



Wintergreen Fire and Rescue Standard Administrative Policy	
Subject:	Hazardous Material
Reference Number:	FIRE 02-014
Effective Date:	29-May-15
Last Revision Date:	2-Mar-19
Signature of Approval	Curtis Sheets, Chief

Purpose:

To provide guidance to personnel for mitigating hazardous materials calls.

Policy:

Apparatus will be staged upwind and uphill of the situation and personnel will try to determine what is released by using your DOT guide book. A perimeter according to the guide book will be set up and evacuation of civilians will be priority.

Next try to determine if it is in the scope of our training and ability. E.G. small fuel spills and containers that have not been breached. If not, request the closest haz-mat team via Nelson Dispatch. (Depending upon location, teams could respond from Augusta, Lynchburg, or Charlottesville) VDEM should automatically be contacted by Nelson County.

Use “**DECIDE**”

Determine presence of hazardous material(s): See it, dead vegetation, placards, type of container, markings, symbols, and/or victims/patients

Estimate potential for harm without intervention: Emergency response guide book, HAZ-MAT training, and on-scene technical support

Choose response options: do nothing, call HAZ-MAT team, set up emergency decontamination and initial hot, warm, and cold zones

Identify best option: done by analyzing all information gained throughout the incident; at a minimum hot, warm, and cold zones shall be established, as well as emergency decontamination if patients are present or personnel are required to enter the hazardous environment. Depending on the situation all we may be able to do is to wait for the HAZ-MAT team to show up outside the cold zone

Do best option: This is the tactic that requires the least amount of involvement, while mitigating the hazard or preparing the scene for additional response apparatus due to the magnitude of the incident

Evaluate: If the plan is working then continue, but if not, revisit response options and correct them.

Members shall operate at their level of knowledge, skills, and abilities as provided in awareness, operations, technician, or specialist training.