



# Fire Suppression Training

## Environmental Protection Guidance

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality • Environmental Science and Services Division • (800) 662-9278

All fire suppression training should conform to the guidelines established by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions (NFPA 1403). NFPA 1403 provides guidelines for preparing a structure for a live fire training, choosing the proper fuel materials, and instructor qualifications. You can access this standard and the NFPA home page at [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org). For questions about compliance with NFPA 1403, contact the Office of the State Fire Marshal at (517) 241-8847 or [www.michigan.gov/dleg](http://www.michigan.gov/dleg) (select "Agencies and Commissions," "Bureau of Fire Services," then "Fire Marshal").

In addition to conforming to the requirements of NFPA 1403, fire suppression personnel must comply with applicable environmental regulations and minimize the affect that fire suppression training has on the environment. This guidance document outlines ten measures that should always be considered prior to conducting fire suppression training.

- Choose an acceptable location. Training should not be conducted within two miles of a school, nursing home, hospital, or other public facility.
- Contact residents that may be affected by smoke or odor. The Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) Air Quality Division (AQD) may require that the training be suspended immediately if complaints are received by the district office about this training exercise.
- Choose an acceptable accelerant. Straw, clean wood, or other non-hazardous materials are acceptable. **Do not** use tires, gasoline, garbage, furniture, or other hazardous materials (acceptable fuels are listed in NFPA 1403).
- Contact the DEQ's Asbestos Coordinator. Federal law requires that the DEQ's Asbestos Coordinator be contacted 10 working days prior to fire suppression training conducted on **any** structure. Complete the "Notice of Intent to Renovate/Demolish (EQP 5661)" form which is available on the Internet at [www.michigan.gov/deqair](http://www.michigan.gov/deqair) (select "Open Burning Information").
- Remove all asbestos. If a structure contains asbestos it **must be removed by a licensed contractor** prior to the training. To find a licensed contractor go to [www.michigan.gov/asbestos](http://www.michigan.gov/asbestos).
- Remove all solid waste from the premises. Waste material (e.g., scrap tires, garbage) cannot be burned as part of a training exercise.
- Remove furniture, appliances, and any other hazardous materials (e.g. barrels of oil, paint cans, gasoline, thermostats that contain mercury) from structure used in training. The contaminants emitted from the burning of these materials are extremely toxic and pose a health and safety risk to firefighters participating in the exercise and residents living near by (NFPA Standard 1403 provides detailed guidance on preparing a structure for a training exercise).
- Be sure that all wells located on the training site are capped. Residue from the burning of hazardous materials can seep into wells and contaminate drinking water.

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- Contact the appropriate DEQ, AQD district office. Select a contact person and give the person's name and phone number to the DEQ, AQD district office. Make sure the phone number tells where the contact person can be reached **during** the training. The district office should be made aware of the training exercise because they respond to air quality complaints and will need to know about activities in the area that may be generating air pollution. They can also answer questions about what can and cannot be included in a fire suppression training. A listing of DEQ district offices and contact information is provided below.
- Dispose of remnants properly. The waste material should be hauled to an appropriate disposal facility. Do not bury the waste on-site unless authorized by the DEQ to do so.

For questions about environmental issues contact the appropriate DEQ district office or the Environmental Assistance Center at (800) 662-9278. A list of DEQ district offices is provided below.

### DEQ DISTRICT OFFICES

<p><b>Upper Peninsula (Entire Upper Peninsula)</b> 420 Fifth Street Gwinn, MI 49841 Phone: 906-346-8300 Fax: 906-346-4480 <i>Counties: All counties in the upper peninsula</i></p>	<p><b>Cadillac District (Northwest Lower Peninsula)</b> 120 W Chapin Street Cadillac, MI 49601-2158 Phone: 231-775-3960 Fax: 231-775-4050 <i>Counties: Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Missaukee, Osceola, and Wexford</i></p>
<p><b>Gaylord District (Northeast Lower Peninsula)</b> 2100 West M-32 Gaylord, MI 49735 Phone: 989-731-4920 Fax: 989-731-6181 <i>Counties: Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Crawford, Emmet, Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, and Roscommon</i></p>	<p><b>Grand Rapids District (Central West Michigan)</b> 4460 44<sup>th</sup> Street SE, Suite E Kentwood, MI 49512 Phone: 616-356-0500 Fax: 616-356-0201 <i>Counties: Barry, Ionia, Kent, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, and Ottawa</i></p>
<p><b>Lansing District (Central Michigan)</b> Constitution Hall, 525 W. Allegan St. Lansing, MI 48909 Phone: 517-335-6010 Fax: 517-241-3571 <i>Counties: Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Gratiot, Ingham, Lapeer, Livingston, and Shiawassee</i></p>	<p><b>Saginaw Bay District (Central East Michigan)</b> Saginaw Bay District Headquarters 503 N Euclid Avenue Bay City, MI 48706 Phone: 989-686-8025 Fax: 989-684-9799 <i>Counties: Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Huron, Iosco, Isabella, Midland, Ogemaw, Saginaw, Sanilac, and Tuscola</i></p>
<p><b>Kalamazoo District (Southwest Michigan)</b> 7953 Adobe Road Kalamazoo, MI 49009 Phone: 269-567-3500 Fax: 269-567-3555 <i>Counties: Allegan, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, and Van Buren</i></p>	<p><b>Jackson District (South Central Michigan)</b> State Office Building, 4th Floor 301 E Louis B Glick Highway Jackson, MI 49201 Phone: 517-780-7690 Fax: 517-780-7855 <i>Counties: Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, Monroe, and Washtenaw</i></p>
<p><b>Southeast Michigan District (Southeast Michigan)</b> Southeast Michigan District Headquarters 27700 Donald Court. Warren, MI 48092-2793 Phone: 586-753-3700 Fax: 586-753-3731 <i>Counties: Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair, and Wayne</i></p>	<p><b>Detroit Office (East Michigan)</b> Cadillac Place, Suite 2-300 3058 West Grand Blvd. Detroit, MI 48202-6058 Phone: 313-456-4700 Fax: 313-456-4662 <i>Counties: Wayne (City of Detroit)</i></p>

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Michigan Department of Environmental Quality



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