

Standard Operating Guidelines of the Noroton Volunteer Fire Department

Section 1 – Incidents

Section 2 – Operations

Approved October 11, 2018 by Chief John Hessmer.

Noroton Fire Department

Table of Contents

Attic Fires	3
Below Grade/Confined Space Rescues	5
Boat Incidents - General	6
Boat Incidents—Boat Fires (Offshore)	8
Boat Incidents – Man Overboard	10
Boat Incidents - Marina/Dockside Fires	12
Boat Incidents—Search & Rescue (“SAR”) Operations	14
Bomb Threats	17
Carbon Monoxide Contaminated Atmosphere	19
Chimney Fires	21
Downed Electrical Wires	22
Dumpster Fires	23
Elevator Emergencies	24
Hazardous Materials Response	26
Household Electrical Emergencies	28
Marina/Dockside Fires	29
Motor Vehicle Accidents	31
Motor Vehicle Extrication	33
Motor Vehicle Fires	35
Mutual Aid	36
Oil Burner Malfunctions	37
Propane Leaks (Small Scale)	38
Residential and Commercial Alarm Activations	39
Structure Fires in Commercial Buildings	40
Structure Fires in Residential Buildings	44
Water Rescue – In Land - Ice Water	48
Water Rescue – In Land – Non-Ice Water	50

Attic Fires

Roll of Apparatus: E-31 • L-30 • E-32 • R-33

Safety

All standard operating guidelines related to structural firefighting and firefighter safety should be followed for attic fires. The fire fighter accountability system should be put in action immediately.

Additionally, special considerations for attic fires to be considered are: the limited access to attics, the potential for rapid full roof fire involvement, and collapse potential. Personnel should not be operating under a fully involved roof fire.

Firefighter Accountability System

Upon arrival of the first arriving unit, the Firefighter Accountability System should immediately be put in action. Reference Firefighter Accountability System SOG. A safety officer should be designated by the Incident Commander as soon as possible.

If at any point during a structure fire a Mayday or RIT situation develops, all operating crews will follow their original directives and not become distracted. Attack crews must continue to make a push to extinguish the fire. Remember, if the fire goes out, problems will go away.

INCIDENT PRIORITIES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Rescue

1. Rescue and evacuation of occupants is of primary importance. All operations should be in support of rescuing trapped victims.
2. Primary and secondary searches should be performed to confirm that all occupants are out of the structure.
3. At least one member of each search team should be equipped with a two-way radio.
4. A roll call of search team members should be performed after primary and secondary searches.

Suppression – Interior Attack

1. Interior attack is the preferred method of fire suppression. It is of primary importance to stretch a charged attack line to the entrance to the attic to prevent spread to lower floors of the house. When the hose is in place and a coordinated attack can be made the hose should be stretched to the attic.
2. A minimum of a 1¾ inch attack line is to be used. This line should be backed up with a second 1¾ inch or 2½ inch line.
3. Interior attack should not be performed until there are two firefighters in full protective gear with a charged hoseline in place per the 2 in/2 out standard operating guideline.

4. A third line should be stretched to the floor below the fire to prevent fire spread to lower floors and to protect the means of egress for crews operating in the attic.
5. If *rapid* progress is not observed (1 –2 minutes), tactics should be re-evaluated. The Incident Commander should be kept apprised of progress.
6. Ceilings should be pulled to check for fire spread.

Suppression – Exterior Attack

1. Due to the collapse potential and rapid fire spread, the incident commander should consider a switch to exterior defensive operations if *interior attack crews do not report rapid progress*.
2. Upon switching to an exterior attack, all personnel should evacuate the structure. The Incident Commander should give the evacuation order over the fire ground frequency and 3 blasts of air horns and radio evacuation tones will be sounded.
3. A roll call of all interior personnel should be taken.
4. A collapse zone around the structure should be established; equipment and apparatus may need to be repositioned.
5. All members should be clear of the building prior to exterior water stream operations.
6. Refer to the standard operating guidelines for master stream operations. It may be necessary to reposition apparatus in order to give access to equipment capable of delivering elevated streams

Ventilation

1. Ventilation should be performed in coordination with an interior attack, as it will help to slow fire spread and improve the effectiveness of interior suppression operations.
2. Air movement should be controlled until hose lines are in place and operating, as additional oxygen will make fire conditions worse.
3. A Vent Team must be in place to open up the attic once water is on the fire.
4. Vertical and horizontal ventilation techniques should be considered and decisions should be made based on fire conditions, house size up, and man-power.
5. Eave openings and windows/skylights may be enlarged to aid in ventilation. These openings may be used for suppression if a switch to a defensive attack is warranted.

Below Grade/Confined Space Rescues

Roll of Apparatus: E-32 • L-30 • R-33 • E-31

1. A “Risk vs. Benefit” analysis shall be done efficiently and as soon as practical upon arrival of the Incident Commander to assist in dictating incident tactics.
2. Only those personnel with training in confined space rescue will be permitted to directly participate in a rescue in a confined space. There will be no exceptions.
3. If a confined space rescue is found by first arriving units, the Incident Commander shall immediately call for mutual aid from Stamford Fire Rescue. NFD members will work in conjunction with mutual aid units and assist wherever needed.
4. The IC shall verify the number of victims in the confined space, as well as any pertinent details by personnel on scene, including, but not limited to: time in the space, reason for being in the space, work being conducted, applicable permits, etc.
5. Before entering any confined space, monitoring for oxygen, carbon monoxide, hydrogen sulfide, and LEL must be conducted. If “non-normal” levels are found, the IC may elect to ventilate in order to improve the space for victims and rescuers.
6. The Incident Commander shall enlist Darien PD to assist in ensuring no untrained personnel (including bystanders and workers) enter the hole to attempt a rescue. This will help prevent a situation with multiple victims.
7. Protective clothing including SCBA shall be worn by all personnel until it can be determined that no hazardous or potentially hazardous situation exists. ALL rescue personnel in a confined space shall always wear SCBA.
8. The officer in charge or a specified safety officer will inspect all rescuers' equipment including knots, tripod, ropes, harnesses, SCBA etc. for correct usage and safe condition prior to any rescuer entering a confined space.
9. A fully trained and equipped back-up team (RIT) shall be stationed in the staging area ready whenever a rescue team is working in a confined space.
10. All non-essential personnel, including other Darien public safety personnel, shall remain well away from any potential hazard zone and remain in the staging area.
11. All vehicles and heavy rescue equipment should remain well away from any potential collapse zone.
12. Post 53 with ALS shall be dispatched immediately upon confirmation of a confined space rescue.

Boat Incidents - General

Safety and Qualification

- Only personnel who have successfully passed the NFD swim test may operate on any NFD vessel.
- The Senior officer aboard any Noroton vessel has responsibility for crew safety and fire/rescue operations. The Skipper of the vessel has ultimate authority over safe navigation/passage of the vessel (consistent with maritime law.) Collaboration between skipper and senior officer is vital. Skipper's vessel operating authority will supersede IC authority ONLY in the context of ensuring safety of crew life vessel passage.
- Firefighters will not board a burning vessel unless properly equipped to do so, and generally only if there is an imminent rescue situation.
- Crews must assess weather conditions and dress appropriately. IC must determine need for additional thermal protective apparel.
- Under no circumstances are turnout gear or SCBA to be worn onboard NFD vessels.

Roll of Apparatus: Senior Officer must determine primary response, situation-dependent.

- **“Open Water”/Long Island Sound (“LIS”): M-34, U-35, E-32, Sealegs at Officer’s discretion**
 - Per Town of Darien Fire Commission SOPS for SeaLegs Amphibious Rescue WaterCraft:
 - *“Noroton Marine Unit 34 will remain as the primary response unit for any and all Open Water rescue incidents. The SeaLegs Rescue watercraft may act as a secondary supplemental support unit at the sole discretion and request of the Noroton Fire Department incident commander on all Open Water responses.*
 - *Consistent with town-wide fire/rescue dispatch protocol, only those departments dispatched or requested by Incident Commander are to respond to incidents. “Self dispatch” to Open Water incidents using the SeaLegs Rescue watercraft is prohibited.”*
- **Shoreline/Beachfront: M-34, U-35 with Zodiac and/or SeaLegs, E-32, R-33**
- **“Inland”: Sea Legs and or Zodiac Response w/U-35, E-32 for Noroton responses only.** Town-wide SeaLegs response SOPs shall govern all other responses and are incorporated, herein.

