

Scarborough Fire Department



Personnel Protection Equipment

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

All personal protection equipment used in the Scarborough Fire Department meets or exceeds the required standards in NFPA 1500,

“Standard On Fire Department Occupational Safety And Health Program.”

All protection equipment has inherent limitations that must be recognized so that firefighters do not overextend the item's range of protection.

All firefighters operating at an emergency scene must wear full protection equipment suitable for that incident.

*Protective Equipment Is A Working System
Wear It All, All The Time*

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT



Helmets Provide

- Impact protection for head
- Protection from heat and cold
- Face shields provide secondary protection of the face & eyes



Helmets Are Required To

- To have ear protection
- To have a chin strap in place
- Be cleaned and inspected annually
- Meet NFPA 1971

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Turnout Coats Provide Protection From:

- Direct Flame Contact
- Hot Water Vapors
- Cold Temperatures
- Other Environmental hazards
- Meet NFPA 1971



Coats are designed to keep heat out, in doing so they also keep heat in!

- An annual inspection & cleaning (or more often if needed)

NFPA 1971 Requires All
Protective Coats Have 3
Components:

1. Outer Shell
2. Moisture Barrier
3. Thermal Barrier

All inner liners of the protective coat must be in place during firefighting

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Fire Fighter Protective Trousers

Must meet NFPA 1971
(*night hitches*)

The same three layers of protection are required in the trousers as in the coats.

- Outer Shell
- Moisture Barrier
- Thermal Barrier

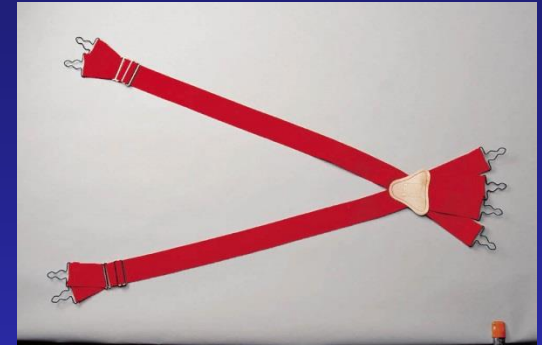


These barriers serve to trap insulating air that inhibits the transfer of heat from the outside to the firefighters body.

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Turnout Pants Provide Protection From:

- Direct Flame Contact
- Hot Water Vapors
- Cold Temperatures
- Other Environmental Hazards



Firefighter trousers should be cleaned and inspected annually (*or more often as needed*)

All inner liners of the trousers must be in place during any firefighting, including the suspenders

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Must Meet NFPA 1971

Fireground Hazards To The Feet:

- Embers
- Falling Objects
- Nails
- Hazardous Materials
- Cold & Heat



All firefighter boots shall have a steel toe and steel shank

Clean and inspect your boots as needed

Inspect the boots tread, for condition and depth of tread.

Make sure the boots are fitted properly *(boots come in half sizes)*



PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Hand Protection

The most important characteristics of gloves are the protection they provide against heat and cold penetration.

Other Protection Features:

- Cuts
- Punctures
- Liquid Absorption
- Direct Flame Contact
- Contamination



Gloves must allow enough dexterity and tactile feel to allow the fire fighters to perform the job effectively.

Gloves must fit properly and be designed to provide proper protection.

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Hand Protection

Gloves also have three layers of material:

- Outer Shell
- Moisture barrier
- Thermal barrier



They must also have additional coverage of material to give extra protection to the wrists.

Gloves should be immediately replaced whenever a flammable liquid is spilled on them and absorbed by the glove material.

Clean and inspect your gloves after every use



PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Protective Hoods

Protective hoods are designed to protect ears, neck and face from exposure to extreme heat.

They also protect exposed skin from carcinogens.

When wearing a protective hood, care should be taken to ensure that it doesn't interfere with the S.C.B.A. mask seal with the face.

Hoods should be cleaned and inspected after each use !



PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Eye & Face Protection

Eye and face injuries are one of the most common on the fire ground. They are not always reported because they are not always debilitating.

Types of eye protection for firefighters:

- S.C.B.A. Mask with Regulator Attached
- Safety glasses
- Safety goggles
- Acceptable helmet face shields

Standard: ANSI -Z87

NFPA-1971-87



Types of face protection for firefighters:

- S.C.B.A. Mask w/ Regulator Attached
- Face shields (secondary protection)



Eye and face protection devices should be cleaned and inspected after every use

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Exposure to Heat & Drawbacks

Protective gear lowers the wearers ability to feel heat.

DO NOT assume that because you are not feeling the heat or discomfort through your protective gear, that you will not get burned

*Always be aware that we work in an ultrahazardous, heated environment.
Always use extreme caution at all times to limit your exposure to heat.*

Before the use of PPE, SCBA and other modern safety equipment, firefighters were unable to enter and or stay too long in the fire scenes without great discomfort. Protective ensemble, SCBA and other modern equipment have increased the fire fighter's comfort level and level of protection.

Remain constantly alert, limit your exposure, don't get burned !

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

You must keep your protective garments clean and maintain them as set forth in the manufacturers recommendations, the standards of NFPA, and Scarborough SOP

Machine Washing

To prevent the spread of contamination to other laundry or clothing items, home washing machines and public washing machines should not be used.

When washing gear, Follow the directions in the wash room at Dunstan.

When washing, the outer shell should be separated, when possible, and cleaned separately from the other layers or components.

When drying protective clothing use the gear drying racks.

Set the gear up appropriately, plug in the rack and set the heat and timer. This method of drying will minimize shrinkage.

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Inspecting Gear

The fire department has a systematic, routine, and regular scheduled inspection process of our fire gear. Documentation and records are kept by the department.

Your protective clothing should be inspected by you and the department when you first receive your gear and there after, inspected by you at least monthly. The department shall inspect your gear at least annually months.

You will inspect your gear for:

- ✓ Cleanliness
- ✓ Contamination
- ✓ Heat damage
- ✓ Fabric, leather or material damage or discoloration
- ✓ Dye loss

All repairs and or replacement of your gear shall be done by the department. The repairs are to be done by an authorized and certified gear repair specialist.

Station Wear

- Issued pants (style) per SOP
- Shorts allowed during summer months
 - gear needs to be worn over it on calls
- Shirts
 - Golf style, turtle neck or Badge style
 - T-shirts (on declared heat emergency days)
 - sweat shirts
- Boots, shoes (black)
 - climate dependant (personal choice)