

# SALEM FIRE DEPARTMENT STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE

## ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATING GUIDELINE # 2.6.12

### FOAM DISPOSAL AND RUNOFF CONTROL

Effective Date: **November 1, 2025**

FC

DC EMS

Revised Date(s):

**PURPOSE:** To outline how Salem Fire Department collects and disposes of foam when used for training or FAA compliance inspection purposes at Salem Fire Department's Training Facility.

**GUIDELINE:**

- A. Salem Fire Department has completed the switch from Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) to Synthetic Flourine-Free foam (SFFF). This transition was to eliminate the use of PFAS containing AFFF, which is a known carcinogen.
- B. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulates the testing and inspection requirements for foam concentrations and testing requirements. Salem Fire Department is bound to comply with these requirements annually.
- C. Salem Fire Department Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) trucks are equipped with onboard "No Foam" testing systems that do not require the discharge of foam product into the environment for annual testing purposes.
  1. The FAA still may at times require output based foam testing requiring the discharge of foam products into the environment.
- D. Salem Fire Department has installed diverter valves in the drill grounds to direct foam containing runoff into the Sanitary Sewer System rather than the Storm Water System.
  1. There are a total of 5 valves in 3 different locations across the drill grounds.
  2. These valves have a silver ring surrounding that has arrows pointing to "Normal" operation and "Drill" operation.
  3. See attachments for locations and operation instructions.
- E. Process for collection of foam runoff.
  1. Plan ahead with forecasted weather if possible.
    - a. Avoid flowing foam with wind speeds above 10 MPH. This may carry foam outside of the runoff collection area.
    - b. Avoid flowing foam if heavy rains are forecasted within 24 of the conclusion of the drill and valves are returned to normal operation.
    - c. Attempt to schedule a street sweeper and Vac truck to collect as much discharged foam as possible.

2. Before discharging foam solution switch all diverter valves to the “Drill” position so that all runoff is directed to the Sanitary Sewer System.
  - a. At the conclusion ensure that no foam is left on site, including in the catch basins.
    - 1) Rinse the area with low-pressure water to reduce the amount of foam build up while directing into the Sanitary Sewer System catch basins.
    - 2) Excess foam left on the ground must be swept up if possible.
    - 3) Rinse the catch basins with low-pressure water.
    - 4) Excess foam left in the catch basins must be removed with the Vac truck.
3. At the conclusion switch all diverter valves back to the “Normal” position so that all runoff is directed to the Storm Water System.

ATTACHEMENTS:

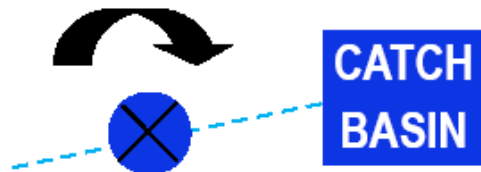
Attachment 1: Drill grounds signs and valve locations

CROSS REFERENCE:

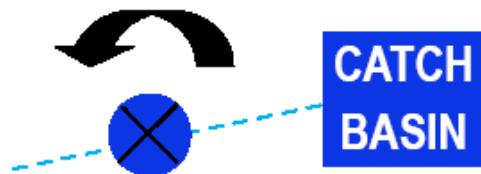
DISTRIBUTION:

**Drill grounds signs showing operation of valves.**

**FOR NORMAL OPERATION, TURN VALVE CLOCKWISE. STORMWATER DRAINS TO TREATMENT SWALE.**



**FOR TRAINING DRILLS OR SPILLS TURN VALVE COUNTER-CLOCKWISE. RUNOFF DRAINS TO SEWER. AFTER TRAINING DRILLS OR SPILLS TURN VALVE BACK TO CLOCKWISE.**



# Drill grounds valve locations.

