

**Cedarville Township Volunteer Fire Department**  
**VEHICLE BACKING POLICY**  
**2016**

The intent of this policy is to reduce the potential risk to employees, the public, their property, and emergency equipment.

Many considerations must be taken when operating emergency vehicles. This policy addresses only one aspect, one in which many incidents have taken place and resulted in damage to vehicles or property.

1. Always consider placement of your vehicle:
  - a) Moving forward from a parked position has less risk than backing.
  - b) Mirrors should be adjusted to provide greatest visibility.
  
2. Backing:
  - a) Emergency lights shall be operating.
  - b) A backer/ spotter must be present. With a portable radio if possible.
  - c) When exiting the vehicle, backer/ spotter will walk around the front of the apparatus to the rear to maintain visual contact with the driver.
  - d) Driver's window in the down position.
  - e) Backup alarm operating.
  - f) Driver to backer/ spotter eye contact maintained always.
  - g) If unable to see the backer, STOP the vehicle immediately until backer confirms that backing may continue.
  - h) Look and listen.
  
3. If the use of a spotter is not possible due to lack of personnel, the driver must exit the apparatus and make a complete 360 degree survey of the area around the apparatus to determine if any obstructions are present.
  
4. Secure the vehicle with the parking brake when backing is complete.

November 30, 2006  
Revised April 28, 2008  
Revised August 11, 2016

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Kyle E. Miller  
Interim Fire Chief  
Cedarville Township Volunteer Fire Department