



Fire Department Training Exercise Evaluation Guidelines for Structures

1. General

- a. Demolition and open burning permits are required from the Health Department.
- b. Fire Department must follow NFPA 1403, “Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions in Structures.”

2. Structure Requirements

- a. Structures must be at least 100 feet from nearest neighboring home or places of congregation (stores, churches, schools, etc.) (Subject to further review)
- b. All upholstered furniture, clothing, carpeting, mattresses, etc., and refuse must be removed from the structure to a proper disposal site. All debris left after the exercise must also be removed to a proper disposal site.
- c. The structure must have a floor area of at least 300 square feet (excluding porches, decks, etc.) If multi-story, area of all full floors can be combined.
- d. All asbestos siding and other asbestos containing materials, insulation, floor tile, etc. must be removed and disposed of properly. Friable asbestos materials must be removed by a licensed asbestos contractor.
- e. Asphalt and fiber roofing and siding must be removed.
- f. The structure must be standing with an intact roof and capable of supporting fire training activities. (Remove all standing structures; i.e., chimneys, walls, etc. after the exercise. Exercises are for one day only unless building is made safe and secure.)
- g. Multiple structures require a burn plan.
- h. All hazardous materials must be removed and disposed of in a proper manner.
- i. Dug wells must be abandoned and properly sealed. Drilled wells must be protected or abandoned and properly sealed.
- j. Septic systems must be protected or properly abandoned.
- k. All utilities must be disconnected from the building.
- l. Underground storage tanks must be pumped and removed according to MDE guidelines (410-537-3442).
- m. Above-ground storage tanks must be pumped and the tank removed to a proper disposal site.

3. Notification Requirements

- a. A request to conduct a fire-training exercise should be submitted to the Permits and Plan Review Division of the Harford County Health Department in conjunction with the Demolition permit.
- b. The Permits and Plan Review Division will be notified of the actual date of the exercise at least five (5) days prior to the exercise.
- c. Owners and residents of structures within the immediate area of the subject structure will be notified by handbill of the exercise at least ten (10) days prior to the exercise. A copy of the handbill ready for copying will be provided by the Permits and Plan Review Division. A sample handbill is attached.



Harford County Health Department

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Harford County Health Department

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Fire Department Training Exercise

In order to provide a well-trained and experienced fire protection service for the community, the fire department has been issued an Open Burning Permit to perform a training exercise for its members as described below:

Date: _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

Conditions have been placed in the Permit to minimize the smoke generated. However, there is some smoke generated with any fire, and those with respiratory ailments may wish to consider this when scheduling activities.

Anyone having questions about this activity should contact the Harford County Health Department at 410-877-2300.

Signed: _____

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