Marine VHF Radio Designations:

1. M-34 = VHF “Noroton Fire 227”
2. Sealegs = VHF “Noroton Fire 218”
3. Zodiac = VHF “Noroton Fire 212”

M-34 Response:

1. All fire fighters responding to M-34 alarms must report *directly* to the Fire Department for staging and deployment by IC or the senior FF in U-35. Only qualified boat skippers may respond directly to the dock to ready the boat. If multiple skippers are responding they should coordinate via radio who will respond directly to the boat.
 2. M-34 crew shall consist of a ***minimum of two and not more than four*** personnel as follows:
 - a. Pilot/Skipper (shall have ultimate responsibility for safe operation of the vessel. Fire/rescue command shall be the purview of the officer/senior FF on board)
 - b. Radio/navigation crew-hand designated
 - c. Two FFs with preference given to medically trained FFs
 3. All fire fighters responding as part of M-34 crew must:
 - a. be competent swimmers as defined by M-34 crew qualification checklist
 - b. have undergone orientation/qualification check ride on M-34 with an officer of the Marine Division or be a qualified pilot/skipper of the boat.
 4. Prior to M-34 departing dock, all crew must don PFDs—no exceptions
 5. For all cold-water responses, prior to M-34 departing dock, all crew must don appropriate cold-water rescue apparel--no exceptions
 6. Upon leaving the dock, M-34 should establish radio contact with the Coast Guard Sector LIS via VHF channel 16 to advise that “Noroton Fire 227” is responding with description and location of reported incident
 7. Consistent with NFD SOPs governing apparatus operation, no member under age 18 is permitted to be at the helm of M-34.
 8. Only members satisfying all of the following requirements may be qualified as skippers and have command of M34 or SeaLegs: over the age of 18, must have a CT Safe Boating Certificate, and have completed a cortication check ride with the Lieutenant or Captain of the Marine Division, or a Chief Officer.
-

Boat Incidents—Boat Fires (Offshore)

Roll of Apparatus: M-34 • (IC will determine if deployment of Sealegs or the Zodiac is appropriate to support operations)

General SOPs for Boat Operations in the section shall apply

Firefighter Safety

The Senior officer aboard any Noroton vessel has responsibility for crew safety. The Skipper of the vessel has ultimate authority over safe navigation/passage of the vessel (consistent with maritime law.) Collaboration between skipper and senior officer is vital (see general section).

Firefighters will not board a burning vessel unless properly equipped to do so, and generally only if there is an imminent rescue situation.

Response

When responding to reported boat fire, crew members will onboard the proper amount of foam prior to leaving the dock.

On-board officer (IC) will notify the USCG via VHF of all marine fire and rescue incidents to which the NFD is dispatched.

IC should consider request from Darien Fire Dispatch additional marine mutual aid assets from adjacent agencies until CAN report is established and a downgrade condition exists

Arrival, Size-up, CAN Report & Command

1. The IC shall give an initial size up and conduct a “360” of the incident.
2. IC shall first advise via VHF all incoming units and USCG of Conditions, Actions, and Needs (CAN Report). CAN must include:
 - a. Exact GPS location of incident
 - b. Number, length, description of vessel(s) involved
 - c. Number of passengers of vessel (establish through vessel captain where possible), as well as number in the water
3. IC shall repeat CAN report via fire channel to Darien Fire Dispatch and other incoming NFD marine units
4. OIC shall establish command
5. Additional marine arrivals shall be positioned to supplement rescue and firefighting operations.

Exposure

Steps to protect exposures, including vessels and dockage, should be taken as early in the incident as possible. Pending the availability of manpower, crews should consider moving and/or cutting loose (last/least favorable option) vessels and dockage from affected fire areas.

Suppression

1. M-34 should provide firefighting and rescue support as appropriate. **SPECIAL NOTE: Any hose stretch from M34 greater than 100ft requires use of 2 ½ hose line. Doing otherwise will result in insufficient flow and nozzle pressure.**
2. Mutual aid of both shore-based and marine units should be considered for additional manpower and equipment if multiple vessels are involved or exposed
3. Attack lines shall be a minimum of 1¾ inches in diameter.

Master Streams

Master streams may be deployed in event that heavy fire conditions and/ or exposure protection warrant, and only when coordinated with IC.

1. ALL fire personnel and civilians shall have exited the targeted areas (docks/vessels, etc) prior to the commencement of master stream operations.
2. Refer to the SOP for Master Stream Operations for further guidance.

Hazardous Materials

If flammable liquids or other hazardous materials from the involved marina or vessel(s) have escaped their normal containment crews should attempt to contain the spill. For all fires on the water USCG should be contacted. For large spills or fires involving HazMat the IC should consider calling the Fairfield County Hazardous Incident Response Team.

Boat Incidents – Man Overboard

A Man Overboard (MOB) from any NFD vessel has the same effect as a “firefighter down” and should be immediately be handled as such. A MOB is an extremely serious and potentially fatal event that any marine crew could experience.

Primary Actions

The immediate response taken by the crew member witnessing a MOB or realizing that a crew member is missing;

1. **Shout.** Crew member shouts "MAN OVERBOARD, STARBOARD (PORT) SIDE!" and points with his arm at the victim. A designated crewman must be a “spotter” and that person MUST continue pointing at the victim until properly relieved or until the victim is on deck.
2. **Throw.** Other crew members should immediately throw a flotation device into the water to provide a floating datum and additional flotation to the MOB. It does not matter if the person is visible at this time or not. The person in the water may see the flotation device/marker and be able to get to it, if not it serves as a reference point for maneuvering the boat back to the MOB.
3. **Point.** The crewmember designated as spotter points continuously with outstretched arm at the MOB (if still visible) or flotation/marker, ensuring that visual contact is maintained. This will also indicate the MOB’s location to the Skipper. It is imperative that this crew member does this and nothing else until relieved from this duty by the Skipper.

Secondary Actions

1. **Slow vessel.** Skipper must immediately reduce speed. At speed, initiating an immediate turn without slowing the boat to avoid ‘propeller strike’ may not only be irrelevant given short length of our vessel, (at 16kts, we travel the full length of M-34 in one second) but also a potential hazard - risking injury to other crew or even causing a second MOB.
2. **Initiate turn.** **After checking for traffic,** Turn the vessel around, using still-visible wake / floating datum to turn onto the reciprocal navigation track.
3. **Press MOB button on GPS.** The GPS MOB function should be activated at the first opportunity; this will provide a back up to the floating datum, and automatically displays bearing and distance to the MOB waypoint.
4. **Transmit MOB distress call via VHF.** Skipper MAY decide to wait to transmit MOB distress call ONLY IF MOB is visible and quickly recoverable (within 2 minutes.) If the MOB is not visible or recovery is not possible within 2 minutes, a MOB distress call MUST be transmitted over VHF to alert/summon other search vessels in area. Similar message of a missing FF should be transmitted to Darien Fire Dispatch to assess dispatch of mutual aid assets.

5. **Assess, approach, and brief & delegate crew** Skipper appropriates crew and actions for rapid recovery of MOB. Where possible approach from downwind direction
6. **Post Rescue** -The following points must be considered after rescuing the MOB:
 1. Continue to monitor/treat patient's condition
 2. Summon EMS intercept as necessary (land-side or marine)
 3. Cancel any Distress Call, and report updater/status to USCG LIS, and Darien Fire Dispatch.

Boat Incidents - Marina/Dockside Fires

Roll of Apparatus: M-34 • E-32 • E-31 • R-33 • L-30 (IC will determine if deployment of Sealegs or the Zodiac is appropriate to support operations)

General SOPs for Boat Operations in the section shall apply

Response

When responding to reported marina fire, crew members will onboard proper amount of foam prior to leaving the dock.

On-board officer will notify the USCG via VHF of all marine fire and rescue incidents to which the NFD is dispatched.

Marine IC should liaise with IC to summon appropriate marine mutual aid assets

Size-up, CAN Report & Command

If M34 is first due, first arriving officer shall give an initial size up/CAN as best as possible until landside command can be established. Command should be passed to landside IC ASAP.

Apparatus (marine and land) arrivals shall be positioned to supplement operations.

Rescue

1. Rescue and evacuation of docks and vessels is of primary importance. All operations should be in support of rescuing trapped victims.
2. The Reach, Throw, Row, Go approach to water rescue must be followed.
3. In the event a rescue swimmer is deployed, the following circumstances must exist:
A) no other method to affect rescue is possible; B) Swimmer must be in PDF and tethered; C) Appropriate thermal apparel is donned D) IC is notified of a rescue operation with a rescue swimmer in the water

Exposure

Steps to protect exposures, including vessels and dockage, should be taken as early in the incident as possible. Pending the availability of manpower, crews should consider moving and/or cutting loose vessels and dockage from affected fire areas.

Suppression

1. M-34 should provide firefighting and rescue support as appropriate from the water.
SPECIAL NOTE: Any hose stretch from M34 greater than 100ft requires use of 2 ½ hose line. Doing otherwise will result in insufficient flow and nozzle pressure.
2. Attack lines shall be a minimum of 1¾ inches in diameter. The 1¾ inch line should be backed up with a 1¾ or 2½ inch line. The backup line should be placed to support the initial attack line and to protect exposures and egress piers.

