

# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE

## **I. Scope**

This standard defines the parameters of the department's efforts to manage the hazardous materials incident within the community, both before and after the incident.

- A. Establish a program to identify occupancies that store, use, manufacture, or distribute hazardous materials in an effort to prevent incidents from occurring that could potentially involve a hazardous material; and
- B. Establish guidelines to be followed by the department for managing an incident that involves a hazardous material.

## **II. General**

- A. The potential always exists within the community for an incident to occur that involves a hazardous material. The frequency of occurrence do not, however, allow the department to operate beyond the first-responder operational level as defined by NFPA 472, *Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents*.
- B. At the operational level, members are responsible for protecting people, property, and the environment from the effects of a hazardous material. Members will operate in a defensive role to contain the incident and prevent a release of a hazardous material from spreading.
- C. After the incident commander has secured the scene, Virginia Emergency Operations Center shall be notified, as well as the county emergency management coordinator (EM 1). EM 1 will provide the responsible party with a private vendor (clean up company) to control the incident and clean up the site.
- D. The private vendor may be furnished by the party responsible for the incident; otherwise, EM 1 will contact a contractor from the approved vendor list.
  - 1. The responsible party shall be billed for all expenses incurred in resolving the incident.
  - 2. There is a local ordinance granting this authority.

## **III. Responsibilities**

- A. The emergency management coordinator shall be responsible for the management of the clean up, done by the clean up company.
- B. The department shall equip each apparatus with a pair of binoculars, the appropriate manuals and reference materials, and a supply of hazardous materials containment equipment.

C. Company officers shall be responsible for:

1. Preparing for occupancies within our first-due area that manufacture, store, use, or distribute hazardous materials. During the preplan, the company officer shall ask the business owner or manager to affix an NFPA 704, *Standard System for the Identification of the Hazards of Materials for Emergency Response* placard in a conspicuous place to identify the most severe hazard present in the occupancy.
2. Ensuring that all members under their command maintain their training and skill levels at the first-responder operational level as defined by NFPA 472.