

Sanoca Rural Fire District, Inc.
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
Emergency Operations

Fire Company Operations
Subject: Dumpster Fires
Revised: May 10, 2003

PURPOSE

To provide a safe and effective method of handling fires in industrial dumpsters.

POLICY

In the event of an industrial dumpster fire, the following procedure shall be followed.

PROCEDURE

- A. Attempt to determine what is burning.
- B. Contact employees or management to assist in determining contents of dumpster.

SAFETY

- A. All members involved in operation shall be in full protective clothing, including self-contained breathing apparatus.
- B. Operate with wind at your back, if possible.
- C. Contents in dumpster may be water reactive, explosive or oxidizing agent.
- D. Should be especially aware of personnel safety during overhaul procedures.
- E. May have to decontaminate clothing, equipment and apparatus.
- F. Any member experiencing any unusual feeling, tightness in the chest, nausea, etc., should receive medical attention immediately.

FIRE CONTROL

- A. Remove bystanders from area.
- B. Attack fire from upwind.
- C. If dumpster is up against a building you may want to move into an open area, if possible.
- D. Consider water supply problems.

CONTAINMENT

- A. It may be necessary to control run-off if substance is hazardous material.
- B. Dike building material may be necessary, such as sand.
- C. If hazardous materials are present, contact and coordinate with Emergency Management.

