



# HR/HF

## OPERATIONS

POLICY # 13-0120

## SAFETY – APPARATUS AND VEHICLE USE

ISSUED 01/20/2013

**Subject:** Appropriate use of apparatus and vehicles.

**Purpose:** This policy describes the appropriate use of Department apparatus and vehicles.

**Scope:** This policy applies to all New Salem Fire Department personnel.

### Definition

#### Apparatus and vehicles

Apparatus and/or vehicles are defined as ambulances, engines, tankers, trucks, rescue trucks, squads, ambulances, all-terrain vehicles, trailers, command vehicles.

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## APPARATUS AND VEHICLE USE SOP

Revised 1/20/013

The driver of any New Salem Fire Department apparatus or vehicle shall be directly responsible for the safe operation of the vehicle. When the driver is under the direct supervision of an officer or acting officer, that officer or acting officer shall also assume responsibility for the actions of the driver.

Apparatus and/or vehicles shall only be operated and used for the following reasons:

1. Emergency incident response when dispatched by Shelburne Control Dispatch or on the orders of the Department appointed fire officers.
2. Public safety education details (SAFE program, etc.) after receiving the approval of the Fire Chief or his designee(s).
3. Public service details (Parades, etc.) after receiving the approval of the Fire Chief or his designee(s).
4. For pickup of Department ordered supplies and/or equipment after receiving the approval of the Fire Chief or his designee(s).
5. For other Department logistical needs (trash runs, etc.) after receiving the approval of the Fire Chief or his designee(s).

At no time shall any Department apparatus or vehicle be operated or driven by a Department member without that member having received proper training and receiving a sign-off from the Department Training Officer and the Fire Chief.

Inactive or retired Department members or members of the general public have shall not have any authorization to personally dispatch Department apparatus or vehicles.



At no time shall any Department apparatus or vehicle be used for personal reasons.

**Authorized exception to this policy:**

**This policy shall not apply to the Department command vehicle when operated by the Fire Chief or his designee. In an emergency situation The Fire Chief or his designee shall retain the right to modify or suspend any part or the whole of this policy. Such suspension shall be documented in writing with the time, date and reason(s) for suspension.**

By the order of: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, NSFD

Date:

**References:**

- NFPA 1500, Fire Department Occupational Safety & Health Program, 2007 edition
- NFPA 1451, Standard for a Fire Service Vehicle Operations Safety Program, 2007 edition

**Resources:**

- International Association of Fire Chiefs, Guide to Model Policies and Procedures for Emergency Vehicle Safety:  
[www.iafc.org/vehicleSafety](http://www.iafc.org/vehicleSafety)