



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**City of Duluth - Fire Department**

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602 West Second Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802  
218-730-4400 | [www.duluthmn.gov](http://www.duluthmn.gov) | Fire Department



For more information contact the Fire Department at 218-730-4391

**DATE: 7/31/2017**

**SUBJECT: Water Safety Drone Presentation**

**BY: Duluth Fire Department**

**NATURE OF INCIDENT:**

**CASE NO.:**

**INCIDENT DATE: 8/1/2017**

**INCIDENT TIME: 2 p.m.**

**INCIDENT LOCATION: Pebble Beach behind Endion Station**

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**CONTACT:** Brent Consie  
**PHONE:** 218-310-0887  
**EMAIL:** [bconsie@duluthmn.gov](mailto:bconsie@duluthmn.gov)

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Chief Dennis Edwards of the Duluth Fire Department and Great Lakes Unmanned Systems are offering a water rescue drone presentation on Tuesday, August 1st at 2:00PM on the Duluth Lakewalk behind Endion Station. The press is invited to attend as this is a piece of equipment that is beneficial to all swimmers in distress. Your local contact is Brent Consie, and he can be contacted at [bconsie@duluthmn.gov](mailto:bconsie@duluthmn.gov)**

**Duluth Area Professional Rescuers and First Responders Evaluate Water Rescue Drone Technology**

The Great Lakes Unmanned Systems Center will demonstrate the EMILY Emergency Response System for local first responders to evaluate and potentially include in water rescue practices

**Duluth, MN:** Local fire and rescue officials are meeting with the Great Lakes Unmanned Systems Center to evaluate the EMILY (Emergency Integrated life-saving LanYard) Emergency Response System for deployment in water rescue scenarios. The EMILY is a remote operated water rescue drone. The standard, 1 kilowatt model weighs 25 lbs., is capable of speeds of up to 22MPH, provides 80 lbs. of buoyancy (enough for 3-4 people), has a range of up to 300 meters and a battery life 30-45 minutes. The hull is crafted from Kevlar reinforced fiberglass for maximum durability and the closed-cell foam float is shaped so that the craft will self-right from any position. EMILY was designed for a single person with minimal training to be able to effectively deploy in any weather conditions. The device is seeing deployments by rescuers on all coasts of the US, Internationally in Europe, Asia and the Middle East, and most recently in Lake Superior at Marquette, MI.

More information is available at [emilyrobot.com](http://emilyrobot.com).

First responders, of any service, are encouraged to participate and evaluate the implementation of the EMILY on the Great Lakes and community members are invited to observe. Local media is invited to attend the event and take a turn at operating the EMILY.

The event will take place at 2:00PM CST at the Lakewalk beach in the Canal Park Area.

