Bath Township Fire Department			Standard Operating Guideline	
Section **Special Operations**	**Referral No.** **SO-O3**	**Subject:** **Confined Space Emergencies**	**Date Issued** **5/05**	**Date Revised** **3/08**

Purpose:

- To provide guidelines for safe emergency response to Confined Space Emergencies and define the response plan to Confined Space Emergencies.
- To provide guidelines for compliance to NFPA 1670.

Scope:

- This standard operating guideline applies 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.
  - All personnel have the responsibility to wear the proper safety equipment and operating in a safe manner.

Guidelines:

- **Safety is always our first priority**
- When dispatched to a Confined Space Emergency, all personnel will respond to the fire station.
- When personnel arrive at the station, they will:
  - Obtain information that the dispatcher received from the caller (refer to Confined Space dispatch procedure)
  - Confirm that Shawnee F.D. (STFD) is responding.
  - Refer to the wall map to assure a safe approach to the incident
  - Acquire the Gas Analyzer.
  - Respond Rescue 1309 with two (2) personnel.
    - Respond in the pre-planned manner to a "safe distance" from the incident.
  - Upon arrival; establish command, establish accountability, size-up the incident, and give a BIRT.
    - **The command post shall be established in a safe place upwind and uphill of the incident,** preferably within view of the incident.

- The command post will be readily identified with OIC wearing Command Vest, and serve as the point of coordination and control for all others responding.
- Record any findings related to the incident (ex. fire, vapor cloud, victims)
- Record air-monitor readings on the outside of the Confined Space.
- Confer with employees and obtain the confined space entry permit.
- **At this time, DO NOT enter the confined space in an attempt to remove or assess patient/victim.**
- Establish a staging area for other responding companies not involved in initial operations.

- Respond Ladder 1301 and both Medic units.
  - Report to the staging location unless requested by the IC to report elsewhere.
- Other units respond at request of the IC
- Upon arrival of an officer, all attempts should be made to transfer command to them.
  - A thorough report will be given in person to the officer taking command (refer to IC SOG)
- Contact STFD via radio and update on findings and location for staging.
- Conduct a risk / benefit analysis.
  - No risk will be taken to recover a dead body.
- Conduct the Confined Space Rescue according to level of training and within related standards.
- Air Monitoring shall be done at all times throughout the incident.
- No person shall enter the Confined Space without proper PPE and Respirator.
  - Refer to NFPA 1670