



In May of 2011 the City of Aurora received official notification from the Insurance Service Office (ISO) of an upgrade to the City's Fire Protection Classification grade.

The City of Aurora and the Aurora Fire Department is pleased to announce that the Insurance Services Office (ISO) has recently upgraded the City of Aurora's fire services to an ISO Public Protection Class 5/8B.

The ISO scale is a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being an exemplary fire service and 10 indicating that the area's fire suppression program does not meet ISO's minimum criteria. The criteria are based on needed fire flows; receiving and handling of fire alarms; fire department; water supply.

The first class (in this case a "5" in a 5/8B) applies to properties within 5 road miles of a recognized fire station and within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant or alternate water supply. Class 8B applies to properties beyond 1,000 feet of a hydrant but within 5 miles of a recognized fire station. The Class 5 would apply to those in the City of Aurora and those in Washington and Center Townships close to the city limits of Aurora. Class 8B would apply to those farther out in the Townships that Aurora Fire Department covers.

ISO evaluates each community based on a uniform set of standards developed by the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) and the American Water Works Association. Using this system, ISO reviews the fire suppression capabilities of a community and then assigns a public protection classification number. Many of the fire insurance underwriters voluntarily use this 10-point scale as a major component of determining the premium paid by policyholders.

Other factors weigh in as well on premiums such as type of insurance, type of construction, mortgage and other factors. Although it is difficult to weigh the impact of this rating on fire insurance premiums, individuals can consult with their insurance company for more specific information on the rating that Aurora now holds.

In 2011, ISO published a total of 1,695 Classification numbers for Indiana communities. There were only 119 communities that scored better than Aurora's 5 rating. Congratulations to all that were involved in achieving this upgrade to our ISO Class.

