



Michael Davis, Trustee  
Albert Duebber, Trustee  
Jerome Luebbbers, Trustee

Kenneth Ryan, Fiscal Officer

William J. Zoz, Fire Chief

## ***Delhi Township Fire Department Training & Education Division***

### **Department Training Synopsis, 2009**

**Lt. Scott Vinel, Training Officer**

The Delhi Township Training Division is dedicated to providing the most recent information available to our firefighters there is so they can provide the best service to our community. The training program is designed so that all of our personnel get the training that is required to keep their individual skills up to the highest level to protect and care for the citizens of Delhi Township. In this document you will find an overview of what our training program consists of.

#### **Training Committee**

The Training Division Committee examines the training needs for our department. The committee members develop the outlines and presentations for the trainings. The committee will put out these trainings to our Company Officer's (CO), which are all trained to be a minimum of an Assistant Fire Instructor. The CO will then present the trainings to the members of their crew. The trainings are both given as a single or multiple company drill, depending on the training.

The Training Division Committee consists of one Training Officer (committee chair person) and three Unit Day Training Coordinators. The committee is overseen by the Assistant Fire Chief of Operations. The Operations Chief is also the person who approves all training requests and oversees the training budget. The committee meets

quarterly to evaluate the needs of our personnel and plan the next quarter of trainings. The Training Officer will schedule and coordinate any outreach classes that is brought in from an outside agency, along with coordinating any training with mutual aid departments. This person also maintains all the training records. The Unit Day Training Coordinators are all Company Officers and will coordinate the trainings on their respective shifts. They take care of the training logistics and enter training records for their shift.

The quarterly committee meetings give the committee members the opportunity to discuss and brainstorm what needs to be covered for the next quarter, and the objectives are set. Each one of the committee members will take one of the topics in a given month. Each of the committee members will create the outline and presentation to be distributed to the companies.

### **Facilities, Aids, and Use**

Delhi Township Fire Department has access to several facilities for fire training. The facilities include Fire Headquarters, Diamond Oaks Vocational School, Scarlet Oaks Vocational School, Colerain Township Fire Training Center, Cincinnati State and Community College, and Cincinnati Fire Division's Training Center. All of these training sites can be used for either live fire or simulated smoke training. Several of these facilities are multi-story structures and can be used for ladder and high-rise evolutions. Delhi's Fire Headquarters has the built-in capacity to practice evolutions such as, but not limited to, high and low angle rope rescues, automobile extrications, portable fire extinguishers, portable ground ladders, confined space rescues, hose advancements, SCBA, Rapid Intervention Team skills, search, rescue, salvage and overhaul. Furthermore, there are other areas within our Township which are available for training including schools, the College of Mount Saint Joseph, and several large nursing home facilities just to name a few. The College of Mount Saint Joseph has a tunnel that runs more than a half mile which we have used for confined space training. Biggs, a retail grocer on Delhi Pike, has a large paved lot behind the store that is available for driver training and engine company operations. This area is open and has two hydrants at our disposal for numerous operations including fire apparatus operator training.

The training library which is maintained on premise at the fire headquarters is large and diverse. It includes most IFSTA manuals as well as many programs distributed by the Ohio Fire Academy and the National Fire Academy. There are many programs purchased from private training sources and many that are written and developed from our own personnel that are Ohio Certified Fire Instructors. Many of these are kept electronically on the Townships computer server. The library also includes videos, publications, and PowerPoint presentations. We do have and utilize two overhead projectors, three screens, and one VCR/DVD player at each of the three stations.

These facilities and aids are utilized in many different ways, from single company drills to multi-company drills with surrounding departments. We have drills that are completed in conjunction with Green Township, Miami Township, and Cheviot Fire Departments. These trainings are vital since we rely on these departments for automatic and mutual aid in the event of a structural response. This allows for efficient use of time and also encourages teamwork and networking among personnel.

### **Company Training**

The training program schedule is designed to contact all of our members that serve on our department for our community. The career members work 24 hours on/48 hours off schedule. The part-time staff works either a 12 or 24 hours every sixth day rotation. We designed the training schedule so that all members, no matter which rotation they are on, will get the training each week. The schedule starts on Monday and ends on Saturday. The career staff will get each topic twice per week, however, the second time through they will be given the opportunity to assist in teaching the drill to develop them into future instructors under the guidance of an instructor. We will also change the scenarios to change up the drills also so they're not exactly the same. Additional drills are encouraged when time allows. Fire trainings are based on NFPA 1001 and are conducted from the IFSTA Training Curriculum and the Delhi Township library. All training is customized to coincide with the department's policies and guidelines.

