

5-MINUTE SAFETY DRILL

Driving: Off Road Exposures Create Challenges

Date: _____

Shift: _____

Dept: _____

Station: _____

Training Code: _____

NOTES:

FOCUS: Apparatus accidents are costly in more ways than one. Off road accidents must be reduced. We must be certain of the terrain before we risk our fire fighting

CHALLENGE

Fires and emergencies occur everywhere. When responding we must make certain we can arrive safely. Our fire equipment is large, heavy and reacts significantly different than traditional vehicles.

Large equipment like this must travel on paved roads designed to support their weight. Any time we leave the roads, we run the risk of potential problems! Will the Unpaved surface provide sufficient traction to allow us to move safely?

Do we need to correct our speed for safe vehicle operation? Can we safely evacuate when necessary? We take a big chance anytime we leave paved surfaces for off road travel.

Let's make sure we are not risking our equipment and firefighters traveling on roads not designed for travel! We can't help if we can't get there!

DISCUSSION

- Do we drive the appropriate speed for the road conditions or area?
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- Have we had situations where we have gone into unfamiliar areas with unknown exposures ?
- What safety issues or near misses result from uncertainty?
- What can we do to prepare ourselves for these situations?
- Does our training effectively deal with these issues?
- Is this addressed in our department Standard Operating Guidelines ?

The greatest asset of the fire service is our people; protect them!