

Volusia County Fire Services Safety Gram



Barry G. Ellis
Battalion 20A/Safety 10

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What is the best personal protective equipment?

There is a piece of personal protective equipment available to each and every one of us that can prevent more than 90 percent of all accidents. This marvelous protective device is not new, in fact, it's as old as man himself. It is capable, when properly maintained, of spotting dangerous and hazardous conditions in mere milliseconds. Not only that, it can evaluate alternatives and suggest proper courses of action almost as quickly. This marvel not only can avoid accidents, it can prevent them by preplanning any engineering hazards out of fire service operations. Furthermore, it can work in close coordination with other similar units and multiply its efficiency.

The human brain, yours, mine, and theirs, is the most effective piece of personal protective equipment that we have or ever will have. The brain can perceive dangerous conditions and act, avoid accidents and their causes, and initiate corrective and protective action.

GE Power Systems

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.

Fire-line 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.
- NWCG Handbook 3