

<b>FREWSBURG FIRE DISTRICT</b>  <b>OPERATIONAL POLICY</b>	Section 4	SAFETY AND HEALTH	
	SUBJECT	PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT	
	Policy 4-10	PAGE 1 OF 2	DATE: 01-01-2023

## I. SCOPE

This guideline shall apply to all members of the Frewsburg Fire District and shall be adhered to by all members.

## II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this guideline is to establish guidelines for proper cleaning, inspection, and maintenance of all department personal protective equipment. In accordance with N.F.P.A. 1851 –Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting.

## III. INSPECTION OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

1. The Frewsburg Fire District maintains ownership of all issued gear (PPE) to fire department members.
2. Issued PPE will be determined by the Fire Chief.
  - A. PPE is to include, but it not limited to helmets, coat, pants, boots, hoods, and gloves.
3. All members are responsible for the general maintenance of all issued PPE.
4. After major incidents or training where PPE may have been damaged; the PPE should be cleaned and then inspected by the employee and any damage reported to the Chief.
5. Direction will be given for removal from service, repair, replacements, or further cleaning of the PPE.
6. PPE in need of repair or replacement shall be tagged out of service with ALL information needed on the tag.
  - A. All repair requests must be made with a follow-up email to the Fire Chief.
  - B. Approval must be obtained from the Chief prior to any repairs to damaged PPE, or for alterations or additions to PPE. Some additions may be approved at the employee's expense.
  - C. The Operations Chief will determine if the PPE will be replaced.
7. The inspection will include, looking for rips, or tears, cracks or bubbling of helmets, replacement of reflective striping, torn cuffs, etc.

<b>FREWSBURG FIRE DISTRICT</b>  <b>OPERATIONAL POLICY</b>	Section <b>4</b>	SAFETY AND HEALTH	
	SUBJECT	PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT	
	Policy <b>4-10</b>	PAGE 2 OF 2	DATE: 01-01-2023

8. Inspections, other than daily inspections, shall be documented on the appropriate form. The form must be dated, initialed by the person performing the inspection and appropriate areas checked off indicating the PPE was inspected.
9. Any gear problems shall be reported to the Chief. Any gear that is determined to be unsafe or unserviceable shall be disposed of in accordance with Frewsburg Fire District procedures as soon as the unsafe condition is found.

#### IV. MAINTENANCE OF PPE

1. Turn-out coats, bunkers, gloves, and hoods:
  - a. Wash gear with a mild laundry detergent with no bleach or phosphates
  - b. Gear is to be air dried out of direct sunlight.
2. Helmets and Boots
  - a. Clean with warm soapy water
  - b. DO NOT USE HARSH SCRUBBING AGENTS
  - c. Boots should be waxed at minimum of every 3 months with a silicon-based wax.
  - d. Periodic inspections should be made by the Fire Chief or Assistant Chiefs as needed or minimally on a quarterly basis to ensure cleanliness and safeness of PPE.