

FIELD TEAM LEADER PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION GUIDELINES

Section I – General

Purpose:

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

- To provide user agencies and SAR managers with recommended performance expectations for the leader of a SAR team in the field on DCNR or State owned land.
- 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 Leader. Agencies are encouraged to identify local SAR Units and develop a working relationship.

Definition: A Field Team Leader is an individual member of a SAR team who demonstrates the knowledge and performance requirements to lead 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 or Emergency Services.

Section IV – Performance Expectations

- Possess a current certification in Adult / Child & Infant CPR and Basic First Aid or an equivalent course that is approved by the Pa. Dept. of Health for Basic First Aid Care Providers.
- Wilderness First Aid Certifications from a Pa. Dept. of Health Approved Course can be substituted for Basic First Aid certifications. (Evaluators will Check current Pa. DOH - Con-Ed Listings for the individual course.)
- Possess a FEMA statement/certificate that indicates successful completion of the NIMS-00100; IS 00200; NIMS-00700;
- Must hold a current certification (within 3 years) of DCNR Field Team Member.
- Must demonstrate sufficient knowledge in the following categories, by successfully completing a written exam (achieving a score of 80% or higher) and a skills evaluation (successfully passing 3 of 4 practical stations)



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General Knowledge of:

- Legal & Ethical Aspects of SAR
- Survival & Fitness
- SAR Clothing
- Navigation & Orienteering
- Search Theory & Management
- Search Techniques
- Rescue Techniques and Equipment
- Safety in SAR Environments
- Briefing & Debriefing of Field Teams
- Team Management & Decision Making
- Track Awareness and Sign Reading
- Helicopter Safety and Landing Zone Operations
- Securing the Scene and Crime Scene Preservation
- Incident Command System
- Communication Procedures and Protocols

Demonstrate the Skills to:

- Communicate Field Information to Command
- Lead a Hasty Team
- Lead a Grid Team and Lay a Flag Line
- Dress Appropriately and Maintain Personal Equipment for exam.
- Locate a Point on a Map Through Triangulation
- Follow Compass Bearings to a Specified Destination

Section V - Evaluation Duration

• The Field Team Leader validation is valid for five (5) years from the date of evaluation.



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Must Possess Personal Equipment to be used During Field Operations:

- Blaze Orange Outer Garment Safety Vest
- Safety Orange Hat
- Headlamp Helmet Compatible
- Matches (At Least 8) Primary Fire Source
- Match Container Waterproof With Striker
- Survival Fire Source Non-Matches / Non-Lighter
- Multi-Purpose Tools (Multi-Tool With Wire Cutters & Fixed Blade Survival Knife)
- Whistle Fox 40 or Similar (Non-Metal / No Pea)
- Leather Work Gloves
- Light or Heavy Search & Rescue Helmet Orange Preferred
- Optional Walking Stick(s)
- 2 Pencils / 2 Pens / 2 Note Pads
- 2 Sharpie Markers to Write on Flagging Tape
- 2 One Gallon Ziploc Bags to store / protect SAR Maps
- Personal First Aid Kit Containing At Least:
 - A. One Rolled Gauze Bandage
 - B. Nine Band Aids = 3 Large / 3 Medium / 3 Extra Large
 - C. Two Large Safety Pins
 - D. Tick Remover
 - E. 3 Antiseptic Wipes
 - F. 1 Roll Cloth Tape
 - G. 2 Gauze Bandages 2" x 2" or larger
 - H. Sting Kill
 - I. 1 Triangular Bandage
 - J. 2 Emergency Foil Blankets
 - K. Nitrile Gloves 4 Pair
 - L. N95 Face Mask for Recovery of Subjects Mouth Protection
 - M. Optional Mint Oil to cover smells in N95 Mask
- Two Large Contractor Trash Bags
- Flagging Tape (2 Rolls Pink or Orange)
- Navigation Compass with Sighting Capabilities. (Mirror Preferred for signaling.)
- Tarp 5' x7' or Larger For Shelter Material with gromets.
- Nylon Twine 250' Minimum (Mason Line / Construction Line) to build shelters.
- Rainwear Does not need to be in pack but must be present during inspection.
- Water Bottle 1 Quart Minimum or Hydration Pack 2-3 Liter Compacity
- Flash Light (Not Head Lamp) (For use as a spare or for the subject.)
- Safety Glasses or Goggles (Optional Glasses for subject.)
- Candle(s) 24 Hours Burn Time
- Proper Pack For Gear Transport
- Measuring Device 6' length or Larger
- Sturdy SAR Footwear
- Three (3) Chemical Light Sticks (To mark trails, Grid Lines, or searchers / subject at.)
- HMS or Pear Shaped Carabiner
- 17' to 25' Tubular Webbing Carry Strap / Emergency Rescue Harness
- 25' 50' Paracord to make Emergency Prusiks or Shelters