



DAYTON, OHIO REGIONAL HAZ-MAT RESPONSE TEAM NEWSLETTER

July 2005

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Basics—Don't Forget Them

In the next few Newsletters we will review basic operations at Haz-Mat incidents. Sometimes we get so wrapped up in our advanced and Technician level operations that we may forget the basics.

General Guidelines For Operations at Hazardous Materials Incidents:

When you suspect that a Hazardous Material has been released or that there is a danger of a release, you must shift gears; or, in other words, your priorities change somewhat compared to other types of incidents. The number one and primary concern must be **LIFE SAFETY**—the safety of the responders along with victims and potential victims. We must consider the risk vs. benefit in attempting rescue of victims.

The most common guideline is the **SURVIVAL SCAN**. Two questions must be asked:

1. Are there victims who will likely **SURVIVE** if rescue is accomplished? or Is this a body recovery effort? If the answer is “victims with a likelihood of survival,” go to Question Number Two. If the answer is “body recovery,” we risk nothing.
2. If we attempt to rescue the victims with the personal protective equipment available, will the rescuers likely **SURVIVE**? If the answer is yes, consider attempting the rescue.

3. Consider the need for decontamination of the victims and the rescuers.

Risk a lot to save a lot; Risk nothing to save nothing.

For additional information on limitations of personal protective equipment (PPE) refer to the section on *Protective Clothing* in the current edition of the *Emergency Response Guidebook*.

After the Life Safety concern has been addressed, the next priority should be protecting the environment. Protecting our waterways must be a high priority. If we contaminate streams or creeks and any area in the Well Water Protection District, we may be drinking these chemicals in the future. Containment of the materials must be accomplished as quickly as possible. We do not necessarily perform remediation (clean-up) operations, but we must be able to mitigate (control, contain and confine) releases as necessary.

Finally, you must address protecting property from the effects of the materials that have been released.

Next month we will discuss protecting the environment.

New Vehicle Update

The new *Haz-Mat 1* has been delivered and is in service. Many thanks go to the crews at DFD Station 11 for their hard work and great teamwork getting the equipment switched over.

The next project is equipping *Haz-Mat 3* and moving it to Beaver Creek FD.

Exercise

On August 27 we will be participating in a drill at the Post Office on East Fifth Street. This will be a functional exercise to evaluate all parties operations if the Biological Detection System (BDS) were to activate. The drill will last from 0800-1400 hours. Training credit will be earned by Team members who participate. Please contact the Coordinator for further details.

Training

Beginning this month we will be offering a **fourth training session** each month. This will be conducted at the Xenia Township Fire Station at the corner of Route 68 and Brush Row Road from 1830-2130 hours.

July Training

This month's training will be held on the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd at the Dayton Fire Training Center on McFadden Avenue off of Springfield Street. 0900-1200 hours each day. The evening session will be conducted at the Xenia Township Fire Station at the corner of Route 68 and Brush Row Road from 1830-2130 hours.

Our first presenter will be from Kettering Memorial Hospital. She will be discussing the hazards of Chemotherapy drugs on an outpatient basis. The next presenters will be from Drager. They will be making a presentation on our new detection equipment.

The Thursday morning session will be taped and the tape will be shown on Thursday evening and Friday and Saturday.

2005 Training Schedule

July 21-22-23

0900-1200 hours, DFD Training Center

July 21

1830-2130 hours, XTFD

August 18-19-20

0900-1200 hours

August 18

1830-2130 hours

September 15-16-17

0900-1700 hours

No Thurs. PM Training

October 20-21-22

0900-1200 hours

October 20

1830-2130 hours

November 17-18-19

0900-1200 hours

November 17

1830-2130 hours

December

No Training