Master Streams

1. Master streams may be deployed in event that heavy fire conditions and/ or exposure protection warrant, but only after IC authorizes their application, so as not to jeopardize dockside crews.
2. ALL fire personnel and civilians shall have exited the targeted areas (docks/vessels, etc) prior to the commencement of master stream operations.
3. Refer to the SOP for Master Stream Operations for further guidance.

Hazardous Materials

If flammable liquids or other hazardous materials from the involved marina or vessel(s) have escaped their normal containment crews should attempt to contain the spill. For all fires on the water USCG should be contacted. For large spills or fires involving HazMat the IC should consider calling the Fairfield County Hazardous Incident Response Team.

Boat Incidents—Search & Rescue (“SAR”) Operations

Roll of Apparatus: M-34 • (IC will determine if deployment of Sealegs or the Zodiac is appropriate to support operations)

General SOPs for Boat Operations in the section shall apply

Response

Once underway, onboard officer (IC) will notify the USCG via VHF of all marine rescue incidents to which the NFD is dispatched. Also, IC will determine from USCG whether any additional marine assets have been dispatched.

IC shall relay to Darien Fire Dispatch, USCG information broadcast regarding (or make request for additional) marine mutual aid assets from adjacent agencies until CAN report is established and a downgrade condition exists

Arrival, Size-up, CAN Report & Command

1. IC shall advise both USCG (VHF) and Darien Fire Dispatch (fire band) of arrival in the search area
2. IC shall first advise via VHF all incoming units and USCG of Conditions, Actions, and Needs (CAN Report). CAN must include:
 - a. Exact GPS location of incident
 - b. Number, length, description of vessel(s) involved
 - c. Number of passengers of vessel (establish through vessel captain where possible)
3. IC shall repeat CAN report via fire channel to Darien Fire Dispatch and other incoming NFD marine units
4. IC shall establish command.
 - a. If operating in the waters of another jurisdiction, command may be passed to arriving unit from that jurisdiction
 - b. Should USCG arrive on scene, command must be passed to USCG
5. Additional marine arrivals shall be positioned to supplement rescue and firefighting operations.

SAR Operations

Pattern Selection should fit circumstances. See reference below

SAR Ops are typically commenced from datum (The most probable location of the search object corrected for movement over time)

Search Pattern	Description	Execution
Trackline	Follows a vessel's intended route	Search conducted along the track or datum line for a determined length of time. A reciprocal course is then run ("squared 'Z' pattern"); Pattern may be repeated in expanded parallels for more searches along the track. Run @ 6kts
Parallel	Wide area search. Search legs align with Major Axis	Wide legs (1 mi) with smaller axis legs (wide area/narrow parallels) Run @ 6kts
Creeping Line	Narrow/long area search. Search legs align with Minor Axis	Narrow legs with smaller axis legs (long parallels/narrow area) Run @ 6kts
Sector	Good for search in a small area	Timed legs (1 minute) from datum; 120 degrees to the right until a 360 sector has been searched @ 1 min legs. Run @ 6kts
Expanding Square	Good for search in a small area	1 st Leg is downdrift with 90 degree turn to the right, doubling time every two turns. Run @ 6kts

Note: It may be necessary to occasionally shut-down motors to listen for distress signals during search (IC discretion)

Locating Victim

Upon locating a victim (conscious or unconscious)

1. Deploy flotation device to victim
2. Mark on chart plotter
3. Radio status and precise GPS position to USCG

Approaching victim

1. Approach from downwind/downdrift
2. Slow boat to idle speed
3. When victim is alongside STOP PROPS
4. Consider deployment of backboard for easier onboarding

Post Rescue

1. Monitor/treat patient's condition
2. Summon EMS intercept as necessary (land-side or marine)
3. Report update/status to USCGLIS, and Darien Fire Dispatch
4. Determine if victim conditions permit further search, or pursue EMS intercept and discontinue search (IC discretion based on victim's condition)

Bomb Threats

Roll of Apparatus: E-32 • L-30 • E-31 • R-33

Fire Department Function:

The function of the fire department is to provide the means to extinguish fires and to perform rescue in the case of detonation. These functions cannot be performed if fire department personnel become part of the casualty list.

1. All responding personnel should report to fire headquarters. Under no circumstances should personnel report to the scene of the bomb threat unless directed by the officer in charge.
2. The fire department dispatcher should make the following announcement:
"Attention all fire department personnel. There is an incident developing where all personnel are requested to respond to fire headquarters for further instruction."
The dispatcher should not make any transmissions indicating that there is a bomb threat.
3. All responding apparatus will respond without lights and siren. Obey all traffic regulations. In the case where apparatus must respond to the scene, the responding units shall maintain a distance of at least 1000 feet from the scene of the bomb threat, preferably in a protected area.
4. No personnel shall enter the suspected building.
5. All personnel shall wear full turnout gear.

Radio Transmissions:

It is technically possible that radio or cellular telephone transmissions could detonate certain types of explosive devices. Therefore, it is important to keep these types of transmissions in the vicinity of the building to only those which are of emergency in nature. Utilize land line telephones for all transmissions.

Conditions:

In all buildings, the police and fire officials on the scene shall meet with the person in charge of the building and the following action shall be taken:

1. The fire department will follow all directives of the police department.
2. The fire department's first priority will be protecting the safety of the general public and our own members.
3. The fire department will assist in evacuating the area if directed and standby for extinguishment and search and rescue operations if a detonation is to occur.
4. The fire department will stand by and assist the police department and other operating agencies as requested and approved by the officer in charge.

Brush Fires

Roll of Apparatus: E-32 • E-31 • L-30 • R-33

Safety

All personnel are to wear full protective gear at all times. All alarms will be treated as a true emergency and precautions should be taken accordingly until the officer in charge declares otherwise.

Evacuation

All non-firefighting personnel should be removed from danger and kept at a safe distance from the incident.

Size Up

The first arriving officer or senior firefighter will perform a size up, communicate to dispatch and direct engine placement. Consideration should be given to wind, ensuring that the engine is in the safest position possible.

Suppression

1. The priority in a brush fire is to protect and eliminate any exposures to any surrounding structures, vehicles or people first, followed by extinguishing the fire completely.
2. Whenever possible firefighters should position themselves upwind of the fire.
3. Do not approach a brush fire from the uphill side
4. 1 ¾" hose should be the diameter of choice for fighting brush fires, with any other choices being made at the discretion of the officer in charge. This line should also be backed up with another 1 ¾" hose line.
5. A staging/rehab area shall be designated. All personnel not working the fire line are to remain in this area unless otherwise directed.

Carbon Monoxide Contaminated Atmosphere

Roll of Apparatus: E-32 • R-33 • T-35

1. All responses to a report of a carbon monoxide detector activation or carbon monoxide (CO) contaminated atmosphere will require the use of full PPE and the SCBA by all members inside the structure, until metering has determined that the atmosphere is within safe limits. The Atmospheric Monitoring SOG shall be followed at all times. SCBA may be removed below 35 PPM CO.
2. Upon arrival, the structure should be evacuated until it has been determined that the atmosphere inside is safe.
3. All efforts shall be made to keep the building closed, i.e. windows and doors closed to prevent natural ventilation from hiding a CO contaminated atmosphere.
4. The following questions should be asked of the homeowner:
 - (a) The time that the detector first went into alarm?
 - (b) Did the homeowner ventilate the structure prior to our arrival?
 - (c) Are any members of the family experiencing any symptoms of CO poisoning (nausea, vomiting, headache, red face, confusion, etc.)?
5. Prior to the commencement of metering, it shall be determined what appliances (if any) were operating at the time the alarm activated (furnace, hot water heater, space heater, fireplace, stove, grill etc.)
6. If any fire department CO meter begins to register above normal readings, personnel not wearing SCBA will immediately exit building and not return until wearing it.
7. The structure/area shall be metered to determine if any elevated levels of CO exist with a minimum of two meters. Metering shall take place on all levels of the structure starting in the basement and working upward. Outdoor sources of CO i.e. generators, cars, and power equipment, especially those operating near home openings, should be investigated. All meters shall independently cover all areas to prevent any erroneous readings.
8. If a CO contaminated atmosphere is not found and the cause of the alarm is found to be a faulty alarm device, the homeowner shall be advised to purchase new alarms or have their alarm system serviced.
9. If a CO contaminated atmosphere is found, the point source shall be isolated by fire department members by removing it from the house or turning the device off. If it

is beyond the fire department's ability to isolate a trade professional should be called.

10. Once the cause of the CO contamination has been eliminated, the home shall be ventilated with PPV or other means at the discretion of the OIC.
11. Once the structure is fully vented, all openings to the structure shall be closed to determine if the CO source has been completely eliminated or if CO levels start to increase again. The entire structure shall be metered a second time with a minimum of two meters by two different firefighters.
12. Residents may reoccupy the structure once the CO source has been eliminated and all meters have zero readings.

