



Pleasant Valley Fire District

Standard Operating Guidelines



SOG #2 - PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

PURPOSE: To protect each emergency responder with a level of personal protection needed to conduct emergency operations safely.

GUIDELINES:

1. Full protective gear includes district provided: turnout coat, bunker pants with boots, gloves, and Nomex hood and helmet with eye protection. **Note** - all Pleasant Valley Fire District gear should meet or exceed NFPA 1971 standards. Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) are carried on district apparatus and will be covered further in SOG #3 - Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus.
2. Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (**IDLH**) is defined as: An atmosphere or environment that poses an immediate threat to life and health, would cause irreversible adverse health effects, or would impair an individual's ability to escape when exposed to a dangerous atmosphere.

Full protective gear for IDLH atmospheres will be worn as follows:

- a. Turnout coat fully closed, all snaps and hooks secured and collar up
 - b. Interior firefighting gloves
 - c. Nomex hood
 - d. Bunker pants and boots
 - e. Helmet properly donned and eye protection in place (when needed)
 - f. Self-contained breathing apparatus donned and connected (when needed)
 - g. Ear protection should be used when needed and is available
 - h. Approved eye protection
 - i. Approved yellow traffic vest (where applicable)
3. Full protective gear is to be worn during all firefighting and rescue operations. This should also include all practical or training-related evolutions. Only the Officer in Charge (OIC) or his/her designee may authorize down-leveling of PPE.
 4. Each member is responsible for proper cleaning and maintaining of issued personal protective equipment in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. Any damage to gear, which may compromise the protective integrity, should be reviewed by a certified fire gear inspector before its next use. Inspections should meet manufacturer recommendations and be performed annually or as required.

5. Each member will be issued a High-Visibility Vest in accordance with latest American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations.
6. Failure to properly wear and clean all provided PPE may result in disciplinary action.

PPE REQUIREMENTS

FULL TURNOUT GEAR - District supplied helmet, hood, coat, boots and gloves

STRUCTURE FIRE: Full turnout gear, SCBA (Interior qualified members only)

BRUSH FIRE: District provided brush fire gear or head protection, long pants, long sleeve shirts, work boots and safety glasses

CAR FIRE: Same as structure fire

CAR ACCIDENT: Full turnout gear (SCBA or hood), ANSI approved breakaway reflective vest

DUMPSTER FIRE: Same as structure fire

COLD WATER RESCUE: Cold water suits with head protection for Technicians and Personal Floatation Device (PFD), work gloves, thermal protection, and work boots for members in Hot Zone

SWIFT WATER RESCUE: PFD, head protection, thermal protection for Hot Zone
Upstream Observer – PFD, head protection and gloves if cold.
Downstream Observer – PFD, head protection and work gloves

HAZ-MAT: Determined during hazard assessment. IDLH (Respiratory) - full turnout gear with SCBA. IDLH (Non-Respiratory) - full turnout gear without SCBA

DRIVERS: Head protection (based upon hazard assessment), eye protection, ANSI approved breakaway reflective vest, safety footwear and work gloves (based upon hazard assessment)