



---

## APPARATUS CLEANING

### SCOPE

This guideline shall apply to all members of the Stoney Point Fire Department and shall be adhered to by all members.

### PURPOSE

To establish the procedures for proper cleaning of Stoney Point Fire Department vehicles and apparatus.

### DEFINITIONS

**Clean** - make free of dirt, marks, or mess, especially by washing, wiping, or brushing

**Guideline** - a general rule, principle, outline of a policy

**Member** – any career, volunteer, staff, and auxiliary personnel affiliated with the department

**Shall** - indicates a mandatory requirement

Policy Number

**51.005**

Page 1 of 3

### GUIDELINES

Stoney Point Fire Department operates many vehicles and apparatus to serve the emergency response functions of the Stoney Point Fire District.

Proper cleaning and care for these vehicles and apparatus is essential for prolonging the service life of these vehicles and demonstrating pride in the department and good stewardship of the taxpayer's funds. Every member has the responsibility to maintain the department's apparatus in a presentable state through cleaning and caring for the vehicles. Career staff, Company Officers and Chief Officers shall ensure that the apparatus are properly maintained.

#### **Daily Maintenance**

Each crew shall check each apparatus and vehicle at the beginning of their shift to ensure that they are clean and serviceable. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Apparatus with water tanks are full
- All vehicles are at least at  $\frac{3}{4}$  tank for fuel (including generators and pumps)
- All assigned gear is present and serviceable (Driver/Operator checklist)
- Expendable supplies have been replenished



### **Exterior Cleaning Procedures**

All apparatus and vehicles operated by Stoney Point Fire Department shall be cleaned as a routine matter, at least weekly, following training or operations, or as needed to present a professional and clean appearance. The following steps shall be completed to ensure proper cleaning:

- Place apparatus or vehicle on the apron with windows up and chock blocks down
- Secure all cleaning materials (buckets, sponges, brushes, chamois cloths, etc.)
- Fill buckets with Truck Wash from the dispenser
- Rinse vehicle from top to bottom to remove gross dirt and grime with garden hose
- Spray tire cleaner on tires and wheels, scrub with brush to clean
- Use sponges and Truck Wash to wash the painted surfaces of all apparatus
  - start at the roof and remove all dirt
  - scrub front, sides and rear of apparatus or vehicle
  - use brushes to scrub diamond plate
  - rinse areas to prevent soap drying during hot weather
- Rinse the entire apparatus to remove soap and dirt
- Use a chamois cloth to dry painted and chrome surfaces

Use caution when washing decals, stickers, or striping. Specialized cleaners, such as bug and tar remover shall be used with caution and only for their intended purposes.

### **Night washing of Fire Apparatus**

Cleaning of apparatus after 2300 hours shall be limited to rinsing from the “white line” down, to include wheels and wheel wells, and drying with a chamois. The apparatus shall be made ready for calls in all other respects.

### **Inclement Weather vehicle washing**

During cold weather periods, vehicles shall be washed near the storage shed at Station 13 and the maintenance building at Station 19 to limit ice build up in pedestrian traffic areas. During periods of heavy or prolonged rain, vehicles shall be rinsed off and backed into the Station without washing or drying. The apparatus shall be washed and dried at the earliest opportunity following the cessation of rainy weather. Supervisors are responsible for informing incoming shifts whenever a washing of a vehicle was not completed to ensure that it gets accomplished.

**Policy Number**

**51.005**

**Page 2 of 3**



### **Interior Cleaning Procedures**

It is important to maintain a clean and disinfected vehicle interior to promote the occupational health and safety of Stoney Point Fire Department members. Therefore the following procedures shall be completed daily, following a call or training, or whenever necessary:

- Remove all trash, soiled items, etc.
- Sweep out the passenger compartment with a hand broom or brush
- Wipe down interior surfaces with cleaning product and a rag or paper towel
- Clean inside and outside of windows with glass cleaner and paper towels
- Apply Rain X to exterior of windshield monthly as scheduled
- Disinfect cab interior with Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner, or Atomizer with disinfectant

### **Waxing the Apparatus**

All apparatus and vehicles shall be waxed periodically. The schedule for waxing the apparatus is maintained by the Operations Chief. However, special events, public relations events, etc. may involve more frequent waxing. Waxing the apparatus protects the painted surfaces from oxidation, fading, and corrosion. The following procedures shall be adhered to when members are detailed to wax an apparatus or vehicle:

- Wash and dry the vehicle as previously detailed
- Move apparatus or vehicle to an indoor location
- Apply an approved wax with a wax applicator, starting at the roof of the apparatus
  - make small circles with the applicators
  - do not apply wax to rubber molding, plastic, or decals
- Remove wax after it hazes over with a microfiber towel

**Policy Number**

**51.005**

**Page 3 of 3**

### **References**

NFPA 1581