Chimney Fires

Roll of Apparatus: E-31 • L-30 • E-32 • R-33

Safety

The firefighter accountability system will be put into action immediately. A safety officer should be assigned at the scene. Full protective clothing will be worn including SCBA, by all personnel at all times.

Evacuation

Occupants will be evacuated immediately and directed to an area of safe proximity from the scene until the officer in charge determines that the hazard is removed and the structure adequately ventilated.

Size Up

Upon arrival on scene, the officer in charge will do a size up of the situation to determine if the fire is contained to the chimney alone and that it has not spread to the structure. If a fire has spread beyond just the chimney, please revert to the Structure Fire SOG's.

If it is determined that the fire is contained in the chimney alone:

Suppression

1. Remove the source of ignition from the fireplace using an ash bucket and extinguish the product outside the structure.
2. Minimize the damage to the structure and contents by using tarps and runners.
3. Attempt to extinguish the fire inside the chimney using a dry chemical extinguisher with its nozzle pointed up the chimney. An 1 ¾" hose line should be pulled as a backup line.
4. Crews can also attempt to extinguish fire inside the chimney using "Dry Chem" bags dropped from the top of the chimney.
5. An 1 ¾" attack line can be used inside the chimney as a last resort when other methods of suppression have failed.
6. The structure should again be searched on all floors to ensure extension has not taken place using a Thermal Imaging Camera.
7. The roof of the structure should be monitored at all times for burning embers and extinguished if necessary.

Ventilation

1. If smoke has entered the structure, the preferred method of ventilation would be positive pressure ventilation through windows or doors using an electric fan(smoke ejector).
2. The structure should be metered for carbon monoxide and other gases and deemed safe before we clear the scene or the occupants are allowed back into the structure. Reference the "Atmospheric Monitoring" SOP.

Downed Electrical Wires

Roll of Apparatus: E-32 • R-33 • U-35

1. First responding units are to determine scene safety and broadcast the scene status to all other responding personnel. No personnel should enter or otherwise work in an unsafe area until the electrical utility (currently Eversource and Frontier) has confirmed that the power to the area has been shut off.
2. Secure the unsafe area from vehicle and pedestrian traffic with tape or cones.
3. All personnel and vehicles shall report to and remain within the safe staging area. This area should be a minimum of three times the length of the downed or damaged wire or two pole lengths away on the opposite side of the street due to potential for unseen damage to other overhead wires. Remember that your Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will NOT prevent you from being electrocuted. All non-essential personnel shall be immediately returned to fire headquarters.
4. Assign at least one member to keep visual contact with the wires. Power surges or back feed can make the wires “dance” or have movement over a large area.
5. Contact Fire Dispatch and request that the utility company be notified of the nature of the problem (wire down, burning transformer, wire separated from house, etc.) as well as an Eversource Incident Priority Code. The exact street location with a cross street should also be supplied. Providing the utility with a pole number is optional, and should only be given if it can be obtained without entering the hazard zone. Providing a pole number of a pole very close by (within the safe staging area) is an acceptable alternative.
6. Fire suppression should not be attempted for fires on the pole, wires or transformer unless there is an imminent life hazard requiring a rescue. Suppression activities should generally be confined to protecting exposures. If it is necessary to suppress a fire, full turnout gear including SCBA will be utilized. A dry chemical or CO₂ extinguisher shall be used.
7. Any personnel who have been exposed to a leaking transformer should notify the officer in charge. The officer will notify the utility company to determine if the contents of the transformer were hazardous. When in doubt, the exposed personnel should go through a preliminary decontamination wash down and runoff contained until notification by the utility company that exposure was not hazardous.

Personnel should remain on the scene as necessary only to maintain scene safety and to protect exposures. All personnel should be returned to service as quickly as possible.

Dumpster Fires

Roll of Apparatus: E-32 • E-31 • R-33 • L30

Size Up, 360, CAN Report

1. Upon arrival, apparatus shall be positioned to allow future arriving units access to the scene and shield firefighters at scene. Consider topography, runoff, wind direction, and other hazards such as powerlines. The OIC should provide size up radio transmission and establish command of the incident.
2. Consider possible contents of the dumpster based on size up and dumpster location; if hazardous materials or dangerous runoff is suspected call for a hazmat team or DEEP response.

Fire Fighter Safety

All FFs should wear full PPE and use SCBA. No FFs should enter the dumpster, nor put any part of their body in harm's way unless absolutely necessary. It is impossible to predict what is in a dumpster; it may contain hazardous materials and containers that pose explosive threats.

Rescue

Typically there is no civilian life hazard and nothing to save at a dumpster fire. If life safety is an issue, it is the primary objective for crews.

Exposures

Protecting exposures is the typical priority at dumpster fires.

1. Establish an adequate water supply. Prepare for a stubborn fire and protect against extension, dumpsters are often placed next buildings. Stretch adequate size hose line and consider master stream operations if the fire is not knocked down quickly.
2. Hoselines and deckguns should be operated at a distance lobbing water onto exposures and the fire
3. As soon as possible, secure the dumpster by chocking the wheels to prevent movement (especially as it is being filled by water).
4. In the event a dumpster fire becomes structure involved the Structure Fire SOG should be followed.

Containment, Extinguishment, and Overhaul

Extinguish and overhaul avoiding contact until contents can be assessed. Then use pike poles to open doors and reach contents. Use TIC to locate hot spots and confirm extinguishment. FFs should remain on air while performing overhaul.

Notify the dumpster company or property owner to assist in clean up and removal.

Fire Marshal shall be notified of all fires.

Elevator Emergencies

Roll of Apparatus: E-32 • R-33 • U-35

1. The first arriving officer should perform a size-up to determine the nature and extent of the problem and determine the resources needed and immediately update dispatch. The elevator room should have information for a service company, request Dispatch to request a technician respond to the scene.
2. Crews should investigate the location of the stuck car (lighted floor display or locate in shaft). If the car is occupied, the following sequence should be followed:
 - a. Establish contact with the occupants and keep them advised of the situation and operations. Find out if there are any medical, panic, or other issues. If no emergency is present, units should consider waiting for the elevator technician to assist with the removal of occupants. Assign one member of the team to make and maintain this communication with occupants. Another member should be sent to the elevator control room.
 - b. Communication member should instruct occupants to attempt to engage the safety contacts by instructing them to push doors together physically, push the “Door Close” button, push the “Door Open” button.
 - c. Members should check the door on the floor above and below stuck car to make sure these doors are closed properly. If multiple elevators in the building, members should ensure those doors are closed properly.
 - d. Communication member should next tell the occupants that members will be attempting to move the car. Use Fireman’s key switch and move it to “Phase 1” position. If it works, this will return the car to the designated floor (usually ground floor/lobby).
 - e. Next, instruct the control room member to locate the main power switch (NOTE: The car lights should be on a separate power circuit). Communication member will let the occupants know that crews will attempt to cycle the power, and although it shouldn’t happen, there is a chance that the lights will go out. The control member should cycle the main power off, pause 20 seconds, and power back on. NOTE: Power switch can be dangerous! Use proper techniques to cycle: Do not reach across or stand in front of the power switch box. Do not stand in water or in contact with anything other than the floor. Shut off or Turn On switch using the palm of an open hand, while standing off to the side, with eyes closed and facing away, and breathing in just prior to contacting switch.
3. If the car remains stuck and prompt removal from the car is necessary, attempt to open the doors to the car. First, IC will instruct the control member to ensure the power to the car is in the off position, and the switch is locked out.
 - a. If the elevator is an electric elevator: crews should open the elevator shaft door using the elevator keys. Once the shaft door is open IC should determine if crews can open the elevator car door and safely remove occupants. If the car is stuck between floors and only a small opening is

created by opening both doors it may be unsafe to remove occupants in this manner. IC should request an update on elevator technician and if any medical emergencies exist request Stamford Fire Rescue be contacted for a vertical removal.

- b. If the elevator is a hydraulic elevator: crews should open the elevator shaft door using the elevator keys. Once the shaft door is open IC should determine if crews can open the elevator car door and safely remove occupants. If necessary, the IC should instruct the control member to slowly lower the car to floor level using the hydraulic relief valve in the control pane under the supervision of qualified personnel. Prior to lowering the car crews must ensure power is off to the elevator and hydraulic system (double check indicator lights on control unit).
4. Once occupants are removed the system should remain powered off. Advise owner or maintenance to contact a technician.

Hazardous Materials Response

Roll of Apparatus: E-32 • R- 33 • E-31 • L-30

Definition

An incident in which a material escapes its intended container and presents the potential injury or harm to people, property, and/or the environment.

