



# GLASTONBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES



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SOG NUMBER: FDO-506                      ISSUED DATE: 11-15-11                      EFFECTIVE DATE: 11-15-11  
REVISION #: 1                                  REVISED DATE: 01-11-16                      EFFECTIVE DATE: 01-11-16  
CATEGORY: EMERGENCY OPERATIONS - GENERAL  
SUB-CATEGORY: FIRE GROUND OPERATIONS  
SUBJECT: IDENTIFICATION OF HAZARD ZONES  
RELATED GUIDELINES: HZT-001; HZT-002

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## Section I – Introduction

### A. Objective

To signify the system used for identification of hazardous areas on an emergency scene.

### B. Applicability

In order to protect Firefighter work zones, and hazards to firefighters within work zones, Department personnel will “tape-off” hazardous areas using appropriate plastic tape.

### C. References

Town of Manchester Fire-Rescue-EMS – General Operating Guideline

## Section II – Creating a Work Zone (Yellow Tape)

At emergency incidents it is advantageous to identify “Firefighter Only” work zones. Such work zones are areas where offensive, defensive and support functions are performed. A work zone is a generally hazardous area to non-Firefighting individuals (spectators, media, occupants, owners, etc.). If a work zone is not identified, non-Firefighting persons are free to enter and roam at will.

In order to isolate a “work zone” the Incident Commander should arrange for the area to be identified with *Yellow Plastic Tape* (FIRE LINE – DO NOT CROSS). Yellow plastic tape does not identify a specific hazard; but rather a general hazard to non-Firefighting persons. Firefighters are free to enter areas isolated with yellow tape to perform assigned tasks. Yellow tape is not used to identify a specific hazard within a Firefighter work zone.

## Section III- Creating a Specific Hazard Zone within a Work Zone

At emergency incidents it is essential to identify specific hazard zones within the general work zone. Such hazard zones are areas where a significant hazard to Firefighters exists (downed power line; burning overhead power line; falling debris; open fall hazard; collapse area, etc.).

In order to isolate a "specific" Firefighter hazard zone within the general work zone the Incident Commander should arrange for the area to be identified with *Red Plastic Tape* with the word "DANGER" in black block lettering imprinted on the tape. Firefighters are not permitted to enter areas isolated with red tape marked DANGER.

Once a significant hazard is identified by any member, the information regarding such hazard is to be relayed to the Incident Commander and Safety Officer. Incident Command is responsible to relay such hazard information to all working members. A periodic reminder of the specific hazard is always a good idea.

Red plastic tape is not designed to replace a posted "Safety Person" in the event of an extreme hazard but is an additional safety tool to keep working members as safe as possible.

#### Section IV – Summary

**YELLOW PLASTIC TAPE (FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS)** is used to identify a firefighter work area.

**RED PLASTIC TAPE (DANGER)** is used to identify a specific hazard within a work area where firefighters are not permitted to enter.

#### Section V - Approval

Fire Chief



Date of Approval:

