

PRESS RELEASE

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WOODBINE RECEIVES UPGRADED PUBLIC PROTECTION CLASSIFICATION RATING

Woodbine—Mayor William Pikolycky is pleased to announce that the Borough of Woodbine has received notice from ISO that its Public Protection Classification rating has been upgraded effective March 1, 2016, following an analysis of the structural fire suppression delivery system provided by the Borough.

ISO is an independent organization that serves insurance companies, fire departments, insurance regulators and others by providing information about risk. They collect information about municipal fire protection efforts in communities throughout the United States. They then analyze the relevant data and assign a Public Protection Classification (PPC)

The PPC is a rating system of Class 1 to Class 10. Class 1 represents the best public protection, and Class 10 indicates no recognized protection. Effective March 1, 2016, Woodbine will be upgraded to a PPC of 5, which is an upgrade from its current PPC of 6.

ISO's Public Protection Classification Program plays an important role in the underwriting process at insurance companies; most insurers use this information as part of their decision making. As each insurance company independently determines the premiums charged to its policyholders, the way an insurer uses ISO's information on public fire protection may depend on the company's fire loss experience, ratemaking methodology, underwriting guidelines, and marketing strategy.

"We are pleased to share this information with our local residents and businesses as this could positively impact their homeowners and business insurance policies and rates," noted Mayor Pikolycky, "you may want to contact your insurance company to ascertain any cost savings that may be realized once this upgrade in PPC classification becomes effective".

The Borough of Woodbine is currently pursuing funding for their ongoing plans to upgrade the water distribution system and renovating the water treatment plant, which will include looping of the water mains and could ultimately improve the ISO/PPC even further.

Mayor Pikolycky also commended the time and effort of the Woodbine Volunteer Fire Company and the Woodbine Municipal Utilities Authority for their effort in participating in the ISO/PPC program which resulted in this Classification upgrade.

A community's PPC depends on:

- Fire alarm and communications systems, including telephone systems, telephone lines, staffing and dispatching systems.
- The fire department, including equipment, staffing, training and geographic distribution of fire companies.
- The water supply system, including condition and maintenance of hydrants and a careful evaluation of the amount of available water compared with the amount needed to suppress fires.