The department's mission is to contain the release of hazardous materials from a safe distance and keep it from spreading and preventing exposures. The primary concern is to prevent the loss of life or severe injury. If the situation dictates action beyond the capabilities of a Hazmat Operations Level responder, the Fairfield County Hazardous Incidents Response Team (FCHIRT) shall be requested. Noroton FD incident command should maintain command of the situation no matter who is requested.

Response

The first arriving unit should stop and stage a safe distance away from the incident unless otherwise directed by a ranking fire officer, with due regard to remaining out of any vapor cloud or spilled material. All apparatus should attempt to stage uphill and upwind of the incident. Incoming companies should refer to the ERG and NIOSH guides for reference, especially for known products.

Scene

As soon as possible, control zones (hot, warm, cold) shall be established. Any potentially contaminated area shall be considered "hot." The warm zone will be reserved for decon, and the cold zone reserved for the command post, staging, EMS, rehab, etc. An emergency decon area shall be set up immediately, prior to rescuers entering the hot zone.

As soon as possible, units on scene shall attempt to identify the product or products involved, and if any possible victims are involved. A risk/benefit analysis shall be done immediately if there's a potential for a line of sight rescue before committing rescuers.

Safety

An emergency decontamination area should be set up immediately for those victims or responders who may have been exposed to a product. All tools and equipment shall be decontaminated after use before leaving the scene.

Any member exposed to hazardous material shall inform their immediate supervisor and seek emergency decon and medical attention immediately.

Notes

1. Consider evacuation of the area and/or protect in place as necessary. Utilize other public safety agencies as necessary.

2. All personnel shall wear full protective gear and remain in the safe staging area unless directed by an officer.
3. Post 53 shall be notified and requested to respond to a safe staging area.

Emergency Decontamination Procedures

1. Establish an area of refuge where decontamination can be performed.
2. Create a gross decontamination tub using a hoseline and an improvised basin (salvage covers, and ladders as a supporting frame).
3. All personnel performing decontamination shall wear full protective gear including SCBA.
4. Wash down and remove contaminated clothing.
5. Wash down personnel with large amounts of water.
6. Perform further decontamination as instructed by Hazardous Materials Response Team.
7. Decontamination team may themselves be decontaminated at the instruction of the Hazardous Materials Response Team.
8. Post 53 should stand by until contaminated personnel have been grossly decontaminated. EMS personnel should stay outside of the decon area and wear protective clothing when treating contaminated personnel.

Household Electrical Emergencies

Roll of Apparatus: E-31 • L-30 • E-32 • R-33

1. First arriving officer should perform a size-up to determine the nature and extent of the problem and determine the resources needed and immediately update dispatch.
2. Power should be cut to the area of the home at the circuit breaker. First attempt to flip the breaker controlling only the involved appliance or area of the structure. If unable to locate individual breaker, turn off the main breaker. Beware of any subpanels.
3. Disconnect the power from the appliance and extinguish any fires using appropriate extinguishing agent.
4. Use thermal imaging camera to verify there are no hidden hot spots or warm outlets.
5. Verify hazards have been contained and the areas are safe. Leave power off to affected areas. Once appliances are turned off DO NOT TURN BACK ON.
6. Advise homeowner to contact a licensed electrician as necessary.

Marina/Dockside Fires

Roll of Apparatus: M-34 • E-32 • E-31 • R-33 • L-30

Firefighter Safety

Marina fires demand use of full PPE and the Firefighter Accountability System. All FF's wearing SCBAs on floating docks shall be attached to a manned tagline for safety. Additionally, all members within 10 feet of the water must don PFD's. FFs should always be mindful of their egress points and not allow themselves to be cutoff by fire.

Size-up, CAN Report & Command

6. The first arriving officer shall give an initial size up and conduct a "360" of the incident.
7. Relay to all incoming units Conditions, Actions, and Needs (CAN Report).
8. OIC should attempt to control utilities during the "360" or designate an incoming unit to do so and relay the instruction over the radio. Power and fuel supply to docks should be immediately cut upon arrival.
9. The IC should attempt to determine the type of fire and the involved material (burning liquids, ordinary combustibles, etc.) and the most appropriate extinguishment tactic.
10. OIC shall establish command and designate a command post as soon as possible.
11. OIC should confirm that M-34 is underway and is rigging for water rescue (RIT) and fire attack
12. OIC should consider immediate request for additional mutual aid marine assets for rescue/exposure protection/suppression, including HazMat if needed
13. Apparatus (marine and land) arrivals shall be positioned to supplement operations.
14. OIC should ensure a RIT team has been designated.

Rescue

4. Rescue and evacuation of docks and vessels is of primary importance. All operations should be in support of rescuing trapped victims.
5. At least one member of each search team should be equipped with a two-way radio.
6. A roll call of search team members should be performed after primary and secondary searches.

Exposure

Steps to protect exposures, including vessels and dockage, should be taken as early in the incident as possible. Pending the availability of manpower, crews should consider moving and/or cutting loose vessels and dockage from affected fire areas.

Suppression

4. M-34 should provide firefighting and rescue support as appropriate from the water.
SPECIAL NOTE: Any hose stretch from M34 greater than 100ft requires use of 2 ½ hose line. Doing otherwise will result in insufficient flow and nozzle pressure.
5. E-32 should be placed to supplement M-34 exposure protection and suppression operations. E-32 officer and/or IC should strongly consider laying-in a supply line to support operations with a secured supply line.
6. Mutual aid of both shore-based and marine units should be considered for additional manpower and equipment if multiple vessels are involved or exposed
7. Attack lines shall be a minimum of 1¾ inches in diameter. The 1¾ inch line should be backed up with a 1¾ or 2½ inch line. The backup line should be placed to support the initial attack line and to protect exposures and egress piers.
8. Foam operations should be considered.

Master Streams

Master streams may be deployed in event that heavy fire conditions and/ or exposure protection warrant.

4. ALL fire personnel and civilians shall have exited the targeted areas (docks/vessels, etc) prior to the commencement of master stream operations.
5. Refer to the SOP for Master Stream Operations for further guidance.

Hazardous Materials

If flammable liquids or other hazardous materials from the involved marina or vessel(s) have escaped their normal containment crews should attempt to contain the spill. For all fires on the water USCG should be contacted. For large spills or fires involving HazMat the IC should consider calling the Fairfield County Hazardous Incident Response Team.

Motor Vehicle Accidents

Roll of Apparatus: • E-32 • R-33 • T-35 • E-31 • L-30

Response/Scene Safety:

1. Standard Operating Guidelines regarding personal protective equipment will be followed; members responding and on scene must wear turnout coat, pants, gloves, helmet and eye protection. All personnel out of vehicles must wear traffic reflective vests.
2. Upon arrival, the IC should instruct the apparatus operator to park the apparatus up-wind and away from possible exposure to contaminants from the incident. Apparatus should be positioned to shield on scene personnel from traffic during operations and allow safe access to extrication tools.
3. The IC will give an appropriate scene size-up of scene safety considerations, number and types of vehicles, number of patients, position of vehicle and stability, hazards around vehicle (fuel spills, downed wires, leaning poles, smoke and oncoming traffic etc.).
4. The IC will request additional manpower and equipment as needed.
5. If persons are trapped and extrication is required, the apparatus operator shall put the apparatus in-pump mode and begin to deploy necessary hose lines. The minimum hose line on vehicle fires shall be a 1 ¾" attack line. Trash line can be used as back up line. Please reference Vehicle Extrication SOG.
6. Firefighter and victim safety is the paramount concern. If approved by IC, trained MRT and EMT NFD members may assist EMS in patient care and to expedite patient transport.

Hazard Containment:

1. Fire control (if necessary)
2. Disconnect battery as soon as possible, use electrical to advantage prior to disconnection
3. Stabilization of vehicle before any rescue personnel enter or work in vehicle
4. Speedy dry or foam for fluids on roadway
5. DEEP and Fire Marshal's Office should be notified for haz-mat or large scale spills to storm drains or water resources.

Vehicle Removal:

1. Until the police department has finished its investigation, personnel should refrain from moving debris.
2. If the police investigation has concluded, hazards have been removed, and there is no danger of fire, fire units may clear the scene.

