

Standard Operating Guidelines

Guideline 405.0 Dumpster Fires



Purpose:

Due to their unknown contents, dumpster fires by their very nature are hazardous to firefighters. Rapid extinguishment with little involvement is necessary for the safety of firefighting personnel and the public.

Guideline:

The following should be used when extinguishing a fire in a dumpster or any other type of trash or trash receptacle.

Extinguishment should be accomplished without personnel placing themselves in the space above the top of the dumpster, should any objects within the container explode. It is highly recommended that the deck gun be used to fill the container so as to limit exposure to personnel.

All personnel directly involved in extinguishment and overhaul stages shall wear full turnout gear, including SCBA. Tools should be used for overhaul so as to avoid manual handling of the contents.