

# Hurricane Fire & Rescue

Hurricane, WV

## Operation Guidelines

<b>Subject</b>
<b>Guideline Number</b>
<b>Adopted</b>
<b>Effective Date</b>
<b>Pages</b>

Gas Leaks
800.412
March 1, 2007
April 7, 2007
2

**Purpose:** To establish a guideline for investigation and mitigation of gas leaks such as LP, NG, etc.

**Scope:** All personnel

**Responsibility:** It is the responsibility of all personnel to adhere to these guidelines.

Upon receiving an alarm for a gas leak (liquid or non-liquid), or hazardous spill, the unit will respond per SOG 604 in full bunker gear and SCBA.

Units will make use of resource materials for decision basis.

### I. ARRIVAL AT SCENE (Non-liquid leak):

- A. Units will follow SOG for size-up and command practices.
- B. Remaining units will follow acceptable staging practices.
- C. First due unit should stage a minimum of 200 feet upwind from leak.  
**Note:** 200 feet may not be far enough if a large leak is involved
- D. The Officer in charge and one firefighter will advance to the area of the gas leak and performs a size-up for use in developing an action plan. A charged hose line will provide crew protection.
- E. Driver/operator and remaining firefighters will stand by their unit and prepare to place a 1¾" or larger line in service for protection of fire and gas personnel and cloud dispersion.
- F. The Officer, upon determining above will relay information and give additional size-up to Dispatch and/or Command.
- G. The second arriving unit is responsible for locating a water supply source and establishing the water supply source as needed.
- H. Evacuation should be considered early in the incident, along with the elimination of potential ignition sources.

## II. ARRIVAL AT SCENE (Liquid Gas Leak or Hazardous Spill):

- A. Units will follow SOG for size-up and command practices if applicable.
- B. Remaining units will follow applicable staging practices.
- C. First due unit should place itself uphill from the liquid leak.
- D. An Officer and one firefighter will advance to area of spill and determine the type of liquid, type and size of container, amount flowing, etc.
- E. Driver/Operator and remaining firefighters will stand by unit and prepare to place 1¾" or larger line in service for protection of fire personnel.
- F. The Officer, upon determining above will relay information and give additional size-up to Dispatch and/or Command.
- G. Evacuation should be considered early in the incident. Along with the elimination of potential ignition sources.

## III. GENERAL OPERATING PROCEDURES

- A. If mitigation or the gas company is required, the Officer in charge will set up a "hot zone" area.
- B. If the situation warrants additional personnel, such as commitment of a full first alarm or Haz-Mat response, the Officer will establish command or pass command to the next arriving officer.
- C. A large diameter gas leak or one from a large source such as a tank or tractor-trailer may require evacuation of a larger area. Population density, location of leak, location of adjacent condominiums, mobile home parks, hotels, time of day, weather conditions, etc. will determine evacuation procedures. Dispatch will be notified immediately.
- D. On liquid and non-liquid gas leaks, personnel should refrain from using radio transmissions at the site of the leak. Hot Zone - Hand signals or runners are alternatives.
- E. Use of Emergency Response Guide DOT is required.
- F. Supply lines will be laid when necessary to provide water supply to the initial units.
- G. If Flammable gas monitors are carried on engines they will be used to determine safe perimeters.
- H. At reported gas leaks inside structures, **all units** will stage at least 600 feet away (upwind) and an Officer and one firefighter will investigate following the established guide lines.