



**CONTACT:**  
Rick Steines, Fire Chief  
563-589-4160, [rsteines@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:rsteines@cityofdubuque.org)

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Dubuque Fire Department Marks National EMS Week

DUBUQUE, Iowa – National EMS (Emergency Medical Services) Week is May 17-23 this year. The campaign's theme is "EMS Strong" and seeks to celebrate, unify and inspire the men and women of our nation's emergency medical services.

National Emergency Medical Services Week, created by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) in partnership with the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT), brings together local communities and medical personnel to publicize safety and honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of medicine's "front line."

Wednesday, May 20, is Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Day and the Dubuque Fire Department invites the public to visit with Dubuque firefighters and paramedics at the community booth at Kennedy Mall on **Wednesday, May 20, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.** Dubuque Fire staff will be on hand to answer questions and promote awareness of EMS as well as provide free blood pressure screenings and blood glucose tests. A fire engine and ambulance will also be parked and available for viewing in the parking lot near Books-A-Million (BAM).

The Dubuque Fire Department has proudly provided emergency and non-emergency ambulance service in the Dubuque community since 1914. In the 1970s, members began advanced medical training so they could expand their scope of practice providing better coverage to their community. Today, the membership of the department is comprised of 89 highly trained members.

Dubuque Fire Department ambulances are staffed with two paramedics and all fire department staff members are dual-trained as EMTs and firefighters, experienced to handle any situation. In 2013, the department expanded their services with Advanced Life Support Engine companies. This allows the

department additional capabilities to respond to any location within the community, initiating expedient advanced medical care. The department maintains six stations throughout the community to provide prompt paramedic response with an average arrival time within three to four minutes.

For more information on National EMS Week, visit [www.emsstrong.org](http://www.emsstrong.org).

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