

LOOKOUTS  
COMMUNICATION  
ESCAPE ROUTES  
SAFETY ZONES

# COUNTY OF VOLUSIA

## SAFETY GRAM

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### SAFETY WHILE PROTECTING STRUCTURE FROM WILDLAND FIRES

Structures exposed to wildland fire in the urban interface can and should be considered as another fuel type. Size-up and tactics should be based upon fuels, weather and topography, just as those criteria would be applied to a wildland fire.

1. Be aware of possible toxic fumes and stay upwind out of the smoke.
2. Wear full protective clothing.
3. Do not wet down ahead of fire-**conserve your water supply!**
4. Keep at least 100 gallons of water reserve in your engine tank.
5. Have a protector line for your crew and engine.
6. Back your engine in, you may need to leave quickly.
7. Use 1 1/2 inch lines if possible.
8. Do not lay long hose lays as it cuts mobility and may burn up a lot of hose.
9. Use foam to coat the structure, if available, and time permits.
10. **Do not** park under power lines, next to propane tanks, in saddles, or in chimneys.
11. **Do not** enter a burning structure unless you have been properly trained and equipped for that sort of activity.

The safety hazards that exist in a typical protection of structures from wildland fires assignment are significant. In addition to apply **THE STANDARD FIRE ORDERS** and avoiding **THE WATCHOUT SITUATIONS**, good judgment and planning are extremely important because of the presence of homeowners and their families, the media, pets and livestock, traffic, and unfamiliar combustibles. **L C E S- Lookouts, communication, escape route, and safety zones.**

Fireline Handbook January 1998

#### Deficiency log

#### IX. UNIT DEFICIENCY LOG:

A log booklet will be assigned to each piece of apparatus and equipment within Volusia County Fire Services. This booklet is a maintenance history of the vehicle to which it is assigned. Guidelines for using this log book are contained in Standard Operating Guideline 202.001.

#### Structural Gear

Combat firefighters have been issued structural gear (Personal Protective Equipment) for their personal protection. Personal protective equipment must be checked for cleanliness, abrasions to the outer shell, burns, discoloration (outer shell, & vapor bearer) & wear.

#### Dispersion level Chart

- Dispersion Range 0-40 is stable air, low fire intensity, less long range spotting.
- Dispersion Range 41-70 is moderate unstable air, increased fire intensity and long range spotting.
- Dispersion Range 70+ is unstable air, high amount of upper lifting, intense fire activity, potential for long range spotting and plume dominated wildfires.

Fireline Handbook Jan. '98

**F**ight fire aggressively, but provide for safety first.  
**I**nitiate all action based on current and expected fire behavior.

**R**ecognize current weather conditions and obtain forecasts.

**E**nsure instructions are given and understood.

**O**btain current information on status.

**R**emain in communication with crewmembers, your supervisor, and adjoining forces.

**D**etermine safety zones and escape routes.

**E**stablish lookouts in potentially hazardous situations.

**R**emain in control at all times.

**S**tay alert, keep calm, act decisively.

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