



ANN ARBOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

Standard Operating Procedures

1.01 Standards of Cover



STANDARDS OF COVER

Effective: September 18, 2026
Scheduled Review: September 18, 2029
Approved: Fire Chief Mike Kennedy

I. STANDARDS OF COVER

Standards of Cover helps set the stage for all aspects of service delivery by the fire department. The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) General Industry Safety Standard Part 74. Firefighting requires, “(c) A written assessment of the types of emergency operations the fire department is expected to perform, for example, fire suppression, trench rescue, and rope rescue, and the employees authorized to perform the identified operations.”

Although it is impossible to account for all incidents the fire department may be upon to respond on, this SOP attempts to address frequent incidents or those within a reasonable realm of possibility. For the purposes of this SOP, “firefighters” refers to all personnel assigned to operations or serve in an operational capacity.

II. FIRE SUPPRESSION

The fire department responds to all reported fire incidents within the City of Ann Arbor. Firefighters receive training commensurate with their role. The fire department strives to adhere to best practices as outlined in NFPA 1700: Guide for Structural Fire Fighting, 2021 Edition.

III. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The fire department is licensed by the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (MDHHS) Bureau of Emergency Preparedness, EMS, & Systems of Care as a non-transport basic life support (BLS) service agency. All firefighters are required to maintain licensure as a State of Michigan emergency medical technician. The fire department operates under patient care protocols as outlined by the Washtenaw / Livingston Medical Control Authority.

IV. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

All firefighters are trained to a minimum operations level in accordance with NFPA 1072: Standard for Hazardous Materials / Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications. AAFD is part of the Washtenaw County Hazardous Materials Response Team. Firefighters who are trained to a technician or higher level of certification may perform within their scope of training following a risk assessment and approved incident action plan by the incident commander. For hazardous materials incidents exceeding the capacity of on-duty resources, the Washtenaw County Hazardous Materials Response Team shall be requested to respond.



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V. TECHNICAL RESCUE

All firefighters are trained to a minimum awareness level for various technical rescue incidents. Firefighters who are trained to an operations, technician, or higher level of certification may perform within their scope of training following a risk assessment and approved incident action plan by the incident commander. The Washtenaw County Technical Rescue Team has training and equipment for technical rescue incidents exceeding the capacity of on-duty resources.

Tower Rescue - All firefighters are trained to a minimum awareness level in accordance with NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 4 Tower Rescue.

Rope Rescue - All firefighters are trained to a minimum awareness level in accordance with NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 5 Rope Rescue. All firefighters receive training in performing stokes basket rescue using apparatus with an aerial ladder for performing patient removal.

Structural Collapse Rescue - All firefighters are trained to a minimum awareness level in accordance with NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 6 Structural Collapse Rescue.

Confined Space Rescue - All firefighters are trained to a minimum awareness level in accordance with NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 7 Confined Space Rescue.

Vehicle Extrication - All firefighters are trained to a minimum technical level in accordance with NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 8 Common Passenger Vehicle Rescue. All firefighters have received and are expected to perform at the operational level in accordance with NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 9 Heavy Vehicle Rescue.

Animal Rescue - All firefighters are trained to a minimum awareness level in accordance with NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 10 Animal Technical Rescue.

Wilderness Search and Rescue - All firefighters are trained to a minimum awareness level in accordance with NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 11 Wilderness Search and Rescue.

Trench Rescue - All firefighters are trained to a minimum awareness level in accordance with NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 12 Trench Rescue.



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Machinery Rescue - All firefighters are trained to a minimum awareness level in accordance with NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 13 Machinery Rescue.

Cave Rescue – There are no caves in the City of Ann Arbor. Firefighters are not trained on this hazard since it is non-existent in the jurisdiction.

Mine and Tunnel Rescue – There are no mines in the City of Ann Arbor. Firefighters are not trained on this hazard since it is non-existent in the jurisdiction. For tunnels, all firefighters are trained to a minimum awareness level in accordance with NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 15 Mine and Tunnel Rescue.

Helicopter Rescue - Due to the location of the University of Michigan Hospital, which is Level I Trauma Center, in the City of Ann Arbor, there is not a need to land a helicopter in the jurisdiction.

Surface Water, Dive, and Watercraft Rescue - All firefighters are trained to a minimum operations level in accordance with NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 17 Surface Water Rescue and Chapter 22 Watercraft Rescue. Firefighters receive specific training on the using the fire department's rescue boat on the Huron River. Due to dams, propeller driven watercraft are limited to low horse-power outboard motors. The fire department has no dive rescue capacity and relays on the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office Dive Rescue Team for underwater rescue and recovery operations.

Swiftwater Rescue - All firefighters are trained to a minimum awareness level in accordance with Swiftwater Rescue - NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 18 Swiftwater Rescue.

Ice Rescue - All firefighters are trained to a minimum technical level in accordance with NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 20 Ice Rescue

Surf Rescue – There are no coastal waters / coastline in the City of Ann Arbor. Firefighters are not trained on this hazard since it is non-existent in the jurisdiction.

Floodwater Rescue - All firefighters are trained to a minimum operations level in accordance with NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition - Chapter 23 Floodwater Rescue.