

DAYTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDER
RESPIRATORY PROTECTION



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POLICY STATEMENT

For any CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Nuclear, Radiological and Explosive) incident, or other hazardous environment, officers must respond adhering to their primary mission of saving lives, stabilizing the incident, and protecting property, in that order. Officers should use **extreme caution** when responding to a suspected CBRNE incident or other hazardous environment. The action of the first officer on the scene sets the stage for the remainder of the response, including the safety of all responding officers. The first priority must be self-protection.

It is therefore the policy of this department to require officers to immediately don the highest level of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) when responding to any suspected CBRNE incident or other hazardous environment.

If there is any doubt, don the highest level of PPE first and notify responding officers of your intent before placing yourself in harms way.

This policy covers officers who are required to wear a negative pressure APR (Air Purifying Respirator) "Gas Mask" and/or SCBA (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus). APR's and SCBA's and related equipment shall be provided by the Department to designated personnel when responding to situations requiring respiratory protection. To protect the health of all departmental employees, a respiratory protection program has been developed to assure appropriate respiratory protection for those employees who have a reasonable expectation of functioning in a hazardous environment. The Respiratory Protection Program is in accordance with the OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) respiratory protection standard, 29 CFR 1910.134.

The Respiratory Protection Program Coordinator will be responsible for ensuring that proper procedures are followed for selecting respiratory protection equipment and for program administration. Officers, in the performance of their duties, will use only departmentally issued respiratory equipment.

I. PROCEDURES**A. Respiratory Protection Program Coordinator.**

1. The Dayton Police Department's Training Bureau Commander is designated as the Respiratory Protection Program Coordinator.
2. The Respiratory Protection Program Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that all the requirements of the program are fully implemented.
3. The Training Bureau will be responsible for:
 - a. The issuing, inventory, and record maintenance of APR's, SCBA's and related equipment.
 - b. Facilitating repair or replacement of equipment.
 - c. Coordinating training.
 - d. Maintaining records of inspections, fit testing and repairs/replacements of equipment related to the respiratory protection program.
4. The Respiratory Protection Program Coordinator will be responsible for record auditing and Periodic review of the effectiveness of the program.

B. Fit Testing



1. For all officers required to wear an APR or SCBA, a quantitative fit test will be conducted before the initial issue and as needed thereafter. This same test will be conducted whenever a different brand or size of mask is used.
 2. Officers will be refitted for an APR or SCBA as necessary when visual changes have been noticed, such as facial scarring, substantial weight gain or loss, and cosmetic surgery. The Respiratory Protection Program Coordinator will assure that this is accomplished through personal observation, self-reporting by employees and recommendations of supervisors.
 3. The Respiratory Protection Program Coordinator or his designee will maintain all records of the fit test results for a period of ten (10) years after the employee retires from service.
 4. Full-face APR will be issued to all sworn personnel.
 5. Officers with an APR or SCBA who wear prescription eyeglasses will be provided inserts for their masks to facilitate the placement of their own prescription lens.
 6. Respirator masks will not be issued to officers who, due to assignment, have documented medical conditions that cause concern or facial hair that could interfere with the seal of the mask.
- C. Training - All sworn employees will receive training regarding the proper usage of the APR's or SCBA's through the Training Bureau. The training will be approved by the Respiratory Protection Program Coordinator and will consist of the following:
1. Provide officers the opportunity to handle the APR or SCBA, have it fitted properly, test the face-to-mask seal, and wear it in normal air for familiarity and limitations assessment.
 2. Demonstrations and practice concerning how the APR and SCBA will be worn, how to determine if it fits properly, how to adjust its fit, and how to properly clean the mask.
 3. Limitations on when the APR or SCBA is to be worn as well as the limitations of each.
- D. APR District / Bureau Representative Responsibilities
1. APR District / Bureau Representatives will be trained to disassemble, inspect, repair and maintain departmentally issued APR's per manufacturer's recommendations. These representatives are the only department personnel authorized to perform these functions. These officers will conduct all maintenance tasks at the Training Bureau.
 2. The APR District / Bureau Representatives will be mobilized if there is a WMD (Weapon of Mass Destruction) - CBRNE event, or other situation requiring the mass cleaning and disinfecting of the APR's. The RDC (Regional Dispatch Center) supervisor will page any available APR District / Bureau Representative for the call out and advise the Incident Commander that they are en-route to the scene.
 3. District / Bureau Commanders will recommend officers under their command to receive this training and perform these tasks in the districts as necessary.
 4. A master list of trained APR District / Bureau Representatives will be kept current and on file with the Respiratory Protection Program Coordinator.
- E. Inspection
1. Officers are required to check their APR Millennium Mask for proper function before and after each use and once every 6 months. Checks must include assessing the condition of the face piece, head straps, valves, filter and filter expiration date, signs of defects, excessive wear, and deterioration.
 2. An APR Inspection Card has been provided for each officer to document bi-annual inspection dates. On the back of the inspection card, the officer must initial and date the time the mask was inspected. Across from the date/initials, the officer must enter a 6-month due date for the next inspection.