3. Where appropriate, firefighting personnel should remain on scene until the towing company removes vehicle(s).

Motor Vehicle Extrication

Roll of Apparatus: E-32 • R-33 • U-35 • E-31 • L-30

1. Officer in charge should perform size up for safety, resources, planning and communicate with dispatch. Communicate: number & type of vehicles, confirmed entrapment, hazards (power lines, hazmat, environmental, etc.) and additional resources as needed. In the event electrical wires involved dispatch should relay a priority code (Priority 1 to 3) to Eversource immediately.
2. Apparatus should be positioned to establish safe, shielded, work area and maintain a traffic transportation corridor or block traffic if necessary. Park apparatus uphill and upwind, if possible. Access to equipment and scene safety is the primary concern.
3. Conduct Inner and outer 360 techniques: Outer 360 to survey for additional vehicles, walk away or ejected patients, and hazards. Inner 360, hot zone survey to check for hazards, number of patients/conditions, entrapment problems and fluid leakages.
4. With any occupied vehicle, a minimum 1-3/4 hose will be charged and manned at all times.
5. In situations involving gasoline spills with trapped occupants, the officer in charge should order a foam blanket on the spill; foam line or fire extinguisher can be used. Speedy dry can be used for other fluid leaks.
6. A tool/equipment staging area should be established 5-10 yards away in a protected area. Additionally, a debris removal area should be established for safety and clean up.
7. Reflective traffic safety vests must be worn by all personnel on scene. Eye protection, gloves and proper PPE should be utilized. Follow all procedures outlined in the Blood Borne Pathogens SOG.
8. The IC should develop multiple plans for each extrication, keeping in mind the Golden Hour of patient care.
9. The following steps should be taken when extricating occupants:
 - a. Stabilize the vehicle(s),
 - b. Disconnect battery; negative then positive cables. All members should still stay clear of un-deployed airbags.
 - c. Remove mechanisms of entanglement or obstruction (dashboards, pedals, steering wheels, roofs, etc.)
 - d. Create access point(s) for rescuers to enter the vehicle(s)
 - e. Assist EMS with patient removal

Vehicle Removal:

1. Until the police department has finished its investigation, personnel should refrain from moving debris unless it is in the way of rescue and extrication operations.
2. If the police investigation has concluded, hazards have been removed and there is no danger of fire, the officer in charge may clear the scene.
3. Where appropriate firefighting personnel should remain on scene until the towing company removes vehicle(s).

Motor Vehicle Fires

Roll of Apparatus: E-32 • E-31 • R-33 • L-30

1. The first arriving officer should perform a size up, communicate to dispatch and direct Engine placement. Consideration should be given to blocking traffic to create a safe work area, positioning the first arriving Engine upwind and angled with pump panel toward the incident, if possible, so hose lines can be deployed safely in view of the pump operator.
2. All personnel are to wear full protective clothing including SCBA; reflective, safety traffic vests must be worn by all members on the scene.
3. A 1-3/4 inch hose shall be the minimum standard attack line, although the officer in charge has discretion as to determining the appropriate size hose.
4. Approach the vehicle at an angle from the uphill direction. Sweep the ground with the hose stream as you approach the vehicle.
5. Avoid attacking the vehicle directly from the front, sides, or rear, if possible. Use caution in the areas around the bumpers, wheels and gas tank due to the potential for rupture and explosion.
6. Hybrid vehicles pose additional concerns; stay clear of all electrical cables. Hybrid vehicle fires should be extinguished like a normal car.
7. Water should not be used on burning magnesium engines, foam or D extinguisher should be used instead.
8. Foam operations should be considered when the fire involves flammable liquids. See NFD Foam Operations SOG for more details on foam operations.
9. IC should communicate to second due engine if they will need to establish a water supply.
10. A second 1-3/4 inch back-up hose line should be deployed to protect fire crews and exposures.

Mutual Aid

Roll of Apparatus: E-31 or Specific Unit Requested

In Town of Darien

1. Sufficient protection and coverage of Noroton remains the top priority. Allocate only the resources requested.
2. The response to mutual aid calls is one piece of apparatus unless requested by the host department (i.e. we don't clear the barn). This is the protocol so Noroton Fire Department can maintain a standard of coverage in the district.
3. If two engines from the other departments are en route before the first NFD unit responds, the officer in charge may elect to roll L-30 first instead of E-31.
4. Under no circumstance will Noroton Fire Dept. personnel call out on the radio to the IC or Chief Officer en route saying that that "Noroton FD has a crew standing by". This adds unnecessary stress to the IC or Chief responding and clogs up radio traffic. If the host department wants additional resources they will call for them.
5. The recommended crew should respond as follows.
 - (a) Engine/Ladder – minimum four members to respond.
 - (b) Rescue – two members to respond.
6. All responding personnel should wear full turnout gear while at the emergency scene.
7. Upon arrival at the scene, NFD officer shall report to the incident staging area to notify our arrival and to get instructions.
8. Return all non-essential personnel and apparatus to service as soon as possible.

Outside of Town of Darien

1. The minimum recommended crew should respond as follows:
 - (a) Engine/Ladder - 1 officer plus 3 members
 - (b) Rescue - 1 officer plus 1 members
2. Probationary members are prohibited from responding to requests for mutual aid outside of Darien.

Oil Burner Malfunctions

Roll of Apparatus: E-32 • L-30 • E-31 • R-33

Evacuation

1. Occupants should be evacuated from the premises due to the potential for carbon monoxide exposure. They can be allowed back in the structure after the hazard has been removed.
2. It is recommended that occupants who have been exposed to carbon monoxide levels in excess of 35 parts per million be examined by Post 53.

Hazard Removal

1. Shut off the furnace.
2. Extinguish any fire which has traveled outside of the fire box using a dry chemical extinguisher.
3. Recommend that the occupant contact their fuel company for service.
4. Fuel leaks should be contained.
5. When a fire has extended beyond the furnace, the Structure Fire SOG should be followed.

Ventilation

1. The structure should be ventilated using either natural or mechanical ventilation as determined by the officer in charge.
2. Ventilation may be discontinued when smoke is removed and carbon monoxide levels are within the normal atmospheric level. Reference Atmospheric Monitoring SOG.
3. Electric smoke ejectors should be used for mechanical ventilation.
4. Gas PPV fans should not be used due to their potential to increase carbon monoxide levels within the structure.

Protective Equipment

1. All personnel entering the structure should wear full turnout gear.
2. SCBA should be worn whenever a significant amount of smoke is visible.
3. SCBA should be worn in accordance with the Atmospheric Monitoring SOG

Propane Leaks (Small Scale)

Roll of Apparatus: E-32 • E-31 • L-30 • R-33

1. Using the gas meter, determine the safety of any environment
2. A safe staging area should be designated and all responding personnel should report and remain in the safe staging area until directed by an officer. NOTE: Residents shall not be permitted inside the structure until safe meter readings are taken and confirmed by an officer.
3. All personnel should wear full turnout gear including SCBA.
4. Determine if rescue or evacuation is needed and establish an appropriate evacuation as necessary including exposures.
5. Remove all ignition sources in the hazardous area. This may mean closing roads and highways.
6. If possible, an attempt should be made to stop the flow of gas at the valve or remote shutoff.
7. The owner's gas supplier (HOCON, Suburban, etc.) should be notified to respond to the scene as determined by the officer in charge.
8. A 1¾ inch diameter hand line is the minimum size hose unless directed otherwise by the officer in charge. A protective fog pattern will be applied to the equipment involved in the leak.
9. Positive pressure ventilation may be used as needed to direct vapors away from residences and other structures. The environment where the fans are operating should first be determined to be non-explosive by using the gas meter.
10. The gas meter should be used to determine the safety of any environment (such as the inside of a residence).
11. In the case of fire:
 - a. Two protective 1 3/4 inch hand lines should be used to protect exposures and direct vapor cloud.
 - b. If gas flow cannot be shut off, do not attempt to extinguish fire. Allow fire to burn itself out.
 - c. Use high volume water supply with fog stream to cool exposed pressure containers and nearby equipment.
 - d. Approach a flame-enveloped container from the sides, never from the ends.
 - e. Use extreme caution when applying water to a container that has been exposed to heat or flame for more than a short time.

Residential and Commercial Alarm Activations

Roll of Apparatus: E-31 • L-30 • E-32 • R-33

1. Upon arrival, apparatus shall be positioned according to the Positioning of Fire Apparatus SOG to allow future arriving units access to the scene.
2. The first due officer or senior firefighter shall give a “size-up” of the structure, including, but not limited to, construction type, number of floors, conditions of the building, actions the first unit will be taking, and anything he may need from 2nd and 3rd due units. The first due officer / senior firefighter shall also establish command of the incident.
3. Arriving personnel shall treat every alarm activation as a true emergency, donned in full PPE, until further investigation proves otherwise. If PD or homeowners are on scene with an “improper code” to reset the system, all units should drop their response to normal travel, but continue to investigate.
4. If units cannot gain access into the structure, a 360 of the building shall be conducted, and a keyholder requested. If no keyholder is present, units shall attempt to gain entry into the structure without causing undue damage. (Unlocked windows, doors, etc.) If access is gained, DPD shall be notified. Forcible entry shall only be conducted if there is a suspicion of smoke or fire present.
5. Once access is gained, a thorough inspection of the building shall be done to try to ascertain why the alarm was activated and to ensure there is no smoke, fire, or any other hazardous environment present. At least one firefighter should go to the alarm panel to determine what status the system is in and which detector activated.
6. After ensuring there is no hazard present and a possible cause of the activation is realized, a reset of the alarm system should be attempted. If this is unsuccessful, advise the homeowner / building owner to contact the alarm company. Darien Fire Dispatch will be updated if the alarm is left in trouble.
7. Only the alarm company can “cancel” an alarm. The officer or senior firefighter has the option to continue to respond, with normal flow of traffic, to verify there is no problem on premise. Units cannot be cancelled on carbon monoxide alarms or false alarms with improper codes. Again, only the alarm company can cancel a response to the alarm.

