



Burlington Fire Department



136 South Winooski Avenue
Burlington, Vermont 05401-8378

(802) 864-4554 • (802) 658-2700 (TTY)

Business Fax (802) 864-5945 • Central Station Fax (802) 865-5387

Section: 01 - Suppression	
SOG Number: 01.80	Effective Date: Aug. 1, 2017
Subject: Campfires & Beach Fires	
By Order of Fire Chief Steven A. Locke	

I. Purpose:

To provide safe and effective enforcement of **Burlington City Ordinance 13-3(b) - Fires Prohibited.**

II. Scope:

This SOG applies to all Officers and Firefighters of the Burlington Fire Department. Additionally, this SOG is initiated by the Emergency Communications Specialists (ECS) at Burlington Fire Dispatch.

III. Definitions:

Campfire: A small attended outdoor fire, often a focal point for a social gathering.

Beach Fire: A campfire located on a beach.

IV. Guidelines:

- A). Upon receipt of a call reporting a campfire or beach fire the ECS at Burlington Fire Dispatch shall:
1. Confirm that the fire is contained and does not pose a threat to property.
 2. Ascertain whether the fire is attended by persons.
 3. Alert the closest available Engine Company.
 4. Upon the Company Officers request the response of a Police Officer.
- B). **FOR BEACH FIRES ONLY:** In the event that the suppression apparatus in the incidents district is already detailed to beach fires, it is preferred that subsequent beach fires be stacked in a cue.
1. If incidents are being stacked, the ECS shall notify the IC on the apparatus who will be detailed, allowing them to determine if an additional apparatus is needed

or if the information received indicated the fire is contained on the beach and the department is able to keep other apparatus available for emergency responses.

C). This response will be a flow of traffic response.

D). Emergency calls with life safety implications take precedence over Campfire or Beach Fire responses.

E). Actions Upon arrival.

1. Upon the arrival of Fire and Police personnel, both agencies will investigate the incident.
2. If either agencies response will be delayed, Fire Dispatch must inform the first arriving unit.
3. The Fire Officer in charge will ensure that the fire hazard is abated.
4. The Police Officer will work to ensure compliance with the ordinance violation at the level directed by their agency.
5. Nothing in this SOG shall prohibit members from altering their response due to concerns for their safety. i.e.: threat of physical harm

F). Documentation and reporting.

1. The NFIRS Incident Type codes for Campfires and Beach Fires will be code 561 – Unauthorized Burning.
2. The member completing the NFIRS report shall denote:
 - (a) Situation found, to include number of individual fires related to this incident.
 - (b) Name of person/persons involved (responsible party).
 - (c) If a citation was issued by the Police Department.
 - (d) Disposition of fire.

V. Responsibility:

It is the responsibility of all members to read, understand and follow this Standard Operating Guideline.

Revision History			
Revision Date	Section	Summary	Principal Author
None		Trial SOG – Implemented Aug. 1, 2017	DC Collette
April 16, 2021	IV Ad	FD CO to request PD as they have changed their posture and are not being dispatched automatically	DC Libby

April 16, 2021	IV, B,C, F4,F5, G2a	Added language related to stacking calls and altering response plan for safety.	DC Libby
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