3. This required mask inspection effort will be documented on the APR Inspection Card by the officer assigned that equipment.
4. Supervisors will review and initial your card next to your initials to ensure compliance. Non-compliance may result in disciplinary action.
5. Inspection cards will be turned in every January to the officer's supervisor who will then inspect the cards for compliance and return them to the appropriate officer. The supervisor will then email the Respiratory Protection Coordinator upon completion of their personnel.
6. A copy of the APR mask inspection DVD has been provided to each district / bureau. If an employee would need a quick review prior to inspecting a mask, please refer to the video. Unanswered questions or concerns should be directed to the Respiratory Protection Program Coordinator.

F. Storage

1. **APRs shall be packed and stored with the filter removed** in a manner to prevent deformation of the face piece, face seal, and exhalation valve. When not being used, it is recommended that APRs be placed in the provided plastic case with the APR head straps loosely placed inside the face piece and stored in the assigned officer's locker or other designated storage area in the officer's district / bureau headquarters. All APRs shall be stored in the officer's assigned duty vehicle during their tour of duty to facilitate rapid deployment if needed.
2. The APR and PPE should be stored in such a manner to protect it from damage, contamination, dust, sunlight, extreme temperatures (if possible), excessive moisture, and damaging chemicals.

NOTE: Heavy objects should not be placed on top of the mask as doing so risks the possibility of adversely affecting the ability of the APR and SCBA to form a proper seal when worn.

G. Cleaning, disinfecting, and filter replacement if APR exposed to CS gas / OC (Oleoresin capsicum) ONLY

1. If the APR is contaminated by CS/OC **ONLY**, disassembly is not required, and employees will be responsible for cleaning their issued APR.
 - a. Remove filter before any attempt to clean the mask to prevent the interior of the filter from becoming wet. The APR filter material is of a paper composition. If the APR filter gets exposed to water or becomes wet, it must be replaced.
 - b. Use lukewarm water, mild dishwashing detergent and dry using a clean lint free towel.
2. If a filter has been exposed to CS/OC at any time, officers may follow the manufacturer's instruction and replace the filter.
3. The filters also have an expiration date. Officers are responsible for assuring that they have an unexpired filter in their possession at all times.
4. If the filter foil package is opened, or if the filter is deployed for any reason, the officer **must** document the date on the filter.

H. Cleaning, disinfecting and filter replacement if the APR or SCBA is exposed to any CBRNE agents.

1. APR's and SCBA's must be cleaned and disinfected after being used in an environment contaminated by CBRNE agents.
2. Only APR District / Bureau Representatives, who have been trained according to manufacturer's standards to properly disassemble, decontaminate, and disinfect and APR or SCBA, can perform this task.



3. If there is an exposure to CBRNE materials, these specially trained officers will be mobilized by the Incident Commander. **(If APR and PPE are deployed in a confirmed CBRNE incident, officers must refer to General Order 1.02-18, Infectious Diseases / Biohazards, for further instructions on how to handle exposure to hazardous materials).**
4. Warranty requires that manufacturer recommended cleaning solution be used to clean the APR or SCBA. Contaminated filters will be disposed of according to OSHA guidelines. **A new filter will be issued with a properly cleaned APR.**
5. SCBA's will be cleaned and disinfected according to current training and manufacturer recommended procedures by personnel issued SCBA's.
6. When APR masks are carried in anticipation of possible use, the APR and sealed CBRNE certified filter must be placed in the provided carrying bag.

