

<p style="text-align: center;">TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT CHAPTER 2: SUGGESTED OPERATING GUIDELINES</p>
<p>Part 9: Tactical Checklist Subject: Vehicle Rescue Page 1 of 4 Effective Date: 07-01-95</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Section: 2-9-8 Reviewed/Revised Date: 06-28-10</p>

8.01 Goal. Provide guidelines for vehicle rescue operations.

8.02 Guideline.

A) Command Considerations.

1) Inner and Outer Circle Surveys.

- a) Identify hazards (scene safety).
- b) Locate all patients and those affected by the incident.
- c) Determine the extent of the patient's entrapment.
- d) Triage.
- e) Develop mental picture of how the incident occurred.
- f) Anticipate any needs and provide for them.

2) Take Action.

- a) Call for resources.
- b) Develop an action plan.
- c) Clearly inform team members how the patient(s) will be extricated.
- d) Assign tasks.

3) While Working.

- a) Keep the action circle clear.
- b) Provide adequate lighting.
- c) Re-evaluate resources.
- d) Plan ahead.
- e) Maintain simultaneous functions.
- f) Keep planning ahead.

B) Extrication Problem Solving.

- 1) Command must categorize problems, determine their severity and develop solutions.
- 2) Develop alternative solutions to each of the above.
- 3) Be prepared to move to another tactic if actions fail.

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C) Vehicles Up-Right.

1) Head-on.

- a) While vehicles may be up-right, they may have separated creating "two" individual incidents.
- b) It may be necessary to "split" the tools.
- c) Perform staggered, yet simultaneous functions until additional resources arrive.
- d) Organize incident site as necessary.

2) T-Bone.

- a) Also known as a "broadside" accident.
- b) Especially difficult if a larger vehicle hits a smaller vehicle folding the wreckage down onto the patient.
- c) Solutions may include pulling the wreckage off the patient. (Remember to secure the vehicle to keep it from sliding when the pulling begins.)
- d) Other solutions include:
 - 1) Third-door conversion.
 - 2) Dash lift.
 - 3) Complete removal of the side of the vehicle.

3) Vehicle vs. Immovable Objects.

- a) Vehicles may end up in any position.
- b) Stabilization may not be necessary or may be very difficult.
- c) Remember the hazards of power lines.

4) Vehicle Underrides.

- a) When a small vehicle ends up underneath a larger one.
- b) Benchmarks include:
 - 1) Identify the load.
 - 2) Stabilize the vehicle.
 - 3) Access the patient.
 - 4) Consider lowering the smaller vehicle.
 - 5) Lift the larger vehicle - crib as you go.
 - 6) Separate the vehicles.
 - 7) Extricate the patient.

D) Vehicles on their Side.

1) Stabilization.

- a) Build a cradle for the car to rest on.

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- b) Lock the cradle in place.
- c) Continue to monitor stabilization efforts.
- d) Stay low. Don't climb on the car. Maintain a lower center of gravity.
- e) Fuel will probably leak. ALWAYS have charged hand-line in position, preferably with foam capabilities.

2) Vehicle Nose Down.

- a) Roof is intact and the car is usually leaning forward towards the engine compartment.
- b) Solution usually involves cribbing the high side with access/removal through the doors.

3) "Pancake"

- a) Roof is crushed leaving little access to the patient.
- b) Stabilization needed. Door removal used in most cases.
- c) Cutting hole in floor is ineffective - especially with smaller cars. Hole can be used for inspection of problem.
- d) If the vehicle has to be lifted, lift from the most substantial point possible, preferably the firewall.

E) Multi-Vehicle Accidents.

- 1) Key to success is planning and use of Command System.
- 2) Call for resources prior to needing them.
- 3) Consider need for supplies/equipment.
 - a) Lifting equipment.
 - b) Multi-casualty supplies.
- 4) Staging.
 - a) 1 or 2 blocks from the scene. (parking lot, roadway)
 - b) Assign staging supervisor.
 - c) Maintain status of staged equipment.

F) Hazardous Materials.

- 1) Identify BEFORE entering scene if possible.
 - a) Use field glasses.
 - b) Review manifest.

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- c) Review bill of lading.
- d) Interview driver.

2) Take action based on hazards presented by product.