

Subject:	HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY RESPONSE
Section:	PPG# 4400.13
Chapter:	Operations
Effective Date:	7/1/98

1.0 POLICY

- 1.1 Incidents involving hazardous materials will be handled with extreme caution. Thurston County Fire Protection District No.5 & 9 will implement a coordinated response with the Washington State Patrol to all hazardous materials incidents to ensure public safety and the safety of our members.
- 1.2 The response of Thurston County Fire Protection District No.5 & 9 to incidents involving hazardous materials shall be limited to those activities directed by the Washington State Patrol Incident Commander.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 ***Hazardous materials incident*** means any incident creating a danger to persons property, or the environment as a result of spillage, seepage, fire, explosion, or release of hazardous materials, or the possibility (RCW 70.136.020)
- 2.2 ***Hazardous materials*** means hazardous substance see WAC 296-300 (3) (i).
- 2.3 ***Incident Commander:*** The highest- ranking officer at the incident scene who shall retain control until relieved by The Washington State Patrol Incident Commander.
- 2.4 ***Decontamination Area:*** The area all members pass through when leaving the immediate danger zone. Members will not leave the scene until they have been decontaminated and given the OK by the decontamination team.

3.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 All members will be trained to the Hazardous Materials Operations Level.

- 3.1.1** All members will be receive annual Hazardous Materials refresher training.
- 3.2** The incident Commander will be the first in officer or senior member until relieved by a ranking officer or a WSP Incident Commander

4.0 GUIDELINES

- 4.1** The activities of members from Thurston County Fire Protection District No.5 & 9 will be limited to a defensive role, or support functions.
- (a) Emergency decontamination
 - (b) Provide fire control resources
 - (c) Manage staging
 - (e) Medical monitoring
- 4.2** If upon arriving at a incident scene, during the normal process of size-up, and/or control of a fire the Incident Commander recognizes the presence of hazardous materials the following steps shall be taken:
- 4.2.1** Determine the type of incident
 - (a) Rescue
 - (b) Protecting exposures
 - (c) Containment or confinement
 - (d) Structure fire
 - (e) Structure fire overhaul
 - 4.2.2** Determine the type of hazardous materials involved
 - (a) Container shape
 - (b) Occupancy, location
 - (c) Markings, color
 - (e) Placards, labels
 - (f) Assume presence of Hazardous Materials
 - (g) Senses
 - (g) Shipping papers
 - 4.2.3** Call for assistance via county dispatch
 - (a) The Washington State Patrol Incident Commander who will contact:
 - (c) Medic's
 - (d) Law enforcement (to assist in evacuation and crowd control)
 - 4.2.3.1** Ensure the notification of:
 - (a) Emergency Management/Ecology
 - (b) National Response Center (if a reportable quantity)
 - 4.2.4** Determine a Base of Operations
 - (a) Locate a base of operations upwind and uphill of the incident site

incident site.

- (b) Direct the incoming units to an intersection or location, which will be a safe staging area.

4.2.5 While each incident will be different, consider evacuating the Immediate danger area if the container is over 55 gallon in capacity. Consult the NAERG Guidebook tables for Initial Isolation Distances.

4.2.6 Initiate measures to rescue victims

4.2.6.1 Rescues shall be attempted only while wearing full structural fire fighting protective equipment and clothing, SCBA and when the risk to fire fighters is known. If the risk is unknown, wait for the Washington State Patrol designated Hazardous Materials Incident Commander.

4.2.6.2 Administer first aid to victims.

4.3 Incident Control Measures

4.3.1 Hose streams shall be placed to cool exposures, disperse gas concentrations, and contain or extinguish a fire

4.3.2 Containment dikes may be established to confine or direct the spread of runoff to include:
(a) Sealing street drains

4.4 The Department shall not directly contact clean/disposal agencies. The responsible party should make this contact.

4.5 When it is not possible to determine the responsible party the Washington State Patrol Incident Commander will make the arrangements for cleanup/disposal through the Department of Ecology.

4.0 REFERENCES

WAC 295-305-05011

WAC 296-62-3100

WAC 296-62-3112

Hazardous Materials Operations

Decontamination

Emergency Response to Hazardous Substance
Releases

Title 70 RCW 70.136 020, 030

Letter from Washington State Attorney General March 20, 1997

June 14, 1988 letter from the Washington State Patrol

NFPA 471 8.1-8-7.3