

BURLINGTON TWP. FIRE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE #21

SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS

Purpose: To ensure all Burlington Twp. Fire Department members properly utilize self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).

Scope: To provide guidelines for the proper use of self-contained breathing apparatus.

1. SCBA's will be worn whenever within a hazardous area, such as, a smoke-filled structure, smoky areas around structures, at vehicle fires, at Hazardous Material incidents, at carbon monoxide detector investigations, or whenever the officer in charge (I.C.) deems it necessary and/or until the I.C. no longer deems it necessary.
2. Firefighters shall be completely free of facial hair on the area of the face that contacts the sealing surface of the face piece of the SCBA (MIOSHA Rule 3502,5e, g.).
3. When SCBA is being used at a structure fire, the buddy system will be used, and no one will enter or leave a structure alone.
4. SCBA shall be worn in overhaul operations unless the I.C. deems it unnecessary.
5. The user of the SCBA and his/her partner shall leave the structure or hazardous area as soon as the low air alarm on either SCBA sounds.
6. After a Firefighter has used two tanks of air, he/she will report to rehab unless otherwise requested by an officer to use a third tank. This will only be done after the Safety Officer and/or medical team have been consulted.
7. When a Firefighter removes his/her SCBA the SCBA shall be turned off with the LDV stowed in the holder. The SCBA shall be placed on a tarp or other location that has been designated for that purpose.
8. A Firefighter must be qualified/certified in the use of SCBA prior to use. To be qualified/certified, a person must have taken F.F. I&II, or equivalent, or have been properly instructed at a department training session.
9. I.C. will ensure all SCBA are clean, inspected, re-filled with a full tank, and put the unit back into service. If an SCBA cannot be put back into service due to cleaning, it shall be replaced with a spare. The user will also notify an officer of any problem found with the unit, and if necessary, assure that the unit is properly placed out of service.

Enacted: 04/25/14

Revision: 02/06/24

10. SCBA cleaned IAW Attachment 1

11. SCBA store IAW Attachment 2