

## Town of Wright Fire District Policies

Policy Name: **13.0 Use of Outside Personnel and/or Equipment**

Date Adopted: 3/14/11

Effective: 3/14/11

Revised: 7/9/12, 10/10/16, 12/12/16, 1/9/17

Reviewed: *Annually*

### **Personnel**

1. **Membership**. The Department may accept for membership those individuals that reside outside of the Town of Wright Fire District providing they meet the following criteria:
  - a. They live in proximity to the District (as determined by the Chief and Board), such that they can respond effectively to calls within the District, OR
  - b. They work within the District for a significant amount of time allowing them to respond effectively to calls within the District during those work hours, OR
  - c. They actively contribute to the Department in an administrative or support function.
  - d. A written justification for admittance to the Department for emergency response roles, elaborating on “a”, “b” or “c” above, must accompany their application to both the Department and District
  - e. They are solely members of the Auxiliary/Rehab Team
  - f. All other membership policies apply.
  
2. **Emergency Response – Passive**: Members of the District Board, Town, County or State Government, or press may be allowed to observe emergency operations under the following guidelines:
  - a. They do not actively participate in any way.
  - b. They remain a safe distance from the scene and at a location that poses no interference whatsoever with the emergency response.
  - c. At no time do they obstruct, interfere with or conflict with any member or piece of equipment providing emergency response.
  - d. The Incident Commander shall have full discretion to impose any necessary restrictions on said individuals.
  - e. The Chief in concert with the District Chairman may appoint a Department member or District Commissioner to serve as liaison/communications director for events that by nature may draw public, press or officials. This may be encouraged in some circumstances to provide the right level of information flow and limit interference in an on-going incident.

3. Emergency Response - Active. Fire fighters, and or EMT's from outside the District may participate in an incident within the District under the following guidelines:
  - a. They do not do any interior firefighting
  - b. They have appropriate gear and personal protection equipment
  - c. They do not drive any District vehicles
  - d. They do not operate any District equipment unsupervised
  - e. All normal Department policies and protocols are followed
  - f. The Incident Commander shall have full discretion to disallow or limit any or all participation

### **District Equipment**

- Under no circumstances shall Gallupville Fire Department Members use SCBA equipment from another department or agency other than for non-emergency training purposes. The Chief and/or incident commander shall likewise not allow any non-department member to use Gallupville Fire Department issued SCBA equipment other than for non-emergency training purposes.
- The Chief shall insure there are appropriate protocols and standards in effect for the use, storage and maintenance of SCBA gear and such standards are adhered to.

### **Outside Equipment**

- Under extreme emergencies or due to unique circumstances, the Department may find need to call on local assistance for specialty or privately owned equipment.
- Potential specialty equipment may include:
  - Snowmobiles
  - ATV's
  - Backhoes/loaders/Gradalls/excavators/bulldozers
  - Tractors
  - Generators
  - Pumps
  - Dump trucks
  - 4x4 or 6x6 all terrain trucks
  - Specialty fire fighting equipment
  - Cutting torches and/or welders
  - Winching/Recovery equipment

- It is encouraged that the Department/Chiefs work with Emergency Management and Town to identify potential disasters and/or events and the equipment that could potentially be needed to address the disaster
- Equipment located within the Town should be identified and when possible the owners approached to determine potential availability, functionality, and any restrictions
- The first point of contact for use of heavy equipment should be the Town of Wright Highway Department. It is encouraged that the Chief(s) meet annually with the Highway Superintendent.
- In all cases it should be determined who would operate such equipment; if not the owner, a qualified operator should be identified within the Department or District
- It is encouraged that any opportunity to test, evaluate, or practice with the special equipment be taken advantage of prior to an emergency need.
- The District's insurance policy covers equipment used for an emergency if officially commandeered by the Department.
- Equipment may only be commandeered by request of the Incident Commander.
- If equipment/support is requested outside of normal State or Municipal entities, the Chief shall provide written justification to District of such request within 24 hours of the event or as soon as practical if in an on-going emergency.
- Equipment owned by Department members is NOT covered by insurance and should not be utilized except in an extreme emergency and with the understanding there is no coverage.