



Monmouth County Fire Academy
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Frequently asked Drill Ground questions, and questions relating to our guidelines

How do I request a drill ground activity?

To request a drill ground activity (live burn, car fires, or other hands-on training activity) simply fill out and fax in a "Drill Ground Request" form that is found on the fire academy web site at least 3 weeks prior to the evolution. Please call about 1 week prior to the activity to make sure it is on the schedule. If you must cancel, please call us no later than 24 hours prior to the start of the drill.

What does the academy require regarding car fire drills?

Car fire drills require the department to acquire the cars and have them brought to the academy burn pad. The cars must be prepped by the department performing the live fire drill so as to be in compliance with the NFPA 1403 standard on live fire training. The department must remove the cars within 24 hours of completion of the activity. The cost of prepping the cars to the 1403 standard and towing the cars to and from the academy is the department's responsibility and at their expense, not the fire academy's.

What guidelines apply to personnel participating in live fire training?

All personnel participating in fire attack drills must be Firefighter-1 certified. It is also the department's responsibility to provide adequate numbers of FF1 certified personnel to staff a safety line during any live fire activities as well as provide a Rapid Intervention Team of certified FF1 personnel. It is the department's responsibility to provide Emergency Medical Services that can provide immediate basic life support in the event of an illness or injury. It is also the department's responsibility to provide 3 separate personnel that satisfy the roles for an incident commander, a safety officer, and a designated department member who is assigned the role of training officer or lead instructor for the department.

What guidelines apply to fire academy staff and any drill ground activities?

Live burn activities for each day are allotted no more than 5 bales of straw. Live burn activities during an evening are allotted no more than 3 bales of straw.

The fire academy opens at 8AM and closes at 4PM and opens again at 7PM and closes at 10PM in the evening, unless other arrangements are made. Clientele must be out by no later than the designated time.

One hour to closing, the department must begin the clean-up phase of the activity.

It is the department's responsibility to clean up any burned straw that is left over by taking the debris to the dumpsters. The department is also responsible for cleaning up the training area by washing off the training area of remaining debris. It is during the clean up phase where any borrowed equipment is returned. It is also during this 1 hour period that SCBA cylinders are filled.

Fire academy staff is allotted a rest break for safety and rehab purposes at a rate of 15-20 minutes per 60 minutes of live fire training. Thus each 2-person team is allotted 15-20 minutes rest after 40-45 minutes of live burn training. Fire academy personnel always work in teams of at least 2 members during live fire training.

Training may be curtailed and canceled by the academy due to inclement weather or temperature.

These guidelines are designed to enhance the safety of staff and clientele, enhance organizational efficiency, and maximize taxpayer dollars.