



WASHINGTON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE ASSOCIATION STANDARDS MANUAL

Title: Pre-Fire Essentials Training

Effective Date:

Approval:

Number of Pages: 6

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INTRODUCTION

The intent of this document is to provide minimum guidelines for the pre-fire essentials training of those individuals entering the fire service. It is emphasized that this is NOT an essentials course.

Due to the limited scope of this pre-essentials program, those persons who complete this program should not be placed in hazardous, dependent or decision making positions. MFRI Fire training should be completed within one year or at the first practical opportunity, whichever comes first.

It is also a recommendation that all new firefighters complete this pre=fire essentials program before being allowed to participate at emergency fireground situations or response on emergency fire apparatus to a fireground situation.

If a new member already has MFRI fire training or equivalent, the only classes required are #1, 2, 12, and 13 of the attached outline.

Instructors for each class should be one of the following:

1. Company training officer
2. Company line officer
3. Maryland instructor Level 1 or higher
4. Class #4 (breathing apparatus) shall be instructed by a ITC Level 1 instructor (or higher)

The total length of the program is 32 hours including the test. After successfully completing the entire program each new member must take a written test with a minimum score of 70% and a practical test to be given by the instructor.

Each student will receive a certification indicating that they have completed the program.

Contents of the program should be in accordance with standard training practices used by MFRI and the NFPA.



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If a student fails to obtain the minimum written test score, the instructor will review the problem areas. The student must wait at least one (1) week before retaking the test. In order to pass the practical test, the student must demonstrate a satisfactory performance to the instructor for evaluations assigned.

DEFINITIONS:

BOX ALARM	An alarm response of usually three engine companies and a truck company.
CHIEF OFFICERS	Chief, Deputy Chief, Assistant Chief
DIRECT LAY	When a supply line is laid from the water source to the fire location.
LINE OFFICERS	Chief, Deputy Chief, Assistant Chief, Captain, and Lieutenants
LOCAL ALARM	A single company response
MFRI	Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute
OIC	Officer in Charge
SCBA	Self Contained Breathing Apparatus
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SPECIAL RESPONSE	Call for an individual or special piece of equipment.
SPLIT-LAY	Any time the first engine lays a supply line from a point directly at a water source and then proceeds to the fire location. This also requires that the second engine connect to the first engine's supply line and proceeds to the water source.



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REVERSE LAY

When an engine lays a supply line from the fire location to the water source.

TRANSFER

Standby at another company's quarters.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

CLASS #1

(2 hours)

1. Company rules and regulations
2. Standard operating procedures
3. Training requirements
4. Organizations structure (chain of command)
5. Tour of station

CLASS #2

(2 hours)

1. Each piece of equipment on all company apparatus should be identified and explained.
2. Capabilities of each piece of apparatus (such as tank and GPM) should be explained.

CLASS #3

(2 hours)

1. All protective clothing should be explained and demonstrated.
 - a. Helmet – chinstrap, ear flaps, safety shield, etc..
 - b. Coat – snaps, buckles, liners, protective limitations, and safety features.
 - c. Bunker pants and boots – snaps, buckles, liners, protective limitations, and safety features.
 - d. Gloves – approved firefighter gloves.
2. Introduction to different types of breathing apparatus
3. Identify dangerous situations found on most firegrounds and how it relates to the wearing of protective clothing.



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CLASS #4 - PART 1 Breathing Apparatus (2 hours)

1. Identify all parts of SCBA
2. Explain safety features
3. Explain proper donning of SCBA
4. Explain proper cleaning and maintenance of SCBA
5. Explain limitations of SCBA

CLASS #4 - PART 2 Breathing Apparatus (2 hours)

1. A simple hose line maze should be set up in the fire station. Each student while wearing breathing apparatus shall follow the hose line from one end to the other. Full protective clothing should also be worn.

CLASS #5 – Fire Behavior (2 hours)

1. The basics of fire behavior should be covered
 - a. All combustion types
 - b. Types of heat transfer
 - c. Fuel classes
 - d. Other related topics

CLASS #6 – Entry and Ventilation (2 hours)

1. Review different types of entry tools
2. Identify entry techniques
3. Identify the purpose of ventilation
 - a. Natural
 - b. Mechanical
 - c. Horizontal
 - d. Vertical
 - e. Positive pressure

CLASS #7 – Hose and Streams (Practical) (4 hours)

1. Identify all hose sizes, types, amounts, and uses.
2. Review different types of adapters and their use.
3. Practice various pre-connected hose line pulls and reloading techniques.
4. Hydrant operations
 - a. Identify parts of hydrants
 - b. Practice various hose line lays to a hydrant



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5. Tanker operations
 - a. Identify folding tank operations
 6. Nozzle techniques
 - a. Practice use of various pattern fog, straight stream, etc...
 - b. Identify various gallonages for each nozzle
 7. Advance a pre-connected hose line in a building to a lower flow via a stairway.
 8. Advance a pre-connected hose line in a building to an upper floor.
 9. Safety and teamwork should be stressed.
 10. Types of fires that water should and should not be put on must be discussed.

CLASS #8 – Ladders (4 hours)

1. Explain different types
2. Identify different types
3. Identify climbing techniques
4. Safety and teamwork should be stressed
5. Ropes – review various basic knots
 - a. Bowline, clove-hitch, half-hitch, etc...
6. Review various ladder locking devices on the apparatus
7. Practice various ladder carries
8. Practice climbing ladders (using approved ladder safety devices)
9. Review proper cleaning procedures

CLASS #9 – Salvage and Overhaul

1. Review techniques for saving unburned valuable items
2. Review the use of salvage covers
3. Review overhaul techniques
4. Review flooding condition procedures

CLASS #10 – Portable Fire Extinguishers (2 hours)

1. Identify classes of fire
2. Identify different types of extinguisher
 - a. CO
 - b. Dry Chemical
 - c. Water
 - d. Halon
 - e. Dry powder



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3. Learn how to operate each type of extinguisher
 4. Review practical uses of each type of extinguisher that the fire department carries
 5. Learn proper refill and maintenance procedures

CLASS #11 – Specialized Fires (3 hours)

1. Hazmat
 - a. Review DOT and other related Haz-Mat books that are carried on each piece of apparatus.
 - b. Learn how to identify the presence of hazardous materials
 - i. Different containers that hazardous materials are shipped in
 - ii. Placards
 - iii. Shipping papers
 - c. Review fire departments SOP for handling Haz-Mat incidents.
2. Vehicle fires and vehicle incidents
 - a. Review fire department SOP for these incidents
3. Brush fires
 - a. Review various firefighting techniques involving brush, grass, and mountain fires.

CLASS #12 – Communications (2 hours)

1. Review fire department SOP involving radio procedures
2. Tour fire and rescue communications

CLASS #13 – Test and Review (written and practical)