Structure Fires in Commercial Buildings

Roll of Apparatus: E-31 • L-30 • E-32 • R-33

The first arriving officer shall give an initial size up and conduct a 360 of the structure. The size up should relay to all incoming units Conditions, Actions, and Needs (CAN Report). The IC should attempt to control utilities during the 360 or designate an incoming unit to do so and relay the instruction over the radio. The IC shall establish command and designate a command post as soon as possible. Additional engines and trucks shall be positioned on the fire ground to supplement interior and exterior operations. Incoming engines should leave room for the ladder in the front of the structure, or other designated location. Additionally, in large buildings the IC should try to position apparatus on all sides of the building. Keep in mind multiple supply lines may be required. IC should ensure a RIT team has been designated on all confirmed structure fires. Requesting Mutual Aid is strongly encouraged on all confirmed fires.

Firefighter Accountability System

Upon arrival of the first arriving unit the Firefighter Accountability System should immediately be put in action. A safety officer should be designated by the IC as soon as possible.

If at any point during a structure fire a Mayday or RIT situation develops, all involved and operating crews will follow their original directives and not become distracted. Attack crews must continue to make a push to extinguish the fire. Putting the fire out will help position crews for the best possible outcome. See Firefighter Trapped – RIT SOG.

Standard Apparatus Assignments:

Apparatus arriving on scene should anticipate performing designated assignments as listed below, unless otherwise directed by IC. The officer on each arriving apparatus should divide assignments and brief their crew members on conditions before arriving on scene.

1. **First Due Engine** - communicate a water supply plan to all incoming units, stretch initial handline to protect main egress
2. **First Due Ladder** – perform forcible entry, primary search, coordinated ventilation as requested by IC, control utilities
3. **Second Due Engine** – secure the water supply, assist with stretch of initial handline, stretch a back up line, connecting to FDC if applicable, considerations for secondary water supply
4. **Rescue** - complete any unfinished tasks as directed

INCIDENT PRIORITIES ARE AS FOLLOWS: RECEO-VS**Rescue**

1. Rescue and evacuation of occupants is of primary importance. All operations should be in support of rescuing trapped victims. The IC must perform a Risk vs. Reward analysis before committing any Firefighters to the structure. Firefighter safety is paramount.
2. Primary and secondary searches should be performed to confirm that all occupants are out of the structure. Search teams will search for fire location and victims and relay all findings to command.
3. At least one member of each search team should be equipped with a two-way radio.
4. The use of thermal imaging camera and search ropes is encouraged.
5. A roll call of search team members should be performed after primary and secondary searches.

Exposures

1. All exposures shall be protected to prevent fire spread from the already involved structures to adjacent structures, hazards, properties etc. This includes protection from direct flame impingement, embers, etc.
2. In connected buildings, i.e. a shared wall, a 2-1/2" hose line should immediately be stretched into the exposure.
3. In buildings with a shared or common attic or roof, a trench cut may be considered by IC to prevent further fire spread.

Containment

1. Once exposures are protected operations should focus on containing the incident to the size and scale it currently is.

Standpipe/Sprinkler Systems

2. An engine can connect to a standpipe system at the direction of the officer in charge if it is determined that interior crews will utilize standpipe connections.
3. An early arriving engine shall connect to the sprinkler system at the FDC at the direction of the IC to supplement the sprinkler system to help slow fire spread and help firefighters in suppression operations. This engine should have its own supply LDH.

Extinguishment**A. Interior Suppression – If the IC determines an interior attack operation is the appropriate route to extinguishment.**

1. If rescue is in progress, initial hose lines should be placed to support rescue operations.
2. For interior fire-fighting operations, attack lines shall be a minimum of 2½ inches in diameter. The first attack line should be backed up with a 2½ inch line.
3. Standpipes may be used to stretch attack lines at the IC discretion
4. The backup line should be placed to support the initial attack line and to protect the means of egress of occupants and firefighters.

5. The backup line can be repositioned above or below the fire floor to prevent flame extension at the direction of an officer. If the backup line is repositioned, a third line of a minimum of 2½ inches should be pulled to back up the line on the main fire floor.
6. At least one member of each hose team should be equipped with a two-way radio.
7. Additional hose lines should be stretched to aid in extinguishment as determined by the IC. Additional pumpers shall be brought in to augment water supply.

B. Transitional Attack – In the event the fire has a significant head start on arriving fire crews, the IC may elect to knock the fire down from the exterior before making an interior attack.

1. Engine deck guns or exterior handlines may be directed onto the main body of fire if there are untenable conditions visible in said area.
2. Exterior lines shall not be directed into the home in any space that viable victims may be found. Members must be aware that lobbing water into the structure may change flow paths of fire.
3. After a quick knockdown of visible fire interior crews should quickly advance interior lines and follow the above mentioned “Interior Suppression” techniques.

C. Defensive Operations - In the event the IC determines interior operations are too dangerous for firefighters, the IC may elect to switch to a defensive strategy.

1. ALL personnel shall have exited the structure and a roll call been performed prior to the commencement of master stream and defensive operations.
2. A collapse zone should be established and all apparatus and personnel should be positioned outside of the collapse zone. Equipment and personnel may have to be repositioned
3. The IC should make a safety inspection prior to re-entry of personnel into the structure.
4. Refer to the Master Stream Operations SOG for further guidance.

Overhaul

A. Ventilation

1. **Coordinated Ventilation shall be performed as soon as possible at the direction of the OIC.** Both horizontal and vertical ventilation should be considered. Early horizontal ventilation can often be accomplished with minimal crew and equipment requirements.
2. At least one member of the ventilation team should be equipped with a two-way radio.
3. The ventilation team shall standby in position until directed to make a ventilation opening by the IC.
4. Teams performing roof ventilation should be provided with two means of egress.
5. Roof ventilation should not be performed on truss roofs due to the early failure rate in structure fires. Resort to horizontal ventilation.
6. PPV operations should commence once the fire is extinguished to ventilate the structure. Firefighters shall remain on SCBA until the structure has been determined to comply with the Atmospheric Monitoring SOG.

B. Salvage

1. Steps to protect the interior of the structure and its belongings should be taken at the beginning when possible, pending the availability of manpower. All members shall abide by the Atmospheric Monitoring SOG throughout salvage operations.

Mutual Aid

Requesting Mutual Aid is strongly encouraged for all confirmed structure fires. Due to the need for an adequate, continuous water supply for residences outside of the hydrant district, mutual aid tanker support should be requested immediately after the notification of a working fire if the IC determines it to be necessary. Post 53 should also be notified to stand by at the rehab area. IC should confirm that utility companies or any other needed agencies have been called early in the process.

Additional Hazards to Consider at Commercial Fires:

Potential for an increased fire load (inventory, etc.), hazardous materials, internal subdivisions, locking interior doors and reinforced doors, security doors, security bars. If a building owner, manager, or maintenance supervisor is on site, they should be consulted by the IC. It is important that IC and all crews consult Pre Plans and consider mutual aid early.

Firefighter Safety

SOPs regarding Protective Clothing, Firefighter Safety, Fireground Staging, and Firefighter Accountability apply.

Structure Fires in Residential Buildings

Roll of Apparatus: E-31 • L-30 • E-32 • R-33

The first arriving officer shall give an initial size up and conduct a 360 of the structure. The size up should relay to all incoming units Conditions, Actions, and Needs (CAN Report). The Incident Commander (IC) should attempt to control utilities during the 360 or designate an incoming unit to do so and relay the instruction over the radio. The IC shall establish command and designate a command post as soon as possible. Additional engines and trucks shall be positioned on the fire ground to supplement interior and exterior operations. Incoming engines should leave room for the ladder in the front of the structure, or other designated location. Keep in mind multiple supply lines may be required. IC should ensure a RIT team has been designated on all confirmed structure fires. Requesting Mutual Aid is strongly encouraged on all confirmed fires.

Firefighter Accountability System

Upon arrival of the first arriving unit the Firefighter Accountability System should immediately be put in action. A safety officer should be designated by the IC as soon as possible.

If at any point during a structure fire a Mayday or RIT situation develops all involved and operating crews will follow their original directives and not become distracted. Attack crews must continue to make a push to extinguish the fire. Putting the fire out will help position crews for the best possible outcome. See Firefighter Trapped - Mayday SOG.

