

Shepherd Tri-Township Fire Department

FIRES - STRUCTURE

Procedure:

This procedure shall apply to all structure fires. The absence of smoke or flames shall not constitute sufficient evidence that a fire condition does not exist. The Incident Commander (IC) has full responsibility for assurance compliance of this procedure. Authority to deviate from this procedure rests solely with the IC who will bear responsibility for the results of any deviations. The following procedure shall be used:

1. Apparatus positioning: Apparatus shall be positioned so as not to jeopardize safety, or interfere with operations.
2. All arriving personnel will report to a staging area as defined by the IC. If command has not been established, responding personnel will stage at 1st arriving engine. All operational assignments will be made from the staging area. When an operation is completed, assigned personnel shall report back to staging.
3. A safety perimeter shall be established around the involved structure. The area of the safety perimeter shall be all area within 1 1/2 times the highest part of the structure. All personnel operating within this perimeter shall be in full protective clothing. There may be situations and certain special operations that may deem the use of SCBAs. Firefighters and command should be monitoring fire fighting conditions at all times and command will have responsibility for declaring the need for operating SCBAs.
4. All personnel shall be aware and alert to changing conditions on the fire grounds. This pertains to firefighting safety.
5. The initial fire attack shall be made with a line capable of flowing at least 120-180 gpm [1 3/4]. If personnel are entering the structure, a back-up line shall be manned by personnel operating in SCBAs as soon as personnel become available.
6. If personnel are involved with operations inside the structure, it is the responsibility of the IC to be accountable for all personnel on the fire scene and in the structure.

7. The responsibility of the IC at a structure fire is:

- Firefighter safety
- Rescue
- Exposures [Floating Ventilation]
- Confinement
- Extinguishment
- Overhaul
- Overhaul operations should be kept to a minimum until the cause and origin have been investigated.
- Mutual Aid
- Contacting utility companies for electricity and gas shut off.

Procedure Overview/Purpose:

The purpose of this procedure is to assure the efficient extinguishment of fires involving structures while maintaining the highest level of safety for all responding personnel and to ensure the least amount of damage to personal property.