Blue Ridge Fire District

Policy Manual

Hazard Communication Program Training

604.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the required training regarding the district's hazard communication program. This policy identifies who must receive training, training content requirements, when additional or supplemental training is required and what record keeping is necessary to comply with state law (29 CFR 1910.1200; AAC § R20-5-602).

604.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include (29 CFR 1910.1200; AAC § R20-5-602):

Hazardous chemical - Any chemical that is classified as a physical hazard, health hazard, simple asphyxiant, combustible dust, pyrophoric gas or hazard not otherwise classified.

Health hazard - A chemical that is classified as posing one of the following hazardous effects: acute toxicity (any route of exposure), skin corrosion or irritation, serious eye damage or eye irritation, respiratory or skin sensitization, germ cell mutagenicity, carcinogenicity, reproductive toxicity, specific target organ toxicity (single or repeated exposure), or aspiration hazard.

604.2 POLICY

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It is the policy of the Blue Ridge Fire District, in accordance with the Hazard Communication Policy, to provide members with effective information and training on hazardous chemicals in their work area at the time of their initial assignment and whenever a new hazard is introduced.

604.3 TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

The initial hazard communication program training shall include, but is not limited to, the following topics (29 CFR 1910.1200; AAC § R20-5-602):

- (a) Members shall be informed of any operations in their work area where hazardous chemicals are present.
- (b) Members shall be informed of the location and availability of information regarding any hazardous chemicals and Safety Data Sheets (SDS), as required by the state.
- (c) Members shall be trained in the methods and observations that may be used to detect the presence or release of a hazardous chemical in the work area.
- (d) Members shall be trained in the physical and health hazards of the chemicals in the work area and the measures they can take to protect themselves, including specific procedures the district has implemented to protect them from exposure to hazardous chemicals. These include appropriate work practices, emergency procedures and personal protective equipment (PPE).
- (e) Members shall be provided with an explanation of the labeling system and the SDS, and how they can obtain and use the appropriate hazard information.

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604.4 TRAINING RECORDS

The Training Coordinator shall be responsible for maintaining records of all hazard communications program training provided to members. Records should include, but are not limited to:

- (a) The dates of the training sessions.
- (b) A list of the topics or a summary of the content of the training sessions.
- (c) The names or other identifiers and job titles of the members who received the training.
- (d) The names, certificate numbers and qualifications of persons conducting the training.

The Training Coordinator should maintain the training records in accordance with established records retention schedules.

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