

CANNING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Standard Operating Guideline

Protective Clothing

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- A) All firefighters must wear protective clothing issued by the Fire Department at the scene of any call or training exercise.
- B) Firefighting protective clothing will consist of a helmet with a face shield, nomex hood, turnout coat, and pants, boots, and gloves. All clothing will conform with applicable NFPA standards at the time of purchase. All clothing will be properly fastened with the coat collar turned up. Alterations to clothing are permitted with approval from a senior officer.
- C) Full protective clothing will be worn by all fire fighting personnel while responding to any alarm or training exercise on a fire apparatus. The wearing of ball hats and other personal items of clothing instead of protective clothing is prohibited. The wearing of full protective clothing (turnout gear) is optional for an operator while driving but must be carried on the apparatus for use at the scene.
- D) Under no circumstances is any aspect of personal safety to be sacrificed by not wearing any piece of protective clothing in order to increase the speed of emergency operation.
- E) All firefighters will wear turnout gear at all times at the scene of a call. Officers may use discretion to regulate the full protective clothing criteria when circumstance of the incident and hazard risk permit.
- F) The nomex hood will be worn when engaged in firefighting or other activities where head/face injuries are likely.
- G) The face shield will be used anytime the need for eye protection is necessary, such as an overhaul or using power/gas operated tools. Whenever specialized cutting tools are used, appropriate specialized eye protection must be used.

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H) Gloves will be worn when engaged in fire fighting, overhaul, training with hose and ladders, when using power tools, and any other situation where injuries to the hands can occur.

I) Each firefighter must ensure their protective clothing is maintained in good condition. Report damage immediately to the Officer of your unit for repair or replacement.

J) Firefighters must hose wash turnout gear regularly to remove unburned contaminants. Turnout gear will be machine washed by the Fire Department to remove serious buildups of contaminants.

K) All firefighters operating in the zone at a Motor Vehicle Collision will wear full protective clothing including the use of latex gloves for added protection.

L) Turnout gear is optional for Officers if they are outside the working area of the call and have responded in their own vehicle. Officers inside the working area should wear full protective clothing. Arrangements to get the Officers turnout gear to the scene should be made. If turnout gear is not available, a hard hat and safety vest or yellow command jacket should be worn.