



## City of Tumwater Fire Department

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- Continue working with Thurston County Emergency Management to identify an emergency text notification system throughout Thurston County
- Identify hazard vulnerability areas through risk assessment planning within the city including the Olympic pipeline areas that run through and adjacent to the city.

FOLLOW UP RESPONSIBILITY: Fire Chief

### ***SPECIAL OPERATIONS – HAZARDOUS MATERIALS***

### ***SECTION 13***

*GOAL: To prevent hazardous materials releases from occurring and to mitigate releases that do occur in a safe, effective and efficient manner, thereby protecting people, property, and the environment.*

Hazardous materials management is of concern, both locally and nationally. With the ever-increasing number of chemicals and the extensive amount of high – tech research and industrial activity in the area, the need for a comprehensive effort to both prevent and prepare for hazardous materials emergencies is vital.

Hazardous materials operations are managed within the protocols established by the Department’s hazardous materials policies and procedures. Currently our response personnel are trained to the first responder operations level. Ongoing annual training for “first responder” must meet the training skills and competencies that are required by federal regulations.

Investigation of hazardous materials incidents will initially be a Fire Department responsibility in cooperation with other divisions within the city, supplemented by representatives from other appropriate agencies.

In conjunction with Olympic Region Clean Air Agency and Puget Sound Energy, Tumwater Fire Department interacts with the following agencies in managing hazardous materials:

- **Washington State Patrol** – The Incident Commanders for our jurisdiction for Haz – Mat incidents
- **State Department of Ecology** – Involved with regulation and clean – up operations
- **Coast Guard** – Involved with water runoff that leads to Puget Sound
- **City of Tumwater Public Works** – Has responsibility for the management of the overall City environmental effort and can provide technical and regulatory assistance at incidents particularly spills
- **Tumwater Police Department** – Has responsibility for evacuation and shutting down affected streets within the City



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- **City of Tumwater Parks Department** – Has responsibility for setting up shelters that may be needed and required
- **Other Fire Departments who may assist:**
  - JBLM Hazardous Materials main response technicians (Level A)
  - Olympia Fire Department
  - Lacey Fire Department
  - Other fire districts as may be required or needed

### **2016 -2021 ACTION PLAN OBJECTIVES**

- Seek safety training on Hazardous Materials through Labor and Industries
- Train with Hazardous Materials response personnel to attain short and long term planning capabilities
- Maintain hazardous materials “First Responder” training for all department members per OSHA requirements

FOLLOW UP RESPONSIBILITY: Fire Chief

### **SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESCUE TEAM (SORT)**

### **SECTION 14**

*GOAL: To provide technical rescue support capability with the necessary equipment and training that is compliant with the National Fire Protection Association Standards.*

Definition: Technical rescue is defined as “rescue situations that present more complex and dangerous circumstances than what are routinely encountered.” These types of incidents require a higher degree of training and specialized equipment to conduct safe operations. Several types of emergency incidents require such a level of response, including confined space rescue, trench and excavations collapses, high and low angle rope rescues from building and rough terrain, structural collapses and other non-typical/unique accidents.

The Special Operations Rescue Team’s capabilities have increased substantially in recent years through equipment purchases and training. The SORT Team is available to any public safety agency within Thurston County on a mutual aid basis and within the region. Currently the team is comprised of thirty – five highly trained personnel. The team currently meets an Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Type III team typing and has plans to meet a USAR Type II typing.

The SORT team is currently trained and equipped to conduct Structural Collapse Rescue, Rope Rescue, Tree Rescue, Trench Rescue and Confined Space incidents. The team maintains Operations, Technician, and Specialist level personnel. Thurston County Sherriff’s Office personnel provide dive team rescue and work hand in hand with the SORT team for water rescue events that may occur.