

WOLFEBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

SOP 6.15

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[Note: This written directive is for the internal governance of the Wolfeboro Police Department and, as provided by RSA 516:36, is not intended and should not be interpreted to establish a higher standard of care in any civil or criminal action than would otherwise be applicable under existing law.]

By Order of:
Dean J. Rondeau, Chief of Police

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL

Policy To make members aware of information on dangerous Hazardous Material.

Purpose The purpose of this directive is to cover the following:

Definitions

General Information

Health Hazards

Identifying Hazardous Material

Definitions *Emergency Response Guidebook (DOTP 5800.5):* Designed to assist public safety personnel in identifying the name or class of hazardous materials released or present at an accident site, the particular risk presented by the materials, and recommended emergency action that should be taken by the initial responder.

Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT): Any Material in a particular form or quantity which the US Secretary of Transportation finds may pose an unreasonable risk to health, safety, and property, or any substance or material in quantity or form which may be harmful to humans, animals, crops, water systems, or other elements of the environment, if accidentally released. Materials so designed may include explosives, radioactive materials, etiological agents, flammable liquids or solids, poisons, oxidizing or corrosive materials, and flammable gases.

Hot Zone: The total exclusion area around the hazardous material incident; size of the “hot zone” will vary depending on the material involved. No entry is allowed except by personnel wearing special protective clothing.

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Placard: A 10 ¾ inch square, on-point, diamond shaped sign that is affixed to each side and to each end of any motor vehicle or rail car containing specific amounts of hazardous materials. The placard indicates to emergency responders the primary hazard of the materials being transported.

Release: Any spill, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping or disposing into the environment of hazardous material.

General

Each year several billions of tons of hazardous materials are transported. All types of hazardous material are transported over our roads in private vehicles and common carriers.

Pesticides, fertilizers, fuels, cleaning materials and oxygen can be found in private homes, stores, public building and doctors offices.

Health Hazards

Initial responders should be aware of the effects and symptoms from exposure to hazardous material.

The two main categories of risks are:

Internal	<p>Irritants, asphyxiates, nerve and liver poisons, and carcinogens Enter the body through inhalation, ingestion, or absorption through skin or eyes Vapors, smoke, gases and suspended dust particles can represent threats Symptoms might night be immediately apparent but are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confusion, light-headedness, anxiety, dizziness • Blurred or double vision • Changes in skin color or blushing • Coughing or painful respiration • Tingling or numbness of extremities • Loss of coordination • Nausea, vomiting, abdominal cramping, diarrhea • unconsciousness
External	<p>Corrosives, cryogenic (refrigerated liquids) and Flammable liquids Severe chemical burns & extensive tissue damage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • burning around eyes, nose and mouth • nausea and vomiting • difficulty breathing or swallowing, coughing and • localized burning or skin irritation
Internal & External	<p>Radiation Exposure can cause sickness, injury, poisoning, and death</p>

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Safety Concern Failure to recognize the presence of hazardous materials at emergencies can threaten the health and safety of the public and emergency responders.

Identifying Primary ways of identifying on common carriers are:

- Shipping papers – legal documents in the custody of the driver that contain the following
 - Proper shipping name
 - Hazardous classification
 - Identification number
 - Number of packages
 - Types of packages
 - Correct weight
 - Emergency response information
- Placards - diamond shaped signs affixed to side and each end – they can be identified in two ways.

Colored background	Indicates
Orange	Explosive material
Red	Flammable material
Green	Nonflammable material
Yellow	Oxidizing material
White	Poisonous material
White Vertical red stripes	Flammable solid
Yellow over white	Radioactive material

Symbols (at the top)	Indicates
Bursting ball	Explosive material
Flame	Flammable material
Slashed “W”	Dangerous when wet
Skull & crossbones	Poisonous material
Circle with flame	Oxidizing material
Cylinder	Nonflammable material
Propeller	Radioactive material
Test tube hand	Corrosive material

RESIDUE sign – indicates remains in the packaging or tank car after it has been unloaded.

Labels are normally attached packages for identification of contents.

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UN Class Number United Nations Hazard Class Number is located at the bottom:

Number	Indicates
1	Explosives
2	Gas
3	Flammable liquid
4	Flammable solids – spontaneously combustible material And materials that are dangerous when wet
5	Oxidizers and Organic Peroxides
6	Poisonous and Etiologic (infectious) materials
7	Radioactive materials
8	Corrosives
9	Other regulated material