

GLASGOW FIRE DEPARTMENT

Standard Operating Guideline

GUIDELINE: WINTER OPERATIONS			SECTION: 119
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PURPOSE

With the potential for severe winter elements, it is necessary to take extra care for the health and safety of personnel and the maintenance of equipment.

FIREGROUND PRECAUTION

1. Beware of walking across lawns or open areas since snow may hide ditches, holes, curbs, etc...
2. After removing face piece, dry face to prevent freezing
3. Tighten leaking couplings to prevent unnecessary formation of ice
4. Permit nozzles to run (slightly cracked open) when not in use to prevent freezing.
5. Beware of slippery areas around apparatus due to ice formation (leaking connections, etc). Call the Street Dept. for salt as needed.
6. Beware of the potential for unforeseen building collapse due to snow and ice loading on roofs.

PORTABLE HEATERS

It is the responsibility of the station officers to see that the portable heaters are brought to the scene when conditions warrant. Station officers will assign personnel to bring the pickup with portable heater and any other equipment deemed necessary to the scene for use.

DRIVING PRECAUTIONS

1. Emergency driving and apparatus operations are very hazardous during adverse weather conditions. Special precautions shall be taken.
2. Braking distances may increase three (3) to twelve (12) times for emergency and other vehicles.
3. Fire Department personnel may have to maneuver around stalled and/or abandoned vehicles along response routes.
4. To safely back apparatus, it may be necessary to position an additional spotter beside the driver's side of the cab when ice, steam, or frost obscures the mirrors.

Precautions

- a. When spotting apparatus, be aware of ice on power lines and tree branches.

APPARATUS MAINTENANCE

1. When the temperature drops well below freezing, inspect all intakes for ice and remove all discharge caps to check for ice between discharge valves and discharge caps (after each departure from the station).

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2. Circulate booster tanks through pump to prevent freezing.
3. When operating at an incident, a salvage cover place over the cab will protect against heavy ice build up on the windshield.
4. Apparatus air tanks shall be bled every Monday.
5. Use water sparingly to wash down underside of apparatus during very cold (near zero) weather to avoid frozen steering gears, brakes, etc.
6. Drain all discharge ports after any pumping operation by removing caps, wiping dry and lubricating valves.

CARE OF HOSE

1. Break couplings, drain, and roll hose as soon as possible at the fire scene.
2. Frozen hoses can be permanently damaged by forcibly bending or dragging. Carefully gather hoses and place on top of the apparatus hose beds or use a pickup truck if available to transport frozen hoses.