Bath Township Fire Department			Standard Operating Guideline	
Section **Safety**	**Referral No.** **S-O6**	**Subject:** **Driving Apparatus**	**Date Issued** **11/02**	**Date Revised** **2/09**

Purpose:

- To provide guidelines for safe apparatus driving.

Scope:

- This standard operating guideline shall apply to all personnel.

Responsibilities:

- Officer
  - All personnel must show competence and have been signed off by an officer or his/her designee, prior to operating any apparatus.
  - Once personnel have shown competence and have been signed off by an officer or his/her designee, they will be qualified to drive each specific piece of apparatus.
- Personnel
  - All personnel have the responsibility of qualifying to drive and operate each piece of apparatus.
  - All personnel will have the responsibility of operating each piece of apparatus in a safe manner.

Guidelines:

- **Safety is always our first priority**
- All personnel shall have a valid Ohio driver's license
- All traffic laws shall be followed
  - **SEATBELTS MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES**
- All personnel must qualify to drive and operate each piece of apparatus
- If a person is unable to qualify to operate all apparatus during their probationary period, a program will be assigned by the Chief to accomplish this.
- The Chief, or his designee, may revoke driving privileges at any time.
- Any damage or malfunction of any equipment shall be reported to an officer and a repair form filled out.
- The driver shall not consume food or drink or talk on a cellular phone while operating the vehicle.
- When possible avoid backing apparatus
- When driving into, or backing out of, an area that is hard to negotiate, the use of a spotter is recommended whenever possible.
  - When a spotter isn't available, perform a complete 360° of the vehicle prior to negotiating a minimum clearance area.