Bath Township Fire Department			Standard Operating Guideline	
Section **Operations**	**Referral No.** **O-35**	**Subject:** **Response to Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Incidents**	**Date Issued** **01/05**	**Date Revised** **4/08**

Purpose:

- To provide guidelines for safe emergency response to Liquefied Petroleum Gas (**LPG)** incidents and define the response plan for LPG incidents.

Scope:

- This standard operating guideline shall apply to all personnel.

Responsibilities:

- Officer
  - Ensure that personnel respond properly.
  - Provide direction based on the Incident Management System.
  - Ensure the safety of all personnel.
- Personnel
  - All personnel have the responsibility of following the direction of Incident Command at an emergency scene.
  - All personnel have the responsibility to wear the proper safety equipment and to operat in a safe manner.

Guidelines:

- **Safety is always our first priority**
- Whenever a report of a possible Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) leak is received the appropriate gas company shall be notified at their emergency number and furnished with the following information:
  A. Name and address of individual reporting leak.
  B. Address where the leak exists if different than A.
  C. Exact location of odor (inside building, outdoors, at an appliance, in street, etc.)
  D. When odor was first detected.
- If the caller can detect a strong odor of gas or can hear gas escaping they should be instructed to leave the building immediately by walking, not running.
- They should also be instructed **not to**:

A. Hang up the telephone.
B. Operate any electrical switches, television sets, appliances or other devices.
C. Pull any circuit breakers.
D. Re-enter the building.

Response:

- A full assignment shall respond on all L.P.G. leaks.
- One Engine Company may report to the block of the reported leak; all other companies will stand by at least one block away.

Upon arrival:

A. Attempt to determine the hazardous area (flammable vapor area).
B. Remember that LPG. is heavier than air, so avoid low lying areas and do not approach from a down hill direction.
C. Give a brief initial report transmission (BIRT) and request additional equipment if needed.
D. Determine if rescue or evacuation problems exist.
E. Formulate plan of action based on initial size-up plan of action must provide for:
    a. Safety of citizens and firefighters.
    b. Evacuation of endangered area if necessary.
    c. Control of situation.
    d. Stabilization of the spilled or leaking material.
    e. Disposal or removal of the spilled or leaking container.
    f. Coordinate with law enforcement personnel for evacuation and traffic control.

Safety:

A. Avoid commitment of personnel and apparatus until a complete size-up has been made.
B. All personnel should be in full protective clothing and SCBA's.
C. Keep all bystanders a minimum of two thousand (2000) feet away from the hazardous area.
D. Remove all ignition sources in the hazardous area.
E. Keep clear of tank ends if fire is impinging on the tank.
F. During LPG tank fires- if whistling from pressure relief valve becomes progressively louder; evacuate the area, explosion is imminent.
G. If tank is burning, fire streams must be used to cool the vapor area of the tank (area above liquid level).