

SOUTH PORTLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES

SOG #:	6.537	Effective Date:	7/21/2005
Title:	Engine Company Rope Policy	# of pages:	2
Category:	Special Operations	Classification:	Red

1. **PURPOSE:** The policy for the care – use – and inspection of Class 1 Rescue Rope on fulltime engine companies of the South Portland Fire Department shall be as so described in the policy. Items/issues not specifically described here in shall conform to the department’s standard operating guidelines on rope.

2. **PROCEDURES:**

Type and Amount Carried

- Rope Rescue Kit – (red storage bad-all items to be kept together in)
 - 150 feet of class 1 rescue rope
 - One body harness
 - One figure eight descender
 - One anchor strap
 - Two carabiners
- Utility Rope – (green storage bag)
 - 50 feet of class 4 utility rope

Inspection

- The rope rescue kit shall be opened and its contents shall be checked for inventory, serviceability and damage on a monthly basis. It shall be the station captain’s responsibility to insure these inspections are completed.

Storage

- All items assigned to the rope rescue kit shall be stored together within the red storage bag. It shall be the station captain’s responsibility to insure that the kit is stored in a proper location on the engine, so that it is protected from the elements of weather.

Use

- The Class 1 rescue rope kit shall only be utilized for actual rescue operations. Utility rope shall be utilized for other engine company operations.
- Once the kit is placed in use, it shall immediately be placed out of service and until such time as the proper inspections and/or corrections have been performed on all items.
- In the event that a kit (s) are utilized and placed out of service, they will be replaced with a replacement rope rescue kit from Western Ave.

General Response Guidelines

- The rescue rope kit on an engine company must be viewed and looked upon as only a first aid device to get a rescue started and/or a firefighter to the aid of a victim until additional help arrives. In light of these facts, the follow response policy shall be the standard guideline for any operation involving rope rescue.
- Whenever the situation determines that a firefighter must don a body harness, the Officer in Charge shall immediately notify dispatch of the situation and request the assistance of Squad
- If dispatch receives such notification without an actual request, said assignment of Squad 4 shall become an automatic response.
- All officers shall remain mindful of their responsibility and importance of providing adequate back up personnel and equipment, when being faced with and/or commencing with any rope rescue situation.

3. REFERENCES:

- None

By Order Of:

Kevin W Guimond

Kevin W. Guimond
Fire Chief