The Training Committee is currently testing a new training schedule format to provide training in areas such as Engine Company Operations, Truck/Ladder Company

Operations, Rescue Operations, and EMS Operations. These four disciplines would be scheduled on a four week rotation.

### **Classes for Officers**

All department officers are encouraged to attend training which is specific to their job requirements. The department has hosted numerous officer classes such as Officer 1, and the Managing Company Tactical Operations Series. The department has sent officers to several classes outside the department to receive training in leadership, supervision, and management. The officer training is sometimes required based on the department's mission and goals.

### **Driver and Operator Training**

Drivers and operators are given the opportunity to practice and refresh their skills during company training. The department frequently completes scenario based training; all facets of an actual emergency can be utilized. Drivers and operators rotate positions on the apparatus giving them the chance to operate the pump while firefighters operate hose lines and other equipment. Driver training is also encouraged with preplanning and fire inspections as crews review long lays and other trouble areas of our district. The training committee is in the process of developing a Fire Apparatus Operator refresher or continuing education programs for all of our drivers and operators to recertify on an annual basis.

### **New Driver and Operator Training**

Personnel that are hired onto the department are required to complete an eight hour classroom and practical driver training program. This includes four hours of interactive classroom time, and four hours of operating an ambulance through an obstacle course. Prior to being cleared to drive the ambulance on emergency details, each recruit must log four hours of drive time, two during the daytime, and two during the night-time.

Members are then permitted to attend the department's Fire Apparatus Operator Program. This course includes 36 hours of training time dedicated to actually operating a fire pump. Nearly 20 hours are in the classroom learning the mechanics of the pump and

hydraulics associated with water movement. The remainder of the time is spent operating the pumps with “hands-on” evolutions and scenarios supervised by an experienced instructor. They are then required to obtain a minimum of four hours of drive time (two day and two night) on each type of pumper, and four hours (two day and two night) on our telesquirt. A written and practical evaluation is performed on each individual’s proficiency in driving and apparatus operation before being cleared on each apparatus. They can then proceed to our Aerial Truck Operator after being cleared as a Fire Apparatus Operator.

The Aerial Truck Operator is a program put together to operate our 105 foot ladder truck and is approximately eight hours. There is a four hour classroom session followed by four hours of practical evolutions to operate the ladder and pump. The ATO candidates must obtain 4 hours (two day and two night). A written and practical evaluation is performed on each individual’s proficiency in driving and apparatus operation before being cleared on this apparatus as well.

### **Recruit Training**

Recruit training is a vital part of bringing new personnel into our department. A new firefighter that is hired by our department is required to be a minimum of Firefighter 1 as defined by the Ohio statute. This involves a minimum of 110 hours of basic firefighter training and sitting for exams conducted by the State of Ohio. They are also required to obtain a certification to be Hazardous Materials Operations Level as defined by OSHA 29CFR1910.120 and EPA 40CFR311 which is a minimum of 24 hours of training. They must all have NIMS 100, 200, 700, and 800 at a minimum. They must attend the eight hours of the driver training program. And each recruit will then be assigned to a Lieutenant on a shift and complete an orientation packet that takes approximately 36 hours. This allows them to learn the operation and be evaluated before testing out of the orientation program. In addition to this, all members are required to be certified as a minimum of an EMT-Basic, which is a 120 hour program. Therefore, all recruits must obtain a minimum of approximately 300 hours of initial training to be a member of our department.

### **Continuing Education**

All of our members are required by the State of Ohio to recertify their EMS and FIRE certifications. Paramedics need 92 hours and firefighters need 54 hours of continuing education every three years to recertify.

### **Pre-Fire Planning**

Pre-Fire Planning inspections are a routine part of the training program. This training, such as classes on sprinklers, is given to new recruits through their basic fire training and continues throughout their careers. It is utilized in driver/operator training as they are required to know where long hose lays and hidden drives are located as well as the location of fire department connections on sprinkler-equipped buildings. Companies also routinely tour buildings to familiarize themselves with floor plans and stay abreast of any changes. This is usually done in conjunction with trainings on automatic sprinklers or fire alarm systems.