

Kent Fire Department Policy & Guidelines

PERSONNEL # 213	<i>Effective Date:</i> 09/20/07	<i>Last Revision:</i>	CFAI Ref:
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Approval: _____, Fire Chief

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

- Policy References:**
- 1) WAC 296-305-02001 – Personal Protective Equipment and Protective Clothing
 - 2) Forms Manual – Personal Protective Clothing
 - 3) WAC 296-305-07003
 - 4) WAC 296-305-02007
 - 5) WAC 296-305-060
 - 6) KFD Policy # 327

Affected Members: All Uniformed Employees

Policy Statement: It shall be the policy of the Kent Fire Department that each member will be issued personal protective clothing and equipment that is in compliance with applicable standards. Issued protective clothing and equipment shall be used and maintained in accordance with applicable standards.

WAC 305 - Fire fighters shall be trained in the function, donning and doffing, care, use, inspection, maintenance and limitations of the protective equipment assigned to them or available for their use.

Protective clothing and protective equipment shall be used and maintained in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. A written maintenance, repair, retirement, servicing, and inspection program shall be established for protective clothing and equipment. Specific responsibilities shall be assigned for inspection and maintenance. This requirement applies to fire fighter's personally owned equipment as well as equipment issued by the employer.

All turnout clothing shall be inspected semi-annually by an individual qualified by the employer. Inspection intervals shall not exceed six months.

The Kent Fire Department provides employees with gloves that are in compliance with appropriate NFPA standards and WAC 305 Safety Standards for Firefighters. Appropriate Department issued gloves shall be worn for all emergency operations and emergency response training unless specific approval has been received in advance by the Safety Committee. Alternative gloves may be worn for non-emergency operations such as rolling, loading and hanging hose. Pump operators may wear alternative gloves except when in standby position.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Uniformed personnel shall be issued wildland firefighting protective clothing. The wildland gear is provided only for the purpose of fighting fires which solely involve beauty bark, brush, grass, and wildland fires. Structural firefighting clothing should be worn no longer than one hour at a brush/wildland fire without time for rest/rehab. If structures are involved or there is a high probability that the structure will be involved, structural firefighting clothing shall be worn.

GENERAL: Wildland firefighting gear consists of a light weight coat and pants made of flame resistive material and is used primarily by forest service units and urban fire departments to reduce fatigue due to long term exposure to severe working conditions inherent to brush and grass fires. It is to be worn with zip-up leatherwork boots, helmets and gloves.

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| Logistics Utility Position | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ensures that personal protective clothing submitted for cleaning is cleaned and dried in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations and returned in a timely manner.2. Maintains inventory and records for repair, retirement, servicing and inspection.3. Fills requests for equipment replacement. |
| All Personnel | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Inspects his/her protective clothing at least twice a year utilizing the Personal Protective Clothing Inspection form. May use the annual department wide PPE inspection as one of the two requirements.2. Officers ensure that each member of the crew inspects their personal protective clothing at least twice a year utilizing the Personal Protective Clothing Inspection form.3. Insures that any PPE that is in need of repair or replacement is taken out of service and sent to logistics.4. Tags the damaged items and returns it to the appropriate station for protective clothing or uniforms. The tag shall show the following:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. What the problem isb. Your name5. Ensures they have in their possession, while on duty, protective clothing, i.e. wildland gear, 2nd set of bunker gear. |
| Shift Battalion Chief | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ensures that crew's personal protective clothing is inspected in accordance with Department policy and guidelines.2. Ensures that personal protective clothing is utilized within recognized limitations. |

PROTECTIVE CLOTHING CARE AND MAINTENANCE

1. Helmet – Cleans with soap or mild detergent and warm water, or use

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Action by:

Action:

- rubbing alcohol.
2. Nomex Hood – Machine washes in warm water, tumble dry. Do not use bleach. The hood may be dry cleaned.
 3. Boots – Washes with mild soap and warm water. Stores boots away from electric motors, neon lights and other deteriorating ozone producers.
 4. Gloves – Hand washes with mild soap and warm water (not hot). Do not use bleach. Tumbles dry in medium cool dryer or air dry flat.
 5. Wildland clothing—Machine wash in warm water with soap or detergent. Stains may be sprayed with “Spray and Wash” or similar agent. Tumble dry on cold or warm cycles as to not shrink or deteriorate the fire resistant material.
 6. Protective Turnout Clothing
 - A. Contamination Types
 1. Chemical/Hazardous Material

Cleaning Method: Utilizes the HazMat Decontamination Procedure as described in the Kent Fire & Life Safety Hazardous Materials Operations Guide.
 2. Suppression/Products of Combustion

Cleaning Method: Commercial front loading machine (currently located at Station 77).
 - A. Follows machine manufacturer’s washing instructions.
 - B. Washes protective clothing separately from other garments to eliminate the possibility of flammable lint in the protective clothing.
 - C. Washes shells separately from liners.
 - D. Blows dry on commercial dryer. Drying temperature must not exceed 70 degrees C (160 degrees F).
 - E. May hang dry, as an option, but never in direct sunlight.
 - F. Does not dry clean.
 - G. Does not pressure wash.