

Augusta County Emergency Services Officers Association

*Augusta County Government Center
P.O. Box 590 – 18 Government Center Lane
Verona, Virginia 24482*



Fire-EMS Standard Operating Guideline

Section:	5 Rescue Operational Information
Title:	Response to Vehicular Accidents
Date:	August 2008

RESPONSE TO VEHICULAR ACCIDENTS

1. Emergency vehicles shall approach the site with extreme caution and observe the area for victims, spectators, other vehicles, debris and fuel spillage. Be on the lookout for directions from a police officer.
2. Position fire apparatus uphill and 75-100 feet away whenever possible, and make every effort to keep traffic lanes open with regards to the safety of emergency personnel. Rescue vehicles to park within a safe area.
3. EMS agencies to conduct patient assessment and provide necessary and proper treatment.
4. Keep the equipment response to a minimum. If additional apparatus responds for manpower and standby, stay back or out of the way whenever possible.
5. Keep private vehicles to a minimum and park them off the roadway to one side so they do not interfere at the site or with flow of traffic.
6. All emergency personnel on the scene shall wear protective clothing when involved with fire suppression or vehicle extrication.
7. Do not remove debris from road or area until the investigating officer has completed the investigation, unless it is creating a hazard. The officer shall be advised of what was removed and the location. If the fire officer determines there is a hazardous condition, advise the investigating officer.
8. It is the responsibility of the State Police to call for wreckers to remove the vehicles. Wrecker operators are responsible for clearing debris from the incident.
9. Return unnecessary personnel and vehicles as soon as possible.

10. EOC will notify State Police immediately after dispatching fire and rescue. EOC will advise Trooper enroute and give ETA when known (please do not call EOC asking if State Police have been notified or ask for an ETA)
11. If the incident is a non-injury accident blocking a roadway, and if the vehicles can be driven, Virginia Law allows the vehicles to be moved to a safe location while waiting for State Police.