

<b>RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY FIRE and RESCUE ASSOCIATION</b>	<b>NUMBER: 603</b>
<b>STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE</b>	<b>PAGE 1 of 2</b>
<b>SUBJECT: Water Supply Officer</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:02/20/09</b>
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**PURPOSE:** To define the responsibilities of the Water Supply Officer while on incidents.

**BACKGROUND:** This guideline is written to reduce confusion assist the incident commander at incidents requiring a constant water supply.

**DEFINITIONS:**

1. **Dump Site** The location for shuttle apparatus to dump their water. A portable tank set up at the supply pumper.
2. **Fill Site** The location where shuttle apparatus fill for transport to the incident location. A pumper at draft or a pumper at a fire hydrant.
3. **Relay Evolutions** Process utilizing two or more pumpers to supply the attack pumper directly from the water source with hose lines.
4. **Shuttle Operations** A process utilizing tankers to move water from a specified source to the incident grounds.
5. **Shuttle Route** The most efficient route possible for shuttle apparatus to utilize in transporting water.
6. **Water Supply Group** A group that is established by the Incident Commander. This sector shall be responsible for supplying available water supplies to the incident grounds in the most safe and productive manner possible.
7. **Water Supply Officer (WSO)** The individual responsible for the development of adequate water supplies required to implement the tactics outlined by the Incident Commander. The WSO shall be in charge of the Water Supply Group. This position will be the responsibility of the first arriving tanker officer unless the Incident Commander has already assigned this position.

**POLICY:** The Incident Commander shall assess the water supply needs. When requirements exceed the amount available from nearby hydrants or exceed the amount of water carried by the first alarm apparatus, a Water Supply Group and Water Supply Officer (WSO) shall be designated as soon as practical. In non-hydrant areas, the First-arriving tanker officer shall be utilized for this position or upon the arrival shall assume command of this section. All units in the Water Supply Group will be under the command of the WSO.

### **Duties/Responsibilities of the Water Supply Officer (WSO)**

1. Provide adequate water to the incident location.
2. Establish and coordinate the fill site, dump site, shuttle route and/or relay operations in either hydrant or non-hydrant areas.
3. Coordinate mutual-aid apparatus and equipment assigned to the group.
4. Obtain a separate radio channel for the sector through Command. **(14George)**
5. The WSO may establish Fill site and Dump site sub-groups.
6. Keep a written record of assignments for tactical units assigned to the sector using the incident command board.
7. All WSO communications with the IC will be on the command channel.
8. Keep Command apprised of the amount of water available upon request.
9. Notify Command when the amount of water is inadequate for completion of tactical objectives and recommend the need for additional apparatus or specialized equipment (i.e. Large diameter hose, portable pumps, portable tanks, high G.P.M. pumpers, etc.) to attain the water required.
10. Upon request provide an estimated time to set-up pump relay or water shuttle evolution.
11. Coordinate traffic control with law enforcement as required for shuttle or relay evolutions.
12. Maintain responsibility of Water Supply Group until relieved by Command.
13. All requests for additional resources shall be initiated through Command.
14. The WSO shall be located at the dump site or next to the Command Post for hydrant operation.

### **Responsibilities:**

**Incident Commander** -Appoint a Water Supply Officer where water supply needs may exceed the amount of readily available. Estimate the amount of fire flow and the duration needed for successful mitigation of the incident.

**Water Supply Officer (WSO)**-Command and control all units assigned to this group. Develop a water supply system that can provide the minimum amount of water needed for effective fire flow.