

CANNING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Standard Operating Guideline

Medical Vest

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- A) When responding to a Medical Emergency call, the vest should be worn. The Canning Volunteer Fire Department's goal in buying the rescue vest is to give firefighters visibility in the communities as we complete our duties in a safe and efficient manner, to give the firefighters the right tools for the job and to give the public the best possible care.
- B) At no time is the vest to replace bunker gear. The proper protective gear for the situation is to be worn at all times.
- C) The Canning Volunteer Fire Department reserves the right to take back the vest at anytime if it is felt that it is not being used in the best interest of the Department or the public.
- D) The vest will be worn only on Canning Fire Department business.
- E) It is to be kept clean and in a presentable condition at all times.
- F) Any Damage is to be reported to the Chief or Deputy's.
- G) There will be no loaning of the vest to anyone outside the Department.
- H) The vest will be issued by the Department to Full members in good standing, who have shown an interest and whose use of it will best serve the Department and the public.

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- I) Should this piece of equipment be left in a vehicle, it must be out of sight (i.e., a trunk) and must be protected from the elements (sunlight, dirt).
- J) All stock used on a call from your vest is to be refilled by going through the Captain or alternate of the rescue so it can be tracked and reordered when needed.
- K) If the vest is going to be kept at home, it is to be kept in a clean dry place where it can be easily found.
- L) The vest is to be turned in when a member is no longer with the Department.
- M) During an emergency call, all members of the Department are to respond to the closest fire station. If it is beneficial to the public, a member may stop or divert to the scene to provide appropriate care. A member is not to go out of his/her way to go to a scene: it is very important that there is another crew at the station in case another call comes in or another piece of equipment is needed.
- N) Your vest is to be worn for safety reasons during these calls.
- O) Since the items carried in the vest are life saving items, at some point you may need to use them when not on official Canning Volunteer Fire Department business. The vest is not to be worn unless it is an emergency situation and is to be removed as soon as it is over.
- P) At no point is the vest to be altered.

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- Q) Additional equipment can be added to the vest. A letter of request to the chief or alternate must be submitted for approval prior to adding additional equipment.
- R) Some pre-cleared equipment which, due to its cost, can't be supplied by the Department are: Stethoscope, pen, trauma scissors, blood pressure cuff, radio, and flashlight.
- S) Anyone not adhering to these guidelines could place the entire First Response program at risk.
- T) Firefighters should follow all rules as stated in the first responders manual regarding personal safety.
- U) Medical Vests are not to be used to direct traffic. Traffic vests are to be worn for all traffic duties.