

Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department

George Smith, Fire Chief
606 Douglas Highway
Lamoine, ME 04605

Emergency: 9-1-1
Station: (207) 667-2623
Email: lvfd@lamoine-me.gov



Policy for Emergency Response Vehicles Approved by the Lamoine VFD, March 29, 2007

All Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department members shall adhere to the following policies when responding to an emergency call.

Personal Vehicle Response – to the station.

1. Upon receipt of a fire call, all personnel shall respond initially as if to report to the fire station. If, en route, through monitoring of radio it is evident that response directly to the scene the vehicle shall respond directly to the incident scene.
2. Vehicle operators shall adhere to ALL state laws, including but not limited to stop signs, stopped school buses, speed limits and seat belt use. Vehicles should display “4-way” flashers when responding to the station and turn headlights on.
3. Vehicles may display a flashing red light when so authorized by the fire chief.
4. Upon arrival at the fire station, all personal vehicles shall be parked so as not to inhibit operation of LVFD response apparatus. In case of heavy parking use in the area, should a non-fire vehicle be blocked by a responding vehicle, the keys should be left either in the vehicle or in the fire station in order for the firefighter’s vehicle to be moved to unblock cars.

Personal Vehicle Response - to the scene

1. Items 1-through-3 above apply in regard to response to the scene.
2. Upon arrival at the scene, fire personnel using their personal vehicles shall all park on the same side of the road so as not to inhibit emergency traffic. The “4-way” flashers shall be left on, preferably with the vehicle running, in order to promote visibility by oncoming traffic.
3. Personnel shall not park so close to the scene as to inhibit fire and rescue tactical response, nor park in a manner as to jeopardize highway safety.
4. Personnel shall exit their vehicle safely, taking extra precaution to not open doors into oncoming traffic, donning any turnout gear out of the travel way, and extinguishing headlights when practical so as not to temporarily blind oncoming traffic and responding personnel.

Apparatus Response to the scene

1. In general, all apparatus responding to an emergency call shall be driven to the standards described in training through Emergency Vehicle Operations Courses (EVOC). Emergency lights and siren shall be employed on all responding apparatus with the following exception(s):
 - a. Non-emergency calls shall cause vehicles to be operated with emergency lights only.
 - b. Overnight calls (10PM to 5AM) shall employ sirens only at intersections. Emergency lights shall be used at all times.
2. Responding LVFD apparatus shall operate no faster than 10-miles hour greater than the posted speed limit. All other state traffic laws shall be followed at all times, including and emphasizing laws pertaining to stopped school buses and seat belt use in trucks so equipped.
3. Responding apparatus shall report via radio to the Hancock County RCC the unit number of the vehicle(s) responding when leaving the station, when they arrive at the scene, and when they clear the scene.
4. Only personnel so authorized to operate LVFD apparatus by the Fire Chief shall operate the vehicles on a response.
5. Upon arrival at the scene, apparatus shall be parked in such a manner as to be visible to oncoming traffic and to keep the scene accessible to other responding apparatus/personnel as designated by the Incident Commander. The driver shall employ the parking brake(s) and wheel chocks when parking the vehicle. Emergency lights shall be kept on during the incident. If required, a safety zone around the apparatus shall be established to protect the apparatus and firefighters from oncoming traffic.
6. During cold weather, pump trucks shall engage pumps and circulate water to discourage freezing.
7. The driver shall designate an operator who shall stay with the truck during the incident if enough personnel are available to do so. In many cases the driver shall be the operator.
8. When returning to the station, emergency lights shall be extinguished.
9. A return to service form shall be prepared by the driver/operator once the vehicle is safely parked in the station. The form shall be turned in to either the assigned truck Lieutenant, or in their absence, the captain or incident commander in charge of trucks. The department shall develop and make available return to service forms.

Ordered this 29th day of March, 2007 by:

/s/

George "Skip" Smith, Fire Chief upon a positive vote by the members of the Lamoine VFD.