

ISO

INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE

Over the last 3 years a goal of the Center Harbor Fire Department has been to reduce the cost of Fire Insurance for residents and businesses. This can only be accomplished by testing and certification by the Insurance Services Office, also known as ISO. Center Harbor had never had a full evaluation, only reviews that rated us as 9/10. This is the poorest rating that there is. ISO looks at everything from the dispatch center, response times, training and education, staffing, fire fighting equipment, automatic aid, mutual aid and capability to flow the necessary water to fight fires within our jurisdiction. In July ISO evaluated The Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Communications Center and began the process of testing the Center Harbor Fire Departments Plans for fire suppression.

One big step in the process was flowing water through out the village area using the new hydrant push system. We flowed over 1100 gallons per minute on Main Street within 3 minutes of arrival. Throughout Town our water supply plan worked as was expected with the installation of Draft Hydrants at several locations. A new rating of **5/8** was achieved. What this adds up to is a reduction in Fire Insurance costs by as much as 40% to 50% in the village area and an average for the homeowners in the outlying areas 15% to 25% per year. I encourage you to contact your insurance company as this new rate takes affect 01/01/11.