	COLERAIN TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES		
	Effective Date: September 7, 2016	Category & Identification Number: Safety-312	
	SOG Title: Post Fire Decontamination		
	Approved By: Frank W. Cook, Fire Chief	Revision Date: September 7, 2016	Page: 1 of 4

PURPOSE

This standard operating guideline shall provide Colerain Township Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (Colerain Fire & EMS) personnel with a systematic procedure for decontamination of personal protective equipment (PPE), firefighting equipment and themselves after fire details.

SCOPE

This procedure is to be followed by all Colerain Fire & EMS personnel to ensure that proper decontamination is completed to reduce the risk of exposure to products of combustion after a fire and other contaminants. All department personnel shall take all measures necessary to protect themselves and others from the products of combustion or other contaminants. The Battalion Chief and/or Acting Battalion Chief shall ensure all Officers and Acting Company Officers direct personnel to follow these decontamination procedures as soon as possible to prevent exposure. This SOG will be enforced for all the following situations when crews operate in the hot or hazard zone:


- Structure Fires
- Training Fires (Live fire training, flashover)
- Hazmat Runs
- Vehicle Fires*
- Dumpster Fires*
- Vegetation and Wildland Fires*
- Technical Rescue Emergency*
- Vehicle Extrication*
- Other runs where it is determined decontamination is needed*.

* The Battalion Chief or Company Officer will determine if post fire decontamination is needed for these runs based upon the exposure to the products of combustions or other contaminants.

SAFETY

All personnel who enter the hot zone with the potential of coming in contact with the products of combustion will wear a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). This includes the following:

- Structure Fires
- Electrical Fires

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	Approved By: Frank W. Cook, Fire Chief	Revision Date: September 7, 2016	Page: 2 of 4

- Appliance Fires
- Vehicle Fires
- Dumpster Fires
- Open Burns (if possible exposure to the products of combustion could occur during extinguishment of the fire)
- Vehicle Extrication (if manning a hose line)
- Training Fires (Live fire training, flashover)

Any time personnel will be exposed to long periods of sun they should use sun block on uncovered skin.

PROCEDURES

The Incident Commander (IC) should designate a decontamination sector after the “loss stopped” benchmark is reached. All personnel who entered the hot zone or were exposed to the products of combustions or other contaminants shall rotate through the decontamination sector. The IC should highly recommend mutual aid companies precede through the decontamination sector if exposed to the products of combustions or other contaminants.

The decontamination buckets assigned to the engines, ladder, and rescue should be used in the decontamination sector (See Equipment Section).


If PPE is soiled by contaminants from the fire or other emergency incident it shall go through the following steps:

All loose debris will be brushed off with the hand brooms

Areas with visible contaminants will be washed with brushes using Dawn or comparable liquid detergent on PPE and Simple Green and water on boots.

All fire equipment shall be decontaminated before placing back on the fire apparatus which includes but not limited to the following items:

- SCBA
- SCBA Face piece using the proper cleaning agent
- All hand tools
- Nozzles
- Hose

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	SOG Title: Post Fire Decontamination		
	Approved By: Frank W. Cook, Fire Chief	Revision Date: September 7, 2016	Page: 3 of 4

While loading hose or equipment personnel should wear gloves to protect their hands from the products of combustion or being contaminated.

Prior to leaving the scene all personnel exposed to the products of combustion or other contaminants shall be issued a clean hood and pair of gloves that will be stored on District 25's unit.

PROCEDURES FOR FIRE STATIONS

Upon arrival at station the following procedures should be done to limit exposure to personnel, fire apparatus and the station:

Do not enter the common areas or living quarters of the fire station with PPE.

Minimize the time contaminated station wear is worn in the station.

Wash or wipe out the floors of the apparatus using Simple Green.

Clean all SCBA face pieces following SOG 309-Respiratory Protection if not already completed at the emergency scene.

If not completed on the scene replace hoods and gloves at the station from the supply of clean ones.


Replace equipment and or needed supplies.

Start decontamination procedure for PPE per SOG 704-personal protective equipment. PPE should be washed immediately if it is contaminated to the point it could affect personnel safety. PPE contaminated by hazardous materials shall be properly handled based upon the recommended decontamination procedures for the material involved in the incident.

All contaminated hoods and gloves shall be washed and placed back in the spare supply.

After all equipment and supplies are replaced all personnel shall take a shower and put on clean clothing/uniforms.

Use proper PPE detergent and washing machines at Station 25, 26, and 109 see (SOG 704).

	COLERAIN TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES		
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	SOG Title: Post Fire Decontamination		
	Approved By: Frank W. Cook, Fire Chief	Revision Date: September 7, 2016	Page: 4 of 4

All Colerain Fire & EMS fire companies shall follow these procedures for incident responses outside the Township even if not directed by the Incident Commander.

Fire Investigators

Fire investigators should wear proper PPE to protect them from exposure to the products of combustion (See 307- Turnout Dress Code, SOG 309-Respiratory Protection, and 310-Midwest Environmental Air Monitoring at Fire Incidents).

The fire investigation vehicle or unit shall have one decontamination bucket. It is the responsibility of the IC or lead fire investigator to make sure everything is properly decontaminated.


Fire investigator's PPE and equipment shall be turned into the nearest fire station for proper washing and decontamination if not available at the fire scene.

Fire investigators shall have a spare station uniform and the ability to take a personal shower as soon possible after leaving the fire scene.

EQUIPMENT

Each company (Engines 25, 26,102,103,109, 225, 226 Ladder 25, 225 and Rescue 26) shall carry the following items in the decontamination bucket:

- 5 gallon bucket w/lid
- 1 soft brush
- 1 hard brush
- 1 long hard brush (in engineer's compartment)
- 1 15 feet section of garden hose
- 1 bottle of Dawn Dish Washing Detergent
- 1 bottle of Simple Green
- 2 packs of Rescue Wipes (To be used on face, jaw, neck, arms and hands avoiding contact with eyes and irritated skin – Also for use on helmet and flaps)
- 1 bottle sun screen
- 4 wash cloths
- 2 bottles of water
- EMS gloves
- Small Office Trash bags

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	Effective Date: September 7, 2016	Category & Identification Number: Safety-312	
	SOG Title: Post Fire Decontamination		
	Approved By: Frank W. Cook, Fire Chief	Revision Date: September 7, 2016	Page: 5 of 4

Revision History

<Use the table below to track changes made to the document. Be sure to include the date the document was created/updated. Be sure to sufficiently define changes to facilitate version review and document update approvals.>

Date	Author	Change Descriptions
8/17/2016	Burns	Suggested changes from peer review completed sent to Chief for approval.
9/7/2016		Approved by Chief Cook

Fire Chief's SOG Approval

By signing below, the signee indicates that they have reviewed and agree and approve the SOG for implementation and use within the Colerain Township Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services

Printed Name	Signature	Title	Date
Chief Frank W. Cook		Fire Chief, Colerain Township	9/7/2016