



Town of Canton

Fire and EMS Department



PRESS RELEASE *For Immediate Distribution*

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Town Of Canton Fire & EMS Department Adds ATV to Fleet

Canton, CT August 11, 2005....7:30 p.m. The Town of Canton Fire & EMS Department made a formal presentation before the Board of Selectmen describing the recent donation of a 2005, Polaris Ranger, All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV), to the Department.

The fire-engine red, ATV was donated by the corporate developers of The Shoppes at Farmington Valley, W/S Development Associates, LLC & is valued at \$14, 872.00. *(ATV specifications appear on Page 2)*

In his presentation to the Board of Selectmen, Assistant Chief Heath Doran outlined the far-ranging activities the ATV will support:

Strategic Decision-Making - With better access & information from remote spots that can't be safely reached or maneuvered with traditional apparatus or by personnel, the ATV improves the Department's ability to identify risks/benefits to firefighters, residents, victims & property.

Community Relations – The ATV will be an invaluable resource in supporting mutual aid partners in Simsbury, Avon, Burlington & New Hartford Fire & EMS Departments.

Tactical Operations -The ATV provides speed, access & enhanced safety during 4-season search & rescue in the woods; in narrow, back roads by the river & mountains; & in the MDC. Properly outfitted, the ATV can also assist in prevention & early fire suppression in remote areas. *(See page 2 for detailed listing of Tactical Operations)*

John Cambra, Project Manager for W/S Development Associates, LLC, sees the donation as “an investment in our new community. What better way to add *additional* value to the Town, than to donate this ATV to Canton's Fire & EMS Department to help all residents.”

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First Selectman Mary Tomolonius praised W/S Development for “generously helping the Town to support our volunteer firefighters & EMS personnel to do the job they risk their lives for everyday.”

Specific Tactical Operations

Search & Rescue

Locating lost individuals;
Quicker access to injured parties.

EMS

Enhanced ability to relocate victims to an area for treatment & transport by ambulance or helicopter.

Brush Fire Suppression

Transport of people & equipment from distant/difficult-to-reach locations.

Personnel Support

Delivering supplies, food water to first responders on long-term emergencies.

Emergency Operations

Assisting utility workers & other support professionals who play significant roles in fires, search & rescues;

Public events like the upcoming Bicentennial Celebration, Sam Collins Day, Annual Halloween Parade, Memorial Day Parade & others when the Department becomes responsible for hundreds of visitors in addition to Town residents who have gathered in small sites & fields in town.

ATV Specifications

The Town of Canton Fire & EMS Department’s Polaris Ranger ATV offers:

- Largest ground clearance – 7”- of any utility vehicle;
- 30” water fording capacity able to traverse water 27" deep without stalling or hurting the motor;
- Motor designed for weather from -25 to 120 F and altitudes to 10,000 feet;
- Off-road/trail climbing & traction;
- On demand 6 wheel drive is push button controlled by operator to decide raw traction or minimal turf damage;
- 1,750 lbs payload capacity;
- Deluxe cab, heater; brush guard; 4000-lb winch; tool holder; water & gas can holders.

The ATV will be showcased at the Town of Canton Fire & EMS Department’s Canton Street Station during Lobster Fest, August 19-21, 2005.

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