

Operating Guideline # 501

Apparatus Response

Revised November 1, 2024



**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this Operating Guideline (OG) is to establish guidelines to establish the initial response levels to the various types of emergency incidents responded to by our department.

**GUIDELINE:**

1. Stations, apparatus, and personnel shall be tasked and dispatched in accordance with the Dispatch Matrix listed below.
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> due in assignments shall be in accordance with the below appendix.
3. Incident Commanders are responsible to alter, enhance, or supplement any response level including apparatus based on the best information available to them at the time of the incident response. This includes requesting additional resources such as mutual aid for specialized apparatus (i.e. – tankers, aerial devices, fire boats etc.) when required, and standing down resources that have been dispatched as soon as it is confirmed that they are not required.
4. Incident Commanders should be mindful that apparatus *staffing* is a critical part of incident control and shall consider calling for additional human resources when staffing levels on responding apparatus is insufficient for the emergency.
5. Certain premises within the township require an enhanced level of response from the onset of an incident. These will be identified by Incident Command upon arrival the following will be issued via radio “all stations, all apparatus”, a staging area will need to be established to facilitate all the incoming units. In some cases stations may be required to backfill other stations or remain on standby at their station.  
For example: Auditoriums with large amounts of people, Festivals, Schools, Tourist Boats and Large Occupancies (Hotels).

**RESPONSIBILITY:**

It is the responsibility of all Emergency Operations Division staff to comply with the provisions of this Operating Guideline.

**REFERENCES:**

OFMEM Muskoka Fire District Mutual Aid Plan  
OLD MLFD 2021.1

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<b>Emergency</b>	<b>Dispatch Protocol</b>
<b>Medical</b>	<b>Pumper or Rescue in Station Area</b>
<b>Medical Water Access</b>	<b>Marine 1 &amp; 5 on Lake Joseph &amp; Rosseau Marine 9 &amp; 4 on Lake Muskoka Marine 6 &amp; 3 for any other water body</b>
<b>Fire Water Access Boat Fire</b>	
<b>Vehicle Rescue (Auto Extrication)</b>	<b>Pumper, Tanker, and Rescue in Station Area + Rescue 1 – Hwy 69 &amp; 169 &amp; 400 corridors or + Rescue 6 – Hwy 118 / MR 7 / MR 25 corridor or + Rescue 7 – Hwy 141 / MR 25 / MR 4 corridor + Additional Rescue per Vehicle Involved + Rescue 1 for Commercial or Overturned</b>
<b>Alarm CO / Fire / Smoke</b>	<b>Pumper, Tanker, Rescue Station Area</b>
<b>Fire Vehicle</b>	<b>Pumper, Tanker, Rescue Station Area + 2<sup>nd</sup> Due Response</b>
<b>Fire Electric Vehicle</b>	<b>Pumper, Tanker, Rescue Station Area + 2<sup>nd</sup> Due Response + 3 More Tankers (5 Tankers Total)</b>
<b>Hazardous Materials / Spill Response</b>	<b>Pumper, Tanker, Rescue Station Area + Rescue 6 with Spill Trailer + Marine 1 &amp; 5 on Lake Joseph &amp; Rosseau or Marine 9 &amp; 4 on Lake Muskoka Marine 6 &amp; 3 for any other water body</b>
<b>Rural Search and Rescue</b>	<b>Rescue Station Area + Command 10 for Drones + Wildland Units 9, 5, 7, 4</b>

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<b>Public Hazard (i.e. hydro Burning Complaint outdoor fire)</b>	<b>Pumper, Tanker, Rescue Station Area</b>
<b>Wildland Fire &lt; acre</b>	<b>Tanker, Pumper, Rescue</b>
<b>Wildland Fire &gt; acre</b>	<b>Tanker, Pumper, Rescue + Wildland 9 &amp; 7 &amp; 5 &amp; 4 + 2<sup>nd</sup> Due Tankers only</b>
<b>Fire            Structure / Chimney</b>	<b>Pumper, Tanker, Rescue + 2<sup>nd</sup> Due + Command 10 for Rehab</b>
<b>Rescue        Ice</b>	<b>Pumper, Rescue Station Area + All Rescues for Water Techs + Wildland 5, 9, 7, 4</b>
<b>Rescue        Watercraft</b>	<b>Rescue Station Area + All Rescues for Water Techs Marine 1 &amp; 5 on Lake Joseph &amp; Rosseau Marine 9 &amp; 4 on Lake Muskoka Marine 6 for any other water body</b>
<b>Rescue        Surface / Swift Water</b>	<b>Pumper, Rescue Station Area + Rescue 6 with Marine 6 + Command 10 with Aqua Eye + All Rescues for Water Techs</b>
<b>Rescue        Elevator</b>	<b>Pumper, Tanker, Rescue Station Area + Chief's</b>

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Due Assignments (Pumper, Tanker, Rescue)**

<b>Foot's Bay</b>	Port Carling & Bala (Torrance standby)
<b>Bala</b>	Foot's Bay & Torrance/Walkers Point (Port Carling Standby)
<b>Torrance &amp; Walkers Point</b>	Bala & Foot's Bay (Port Carling Standby)
<b>Minnett</b>	Port Carling & Foot's Bay (Milford Bay Standby)
<b>Port Carling</b>	Foot's Bay & Minnet (N. of bridge) (Bala standby) Milford Bay & Raymond/Windermere (S. bridge) (Minnett standby)
<b>Windermere</b>	Port Carling & Milford Bay (Minnett to standby)
<b>Milford Bay</b>	Port Carling & Windermere (Minnett to standby)