



ROSS VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Policies and Procedures
Operations
Special Operations

4.2.6.6 Standing Water Operations

Date Revised: March 2009

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Purpose

To provide incident responders with a uniform guide for safe operations in standing water operations.

Policy

It shall be the policy of the Ross Valley Fire Department to utilize all safety equipment available when responding to flooding incidents.

Procedures

If personnel will be walking or wading through water which is at such a level so as to prohibit the individual's ability to see the physical roadway or sidewalk surface the following actions will take place:

1. Wear approved personal floatation device (P.F.D)
2. Use a pike pole (or other probing tool) out in front of the individual to determine the location of deep holes and/or uncovered storm drains and sewer holes which may lie in the individual's path.
3. Waders are for entering basements and other areas that may contain contaminated water. Do not use waders in or near moving water.
4. Engine and Utility vehicles shall not be driven through water higher than their hubs.
5. Before crossing bridges or roadways which are suspected of, or have been subjected to, heavy water flow, the bridge/roadway shall be visually inspected for its ability to support the vehicle prior to proceeding.