



## GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

424 Route 106, Greenfield Township, PA 18407



### **PRESS RELEASE**

**August 13, 2008**

#### **Engine 24 Receives Certification For Rescue and Quick Response Service**

The Officers and Membership of the Greenfield Township Volunteer Fire Co are proud to announce that its fire engine (Engine 24) is now certified by the PA Department of Health as a licensed/certified Quick Response Service (QRS) and as a Rescue at the responder level through the PA voluntary rescue certification program. This certification process is unique in that most fire engines in our area **are not** certified as QRS or Rescue vehicles.

What does this mean for you, the residents of Greenfield Township and its surrounding communities, you may ask?

Greenfield responds to, on average, an emergency call every day. As such, there have been times when we have had "back to back" emergencies in the Township. When that occurs, neighboring communities respond to assist us (likewise, when it happens to them we reciprocate). The QRS recognition allows Engine 24 to patient care, prior to the arrival of a mutual aid ambulance, when Greenfield Ambulance is unavailable for any reason (e.g., such as another call or maintenance).

While there were some significant costs to meet the ridged requirements of the PA Department of Health (PA DOH), the membership felt that the ever-increasing demand for Greenfield Ambulance warranted alternate protection inside the Township makes the QRS a valuable service. In order to be licensed/certified, Greenfield had to apply for the program through the PA DOH. The process required months of work by the officers and members. This included the application, documentation of training and certifications for all department members, driver rosters, operational policies, mutual aid agreements, vehicle inspection documents as well as checklists for all equipment carried.

In addition to required equipment, Greenfield firefighters had to prove that they met the extensive training requirements for both medical care and rescue responses. Greenfield has always taken the position that fire and ambulance staff should be cross-trained. That cross training coupled with our dedication to voluntary fire fighter certification provided the springboard to the QRS and Rescue license and certification.

The members of the Greenfield Township Volunteer Fire Company are very proud to meet the requirements to participate in the Voluntary Rescue Service Program. We also would like to thank the Staff of the Emergency Medical Services Council of Northeastern PA Regional (EMSNP) for their assistance in guiding us through the process and encouraging us to strive for excellence. Special thanks to Bucks County Community college for providing the training and national certifications that helped us meet this challenge and will allow us to better serve our community.