

2024 FIREFIGHTER SAFETY STAND DOWN



Safety Stand Down Activity Ideas

Fire Training: Back to Basics

Use these activity ideas to get inspiration for how to implement Safety Stand Down in your fire or emergency service department. Find additional resources at www.safetystanddown.org.

Activities Relating to Day 1: Building the Foundation of a Training Program

- Encourage all personnel to take the Safety Stand Down Sweepstakes Quiz to test their knowledge of key concepts relating to this year's theme. Those who take the quiz by June 19 can enter for the chance to win one of 200 limited edition challenge coins. Consider taking a screenshot of the quiz questions to review/discuss as a group after everyone has completed the online quiz.
- If your department does not already have a mentor program, consider establishing one.
- Review the NVFC guide [Training Volunteer Firefighters to Be Combat Ready](#) for guidance on setting up a training program that meets the needs of the community and individual firefighter with safety and relevancy at the forefront.
- Have department leaders take the [Leadership Track](#) and [Planning and Implementing a Training Program course](#) in the NVFC Virtual Classroom.
- Set up a process for documenting all fire department training and providing an evaluation after all trainings for members and instructors to give feedback.

Activities Relating to Day 2: Assessing the Needs of the Community and Department

- Make a plan for conducting a community risk assessment to determine the response needs of your community. Utilize [Vision 20/20's Guide for Conducting a Community Risk Assessment](#) and [NFPA 1300, Standard for Community Risk Assessment and Community Risk Reduction Plan Development](#).
- Review your department's SOPs/SOGs to make sure they are up-to-date and meet the current needs of your department and its members.
- Utilizing your latest community risk assessment, develop an annual or multi-year training plan that meets your department's and community's needs.
- Consider any specialized training that your responders need based on your community's risks and make a plan for providing this training.

Activities Relating to Day 3: Safety During Training

- Have personnel take an online safety-focused training such as those available from the [NVFC](#) and [IAFF](#).
- Review department safety procedures and protocols with members, including how these apply the same when training as when responding.

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- Use reports from [NIOSH's Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program](#) relating to training as the starting point for discussing ways to increase safety and prevent deaths and injuries.
- Review [NFPA 1403, Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions](#) in preparation for conducting any live fire training exercises.
- There are numerous things to consider and address when conducting live fire training in acquired structures. Visit [NFPA 1403](#) Chapter 5 Acquired Structures and Annex B for a checklist of items to address when preparing for this type of training.

Activities Relating to Day 4: Physical and Behavioral/Mental Health Considerations

- Review the [Lavender Ribbon Report](#) and the 11 best practices for reducing firefighter cancer risks. Print out the [11 best practices](#) and hang them in a prominent place in your department to serve as an ongoing reminder. Make sure these practices are incorporated into department SOPs/SOGs.
- Read the [Yellow Ribbon Report](#) to better understand the behavioral health risks and how to proactively address these in your department.
- Hold a department training session to review behavioral health warning signs to watch for and the resources and tools your department has available to help members in need. Utilize resources from sources including the NVFC's [Share the Load program](#) and the IAFF's [Peer Support Training](#).
- Have your members take an online behavioral health focused course, such as those available from the [NVFC](#) and [IAFF](#).
- Make the commitment to become a Psychologically Healthy Fire Department. Learn how [here](#).
- Visit [www.nfpa.org/1550](#) Chapter 14 to see standard language provided for Behavioral Health and Wellness Programs

Activities Relating to Day 5: The 12 Foundations of Fire Department Training

- Share the [12 Foundations of Fire Department Training flyer](#) with all personnel and review it during training. Use each point as a discussion starter on why that point is important and what the department does to support it.
- Print out the [12 Foundations of Fire Department Training poster](#) and hang it in a prominent location at the department as a constant reminder for all personnel.
- [Submit your department's Safety Stand Down Success Story](#) to report how you participated in Safety Stand Down and what your department will do to continue to focus on safety, health, and training so you can inspire and motivate others.