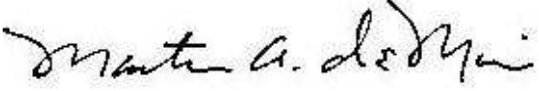


Payson Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures

Section: General Subject: Inclement Weather Response Plan	SOP # 12.5.16 Date Adopted: 12/11 Revision Hx: 9/12 
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PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for the preparation and management of incident response during winter weather conditions.

POLICY

In order to serve our citizens and protect our members during winter weather conditions, the Payson Fire Department adapts its response methodology to changing weather conditions. This adapted response shall be accomplished by following the listed procedures in this document.

PROCEDURES FOR SNOW/ICE CONDITIONS

For solid ice, and/or snow accumulations of 12" or greater, the following actions are required:

1. Snow Chains

- A. Snow chains shall be applied by the on-duty crews to all front-line fire apparatus. Additionally, chains shall be applied to BAT1, C111, C112, E112, E116, and E126. The application of snow chains is limited to just the rear outside dual tires (or just rear tires if so equipped) of the vehicle. In conjunction, bungee cords or commercially made chain tensioners shall be attached to the chains on the exterior of the wheel to keep the chains properly tensioned.
- B. Any fire department vehicle that has a Telma or Jacobs brake shall have that function turned off for safety while driving in winter weather conditions if it is possible to do so. When operating a vehicle equipped with snow chains, the maximum speed of travel is no more than 30 M.P.H.

For snow accumulation of 6-12" of snow, the following actions are required:

2. Snow Chains

- A. All front-line apparatus, BAT1, C111, and C112 shall be kept in a ready state to facilitate rapid response with snow chains loaded on the apparatus but not necessarily applied unless needed for a particular response. As BAT1, C111, and C112 are 4-wheel drive, no other preparations are required unless the driver/operator determines chains are warranted based on driving conditions. E112, E116, and E126 shall have snow chains applied to make the apparatus available for immediate response in winter weather conditions. Depending on the incident location, the on-duty crew may elect to take these apparatus when responding for the 4-wheel drive and snow chain capability.

For snow accumulation of up to 6" of snow, the following actions are required:

3. Snow Chains

- A. All front-line apparatus including Type 1 engines, BAT1, C111, C112, E112, E116, and E126 shall be kept in a ready state to ensure a rapid response with snow chains loaded on the apparatus but not necessarily applied unless determined necessary for a particular response by the company officer.
- B. If so equipped, apparatus shall use the On-Spots when indicated. Indications for use of On-Spots include ice, packed snow, and up to 6" of snow on the ground. On-Spots should be engaged and disengaged while the vehicle is moving less than 25 M.P.H. Maximum speed with On-Spots engaged is 35 M.P.H. If On-Spots prove to be Ineffective in certain conditions on any of the front line apparatus at any time, the on-duty battalion chief may then require all front line apparatus to apply snow chains.
- C. If snowfall accumulations are less than 6", and a driver/operator feels that chains are warranted, that operator shall communicate their concerns to the engine officer to make the appropriate decision and or response. PFD members shall always operate with safety as the number-1 priority.
- D. A clear and safe means of egress from each station shall be maintained at all times by the crew at each station.
- E. If an incident location is known to have or is suspected of having narrow roads or steep inclines or declines for driveway access, the engine officer may elect to have a chained brush unit respond on the same incident. Once the engine arrives at the questionable area, all necessary equipment can be transferred from the engine to the brush unit, and response can then continue to the incident.

PROCEDURES FOR HEAVY RAIN CONDITIONS

4. Swift water response equipment:

- A. When heavy rains are forecasted the on-duty crews shall ensure that adequate swiftwater PPE is in a ready state and properly stored on the apparatus for quick deployment.

5. Response:

- A. PFD personnel shall not drive apparatus across flooded washes or crossings until the crossing has been determined to be safe by the company officer.

6. Sandbags:

- A. PFD personnel may be requested to fill sandbags prior or during a heavy rain event. Sandbags should be kept on hand at all times.

STAFFING AND RESOURCES

7. Staffing:

- A. The fire chief or on-duty battalion chief may authorize supplemental or additional staffing to prepare for or mitigate responses to incidents during and after inclement weather.

8. Additional Resources

- A. The Town of Payson snow removal plan is displayed on the wall on the first floor hallway at PFD Station 11. This plan identifies streets and routes that are prioritized by Public Works by order of plowing. Public Works can also be requested through Alarm for snow removal to aid first responders accessing a difficult incident location.

- B. The CERT team can be contacted to assist with loading, filling, and distributing sandbags. Public works or a local materials supply company can be contacted to deliver sand as needed.