



<b>Wintergreen Fire and Rescue Standard Operating Guideline</b>	
<b>Subject:</b>	Vehicle Operations
<b>Reference Number:</b>	OPER 01-003
<b>Effective Date:</b>	16-Apr-03
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	27-Feb-05
<b>Signature of Approval</b>	Curtis Sheets, Chief

**Purpose:**

This guideline shall establish specific guidelines for the operations of fire/rescue apparatus by department personnel.

**Policy:**

When operating emergency vehicles in a non-emergency status, personnel shall obey all traffic laws and signals.

When personnel are operating emergency vehicles in an emergency status (use of warning lights and siren), they shall adhere to the following safety rules.

- The headlights of the vehicle shall be on
- The siren will only be used when necessary
- The vehicle operator shall not exceed the posted speed limit more than ten (10) mph, unless on interstate.
- The vehicle operator shall abide by traffic flow directional signs (i.e. one way, do not enter), unless otherwise directed, and the flow of traffic is stopped to allow the vehicle to safely proceed.
- When approaching an intersection, the operator shall follow the traffic signals or signs as follows:
  - If the operator has the green light, he/she shall reduce the speed of the vehicle so that the vehicle can be stopped or maneuvered safely around other vehicles, which may not yield the right-of-way.
  - If the operator has a red light or yellow light, he/she shall bring the vehicle to a **complete controlled stop** before entering the intersection. The operator may then proceed through the intersection, providing all other traffic has completely stopped and given the right of way and it is safe to do so. Under no circumstances shall the vehicle operator go through an intersection against a red traffic light or stop sign without coming to a complete stop.

**\*Failure to abide by this guideline shall result in a suspension of driving privileges.\***