

# Algonquin-Lake in the Hills Fire Protection District

1020 West Algonquin Road, Lake in the Hills, IL 60156

## Incident Press Release

*For Immediate Release*

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## Special Announcement

The Algonquin-Lake in the Hills Fire Protection District is proud to announce that we are taking another step forward in providing the best care to our residents. With constant changes in the medical field and a need to stay current with delivering the vital care needed during a cardiac event, the Fire District applied for and received a grant through the Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program to purchase four Automated CPR Devices. This has allowed the District to outfit each of our ambulances with this lifesaving equipment.

Research has repeatedly demonstrated that precisely executed and uninterrupted chest compressions greatly improve a patient's chances for a successful outcome. Manually performing chest compressions can be difficult in many situations, even for trained first responders. The Automated CPR Devices deliver uninterrupted compressions at a consistent rate as recommended by the American Heart Association. Once applied, compressions are consistent and continuous even during patient movement from incident to ambulance to hospital bed. The device, which is designed to fit around a person's chest, uses a piston to perform the chest compressions more accurately and consistently than any person could do. In addition, use of the device frees up a paramedic to do other critical tasks at the incident.

These devices do not replace the need for manual CPR being performed by a bystander prior to the arrival of paramedics. CPR must begin immediately in a cardiac arrest event. The Algonquin-Lake in the Hills Fire Protection District offers American Heart Association CPR training classes and encourages our residents to learn this potentially life-saving technique.

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