FIELD TEAM MEMBER PERFORMANCE
EXPECTATION GUIDELINES

Section I – General

Purpose:
The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources Field Team Member performance expectations are developed:

- To provide user agencies and SAR managers with recommended performance expectations for the member of a SAR team in the field
- To provide an operating guideline for teams that are in line with nationally accepted guidelines for the performance of SAR teams

Section II – Agency Expectations

This section provides user agencies with the capabilities that are expected from the Field Team Member. Agencies are encouraged to identify local SAR Units and develop a working relationship. Individuals not affiliated with a SAR Unit or evaluated as a Field Team Member should be utilized only under the direction of a trained SAR Field team Leader.

Definition: A Field Team Member is an individual member of a SAR team who demonstrates the basic knowledge and performance requirements to participate as a member of a field team during a SAR operation.

Section III – Qualifications

- Must be a minimum of 18 years old
- Must be a member of a recognized organization that provides SAR services

Section IV – Performance Expectations

- Possess a current certification in CPR and Standard First Aid or better
- Possess a FEMA statement/certificate that indicates successful completion of the NIMS IS-00700 and IS-00100
• Must demonstrate sufficient knowledge in the following categories, by successfully completing a written exam (achieving a score of 70% or higher) and a skills evaluation (successfully passing 3 of 4 practical stations)

General Knowledge of:

• Legal & Ethical Aspects of SAR
• Survival & Fitness
• SAR Clothing
• Navigation & Orienteering
• Search Theory & Management
• Basic Search Techniques
• Basic Rescue Techniques and Equipment
• Safety in SAR Environments

Demonstrate the Skills of:

• Plot a course on a map
• Obtain and Face a Simple Compass Bearing
• Identify Clues Appropriate to the Subject
• Measure a Distance by Pacing
• Tie the Following Knots: Half Hitch; Bowline; Figure Eight on a Bight; Double Fisherman’s; Prusik; Water Knot
• Dress Appropriately and Maintain Personal Equipment
• Lay and Pick Up a Flag Line in a Grid Search

Demonstrate Patient Packaging and Litter Lifting

Must Possess Personal Equipment to be used During Field Operations:

• Appropriate Clothing
• Blaze Orange Outer Garment
• Headlamp/Flashlight and Second Source of Light
• Fire Source
• Knife
• Whistle
• Leather Gloves
• Notebook and Pen
• Personal First Aid Kit
• Two Large Trash Bags
• Two Colors of Flagging Tape
• Compass
• Shelter Material
• Appropriate Weather Related/Seasonal Equipment
• Pack for Carrying the Above Equipment