Standard Apparatus Assignments

Apparatus arriving on scene should anticipate performing designated assignments as listed below, unless otherwise directed by IC. The officer on each arriving apparatus should divide assignments and brief their crew members on conditions before arriving on scene.

1. **First Due Engine** - communicate a water supply plan to all incoming units, stretch initial handline to protect main egress
2. **First Due Ladder** – perform forcible entry, primary search, coordinated ventilation as requested by IC, control utilities
3. **Second Due Engine** – secure the water supply, assist with stretch of initial handline, stretch a back up line, connect to FDC if applicable, considerations for secondary water supply
4. **Rescue** - complete any unfinished tasks as directed

INCIDENT PRIORITIES ARE AS FOLLOWS: RECEO-VS**Rescue**

1. Rescue and evacuation of occupants is of primary importance. All operations should be in support of rescuing trapped victims. The IC must perform a Risk vs. Reward analysis before committing any Firefighters to the structure. Firefighter safety is paramount.
2. Primary and secondary searches should be performed to confirm that all occupants are out of the structure. Search teams will search for fire location and victims and relay all findings to command.
3. At least one member of each search team should be equipped with a two-way radio.
4. The use of thermal imaging camera and search ropes is encouraged.
5. A roll call of search team members should be performed after primary and secondary searches.

Exposures

1. All exposures shall be protected to prevent fire spread from the already involved structures to adjacent structures, hazards, properties etc. This includes protection from direct flame impingement, embers, etc.

Containment

1. Once exposures are protected, operations should focus on containing the incident to the size and scale it currently is.

Extinguishment**A. Interior Suppression – If the IC determines an interior attack operation is the appropriate route to extinguishment.**

1. If rescue is in progress, initial hose lines should be placed to support rescue operations.
2. For interior fire-fighting operations, attack lines shall be a minimum of 1¾ inches in diameter, or a 2½ inch line if there is heavy fire volume. The first attack line should be backed up with an equal or larger diameter line. The backup line should be placed to support the initial attack line and to protect the means of egress of occupants and firefighters.
3. The backup line can be repositioned above or below the fire floor to prevent flame extension at the direction of an officer. If the backup line is repositioned, a third line of equal or larger diameter should be pulled to back up the line on the main fire floor.
4. In structures where the location of the fire is beyond the reach of a pre-connected line, a 2½ inch supply line should be pulled. The 2½ inch supply line should be gated down to two 1¾ inch connections
5. At least one member of each hose team should be equipped with a two-way radio.

B. Transitional Attack – In the event the fire has a significant head start on arriving fire crews, the IC may elect to knock the fire down from the exterior before making an interior attack.

1. Engine deckguns or exterior handlines may be directed onto the main body of fire if there are untenable conditions visible in said area.
2. Exterior lines shall not be directed into the home in any space that viable victims may be found. Members must be aware that lobbing water into the structure may change flow paths of fire.
3. After a quick knockdown of visible fire interior crews should quickly advance interior lines and follow the above mentioned “Interior Suppression” techniques.

C. Defensive Operations - In the event the IC determines interior operations are too dangerous for firefighters the IC may elect to switch to a defensive strategy.

1. ALL personnel shall have exited the structure and a roll call been performed prior to the commencement of master stream and defensive operations.
2. A collapse zone should be established and all apparatus and personnel should be positioned outside of the collapse zone. Equipment and personnel may have to be repositioned
3. The officer in charge should make a safety inspection prior to re-entry of personnel into the structure.
4. Refer to the Master Stream Operations SOG for further guidance.

Overhaul**A. Ventilation**

1. **Coordinated Ventilation shall be performed as soon as possible at the direction of the IC.** Both horizontal and vertical ventilation should be considered. Early horizontal ventilation can often be accomplished with minimal crew and equipment requirements.
2. At least one member of the ventilation team should be equipped with a two-way radio.
3. The ventilation team shall standby in position until directed to make a ventilation opening by the IC.
4. Teams performing roof ventilation should be provided with two means of egress.
5. Roof ventilation should not be performed on truss roofs due to the early failure rate in structure fires. Resort to horizontal ventilation.
6. Positive Pressure Ventilation should commence once the fire is extinguished to ventilate the structure. Firefighters shall remain on SCBA until the structure has been determined to comply with the Atmospheric Monitoring SOG.

B. Salvage

1. Steps to protect the interior of the structure and its belongings should be taken at the beginning when possible, pending the availability of manpower. All members shall abide by the Atmospheric Monitoring SOG throughout salvage operations.

Mutual Aid

Requesting Mutual Aid is strongly encouraged for all confirmed structure fires. Due to the need for an adequate, continuous water supply for residences outside of the hydrant district, mutual aid tanker support should be requested immediately after the notification of a working fire if the IC determines it to be necessary. Post 53 should also be notified to stand by at the rehab area. IC should confirm that utility companies or any other needed agencies have been called early in the process.

Firefighter Safety

SOPs regarding Protective Clothing, Firefighter Safety, Fireground Staging, and Firefighter Accountability apply.

Water Rescue – Inland - Ice Water

Roll of Apparatus: E-32 • R-33 • T-35

The minimum crew to respond is three (two qualified rescuers and 1 qualified firefighter to man safety tethers on shore.) Response to the incident shall not be delayed for additional manpower. Victims in cold water are prone to losing muscle control within 10 minutes in an ice water rescue situation and can begin to succumb to hypothermia in 30 minutes or less. Rescuers should go straight to the “Go” Rescue operation outlined below as opposed to the traditional Reach, Throw, Row, Go technique for water rescue as hypothermia and the victim being lost below the ice are primary concerns.

Operations:

1. All rescuers should immediately don Ice Commander rescue suits upon arrival at NFD. A fast response and positive control of the victim is of primary importance in this operation.
2. All on shore personnel must don PFD's or water rescue suits.
3. Upon arrival, the officer or senior fire fighter should confirm situation, give an update, and request any additional resources needed. Post 53 shall be called for all calls with a victim in the water.
4. The department's accountability system should be implemented immediately upon arrival.
5. Both rescuers should be tethered to individual life-safety ropes manned by on shore fire fighters or police officers on scene prior to beginning rescue operation.
6. The preferred method of attaching life-safety ropes to water rescue suits is via a “figure eight on a bight” with a non-locking carabiner clipped to the ring on the suit.
7. Rescuer 1 will attach the water rescue ring or sling to their life-safety rope via an “in-line butterfly knot” and a non-locking carabiner. The knot should be located in between the rescuer and the shore, in close proximity to the rescuer.
8. Rescuers should approach the victim from opposite sides to help disperse weight on the ice when possible.
9. Rescuer 1 will make contact with the victim and without losing control of the victim begin to pull the victim's arms through the rescue sling or ring one arm at a time until the device is under the victim's armpits. When possible the device should be cinched down to further secure the victim. Rescuer 1 shall remain on top of the ice whenever possible.
10. Rescuer 2 shall come behind the victim and enter the water. Rescuer 2 will assist Rescuer 1 in getting the rescue device properly secured to the victim.

11. In a coordinated movement, Rescuer 2 shall give the signal to shore to begin to take in the rescue rope with a circular motion in and upward direction with their hand.
12. As the rope is being pulled from shore, Rescuer 1 shall attempt to pull the victim onto the ice while Rescuer 2 pushes the victim from behind and underneath.
13. If the ice is unable to support the weight of the victim and rescuers then rescuers should forgo moving victim onto the ice and instead signal to be pulled in by the rope immediately once victim is secured, making sure to keep the victims back towards shore to prevent drowning.
14. All victims and rescuers are to be evaluated and checked by EMS after removal from water/ice.

Water Rescue – Inland – Non-Ice Water

Roll of Apparatus: E-32 • U-35 • R-33

1. The departmental accountability system should be implemented.
2. The zodiac trailer and motor should be attached to U-35 to bring the boat to the rescue site for an additional option for rescuers.
3. Upon arrival the IC should give a size up and determine if additional units are needed.
4. All personnel entering the water or using a boat should wear water rescue suits regardless of the season.
5. All personnel should wear full protective clothing. All rescuers shall wear USCG approved life jackets, unless they are wearing water rescue suits.
6. Lifelines should be attached to all rescuers and/or to the inflatable boat. NO rescuer shall enter the water without having a lifeline attached.
7. Rescue attempts are to be performed in "reach, throw, row, and go" order.
8. A "go" rescue should be used only as a last resort when all other means have failed, when other means are not practicable, or due to the condition of the victim.
9. Rescuers should work in teams of at least two people. NO rescue attempts should be performed by a single rescuer.
10. Post 53 should be notified in all cases involving water rescue. All victims and personnel will be evaluated post rescue operation.