

# Genesee County Association of Fire Chief's Recommended Operating Guideline

## **SUBJECT: HAZMAT Team Activation 03-1**

Effective 09-19-03  
Revised June 2017  
Review August 2019

This policy is intended to give guidelines if the Genesee County Hazardous Material Team (HAZMAT Team) is needed to assist their department. This policy also will explain how the team will be dispatched, operate and respond to a Hazardous Material incident. This policy will also talk about the type of incidents the team will respond to. If at anytime the team responds to a Hazardous Material incident the team will always err on the side of safety to protect the public and the team.

### **ACTIVATION**

The HAZMAT Team will be requested by the incident commander and then dispatched by the Genesee County Communications Center and Fenton City 911.

Genesee County Emergency Management has adopted a cost recovery ordinance for the HAZMAT Team to operate. **There is no cost to any department to call the HAZMAT Team for assistance.**

### **RESPONSE**

HAZMAT Team supervisors, technicians, and apparatus will respond as outlined by their training, HAZMAT Team officer in charge, and the incident that is being handled.

A HAZMAT Team supervisor will contact the incident commander for a size-up via radio or phone.

An additional fire ground talk group may be requested for HAZMAT Team operations.

Both CBRNE and the Haz-Mat truck will respond to all incidents unless notified by the Haz-Mat IC.

All other team members will respond to the scene until advised by HAZMAT Team officer in charge that the incident can be handled with the personnel on the scene.

The team will work under the Incident Command System under the direction of the HAZMAT Team officer in charge. The over-all incident responsibility remains with the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) fire department. Arrival of the HAZMAT Team does not release the (AHJ) from incident control. The team relies on the (AHJ) to assist with information regarding cost recovery.

### **GUIDELINES**

The following are guidelines to assist with determining if the HAZMAT Team should be called for assistance:

1. When you don't have the resources (absorbent, pads or boom) to address a spill.
2. When you don't have the proper PPE or test equipment.
3. When the spill is over 25 gallons and/or has impacted the environment by entering a storm drain, sewer, stream river, pond or lake.
4. A spill from an unknown chemical or substance in a building or motor vehicle.
5. Semi-truck spills.
6. Train Derailments.
7. Clandestine Drug Labs (following the county protocol) for assistance to MSP Emergency Response Team or requested assistance from a fire department.
8. Any unknown chemical container leaking.

**The incident commander can request that a HAZMAT Team supervisor contact them for direction to assist with determining if the full team should be activated.**