our department received a grant from the Emergency Health Federation for the purchase of two rescue stretchers to aid in rescues at a cost of \$3,051. This grant was a matching grant which required the fire company to provide 40% or \$1,220.00. The rescue stretchers will allow a person to be safely carried either by hand or on the Ranger from a remote area while still being attended to by Emergency Medical personnel. The fire company paid the cost of the \$1,220 with assistance from the Fireman's Relief Association.

The fire company has painted the vehicle, installed a roof, radios and lighting at a cost of \$1,500. In December 2010, our department also purchased a trailer to carry the Ranger at a cost of \$2,100. These items were paid for by donations from the community and individual members themselves. Those who contributed are as follows: Adams County Nursery, Feters Orchards and Garretson Orchards. The time and labor for the lettering on the unit was donated by "Butch" Richie.



In order to be an effective unit in the field, the Polaris Ranger needed a prefabricated skid unit which could provide for rescue and fire suppression. A skid unit was purchased with the aid of three foundations; Tim Cline Foundation, Firefighters Charitable Foundation and the Firefighters Support Foundation. The cost of the skid unit was \$5,900. The Tim Cline Foundation contributed \$1,300 towards this unit, Firefighters Charitable Foundation \$600, and the Firefighters Support Foundation provided \$3,000 towards the project.

The skid unit allows the Ranger to carry a rescue stretcher with a person on it safely and securely. The skid unit also includes a 70 gallon water tank, a high pressure pump with three discharges, a hose reel and compartments to enhance the vehicle into a fully functioning rescue/firefighting unit. This gives the Ranger dual emergency response capabilities thus increasing its value to the community.

The committee for this project was Nick Cook, Sean Cramer, Jason Cook, Shawn Melhorn and David Taylor.



<http://ffsupport.org/equipment.html>