II. N-95 Respirator Mask

- A. Personnel will be issued the N-95 paper filter mask on an as needed basis through the Respiratory Protection Program Coordinator. **These masks are intended for usage on as-needed basis.** Such situations where they would be made available could include bioterrorism, Pandemic Influenza, a local outbreak of SARS, or similar catastrophic events or anytime an officer feels that respiratory protection is warranted. These masks should be considered for usage when personnel are in close contact (within six feet) of an infectious or potentially infectious person.

B. UTILIZATION

According to OSHA, NIOSH (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health), CDC (Centers for Disease Control), and the WHO (World Health Organization), properly fitted and worn N-95 masks protect against Avian Influenza, SARS, and multiple other agents.

1. Masks may help reduce exposure to airborne biological contaminants, but they don't eliminate risk of exposure, infection, illness, or death.
2. For greatest effectiveness, masks need to be worn before and during the entire exposure period.
3. Masks may help protect your lungs; however, some biological contaminant may be absorbed through the skin or eyes and other protective equipment may be required.
4. Fit of the mask to the face is very important. If it does not fit properly, airborne contaminants will penetrate the facepiece seal.
5. Issued N-95 masks are not designed for children.
6. Anything that comes between the mask and the face will make the mask less effective.

An N-95 mask is just one of several preventative measures that can be used to help reduce exposure to airborne viruses. Personnel are advised to frequently wash their hands, follow good respiratory hygiene practices, do not share cups and utensils, and apply routine cleaning and disinfection practices.

- C. Employees who are to wear N-95 masks **must** be fit-tested. Personnel must be trained in when to use the masks, how to don and doff the masks, and limitations while wearing them.
 1. The Respiratory Protection Program Coordinator will issue instructions during the initial issuance of the N-95 mask. It is very important to read and follow the donning instructions and to ensure that they conduct a fit check and user seal check every time the mask is used.
 2. If, during the fit check prior to use, you notice air leaking around the edges of the mask, you should re-adjust it. If you still notice air leakage, you should remove the mask (in a clean area only), inspect the



mask for damage and put it back on per user instructions. If the mask still allows air leakage, do not enter a contaminated area.

D. **USAGE CONSIDERATIONS**

1. Masks may be used and re-used according to local Health Department guidelines, until they become damaged or contaminated with blood or body fluids.
2. The risk of inhaling particles that have been collected by the filter is very low.
3. **N-95s will not be treated as single-use disposable assets.** They will be reused within strict and safe guidelines, and only discarded when one of the following occurs:
 - a. The mask becomes contaminated with sputum, blood, or other potentially infectious material. Any N-95 used in close proximity to aerosol generating procedures (intubation, CPR, and nebulizer administration) should probably be discarded.
 - b. The mask becomes ripped or torn.
 - c. The mask becomes heavily soiled (masks that have merely become moist from exhalation will be set aside and allowed to dry, then reused).
 - d. The elastic band or the molded facepiece wear out so that the wearer can no longer obtain a seal.
4. N-95 masks will only be used and reused by a single wearer.

E. **SHELF-LIFE AND STORAGE**

Currently there is no stated shelf life or "use before" date for the N-95 respirator masks. Although the manufacturer does not routinely test the products beyond three (3) years, they have stated in writing that there is no indication that properly stored respirators would not continue to meet performance specifications well beyond this time.

The N-95 respirators are to be stored undamaged in an issued paper bag. They are to be stored at normal room temperature (60°F to 80°F). Respirators must also be stored in accordance with the requirements of the OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard 29 CFR 1910.134. According to 29 CFR 1910.134(h)(2)(i), respirators must be stored to protect them against physical damage, contamination, dust, extreme temperatures, excessive moisture, sunlight, and damaging chemicals.