

Washington Township Fire Department Standard Operating Procedure

Division 500: Maintenance
Section 501: Vehicles & Fire Apparatus
Subject 501.11: Vehicle & Apparatus Cleaning
Supersedes: Maintenance Bulletin 83-1 (3/1/83)



Approved By:

Date: September 17, 2007 Date Last Reviewed:

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PURPOSE:

To establish a departmental policy for the exterior cleaning of vehicles and apparatus.

RESPONSIBILITY:

All members have the responsibility to maintain vehicles and apparatus in a clean condition. Members will familiarize themselves with the provisions of this policy and practice them.

PROCEDURES:

All members will take the necessary actions and steps to keep exterior surfaces of vehicles and fire apparatus clean, and free of dirt and foreign substances to give vehicles and fire apparatus a clean appearance.

Members will obtain and maintain the supplies and materials required to clean vehicles and fire apparatus exteriors. These supplies and materials may include soap, wax, rags, towels, vehicle brushes, tire brushes, mitts, sponges, chamois, garden hose, nozzle, and bucket.

Before touching the exterior surfaces with a cloth or brush, rinse or otherwise wet the vehicle or apparatus. In certain instances, plain water may be sufficient to clean the surface. However, members are encouraged to use soap and water every time. Mix the proportion of soap and water according to the instructions found on the soap container label. Wet rinse the surfaces before the application of the soap/water mixture. Thoroughly rinse the mixture off before drying.

Only use towels, mitts or vehicle brushes to clean exterior vehicle or fire apparatus surfaces. If the cleaning articles have been used for other work, or if they can damage painted surfaces because they are soiled or deteriorated, do not use them to clean the exterior surfaces of vehicles or apparatus.

When drying cleaned surfaces, only use the furnished rags, towels or chamois. Only use chamois on painted, chrome or polished stainless steel surfaces. Do not use chamois on tread plate or walking surfaces. Use cloth or paper towels to dry glass and window surfaces.

Only use other cleaning agents such as bug and tar remover for their intended purpose. Use extreme care and caution when cleaning emblems, tapes and decorative pin striping.

<p>Do not use “outside” or non-furnished agents unless previously approved.</p>
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