

Egg Harbor Fire Department and First Responders Standard Operating Guidelines

SUBJECT: POWER LINE EMERGENCIES

SOG 803

PURPOSE: To have in place a policy for all personnel to follow in working around power line emergencies

SCOPE: This policy shall apply to all members of the Egg Harbor Fire Department.

The following list contains some tips to help deal with electrical emergencies. The list is not totally inclusive but gives some principles which should be considered to maintain a safe working environment for personnel.

1. All wires should be treated as energized and being of high voltage.
2. When downed wires are encountered, a danger zone of one span in either direction should be considered for safety.
3. Firefighters shall not cut any wire but wait and let a trained utility worker do the necessary cutting.
4. Firefighters should proceed carefully in an area where wires are down and heed any tingling sensation felt in the feet.
5. Firefighters must not touch any vehicle or apparatus that is in contact with electrical wires.
6. Care must be exercised in raising and lowering ladders, hose lines, or equipment near overhead lines.