



# PARTNERS IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM (PIER)



## PURPOSE OF PIER

The City of Lynchburg and the surrounding area have historically been found to provide a very fertile environment for business and industry. New businesses have been encouraged to locate in the City, and existing businesses have been assisted to grow and expand. Critical systems support such as transportation, communications, and utilities are available. Recreational opportunities abound and the area boasts an excellent educational system. Even so, the City of Lynchburg continues to explore ways to enhance its support services to citizens and businesses, alike.

The Lynchburg Fire Department has expanded its services to the community by initiating a very timely program – Partners In Emergency Response (PIER), which initiated the formation of a Technical Rescue Team!



The purpose of the PIER program is to form a partnership between the City of Lynchburg (through the Lynchburg Fire Department), and

area businesses and industries with the goal of ensuring the City the continued availability of specialized emergency services, namely, a professional technical rescue team.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued a final rule amending the 1910.46 *Permit Required Confined Space* regulation effective February 1, 1999.

OSHA's goal in issuing this amendment is to provide clearer guidance for the selection of a properly prepared rescue service and its ability to demonstrate that it is rescue capable.

## TECHNICAL RESCUE

The Lynchburg Fire Department was presented the opportunity through a partnership with the Public Works Department to train, equip, and organize a Technical Rescue Team. Through the efforts of the personnel assigned to this project, our Technical Rescue Team is now a reality, and is available for emergency response.

The Technical Rescue Team (TRT) is housed at Fire Station 1, which is located at 801 Clay Street. Team members include all personnel assigned to Station 1. The TRT is available to answer emergency calls 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.\*



Technical Rescue Team  
Prepared for Confined Space Entry

Members of the Technical Rescue Team are trained to safely conduct technical rescue for confined space, trench, high/low angle rope, vehicle extrication, building collapse, and in the near future, swift water rescue.

The training conducted by the Technical Rescue Team is designed to meet the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) 1670 standard.

*\*At times, a technical rescue response by the TRT may not be possible due to the fact that team personnel could be committed to a prior emergency incident.*

## PARTICIPATION

Participation in the PIER Program is voluntary. It requires that all parties involved have an understanding that by pooling resources, each organization will ultimately benefit. It will be much less of a burden to "share" the load together than each participant doing so individually.

The Lynchburg Fire Department, already staffed with personnel trained and equipped for technical rescue on a 24-hour basis, is the logical lead agency to provide these specialized services.

Participation by businesses and industries in a partnership to share in the maintenance of this service through the Fire Department is less costly to each agency than providing the service individually.

In electing to participate in the PIER program, each agency or business will:

- ✓ Enter into a partnership with the Lynchburg Fire Department through a written agreement. A Letter of Agreement will name the Lynchburg Fire Department as the specialized rescue provider for the participant.
- ✓ Assist in the recurrent costs in a fair and equitable manner to maintain this specialized service.
- ✓ Annually renew their partnership for a service period beginning July 1 and ending June 30 each year.

The Technical Rescue Team is a resource that is a valuable asset and those who partner with us will ensure its availability!

## FEES

Fees for OSHA regulated Confined Spaces are:

|                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 to 3 Confined Spaces    | \$ 2,500 annually |
| 4 to 6 Confined Spaces    | \$ 3,500 annually |
| 7 to 10 Confined Spaces   | \$ 4,500 annually |
| 11 to 15 Confined Spaces  | \$ 5,500 annually |
| 16 to 20 Confined Spaces  | \$ 6,500 annually |
| 21 to 25 Confined Spaces  | \$ 7,500 annually |
| 26 to 30 Confined Spaces  | \$ 8,500 annually |
| 31 to 35 Confined Spaces  | \$ 9,500 annually |
| 36 to 40 Confined Spaces  | \$10,500 annually |
| 41 to 45 Confined Spaces  | \$11,500 annually |
| 46 to 50 Confined Spaces  | \$12,500 annually |
| 51 to 55 Confined Spaces  | \$13,500 annually |
| 56 to 60 Confined Spaces  | \$14,500 annually |
| 61 to 65 Confined Spaces  | \$15,500 annually |
| 66 to 70 Confined Spaces  | \$16,500 annually |
| 71 to 75 Confined Spaces  | \$17,500 annually |
| 76 to 80 Confined Spaces  | \$18,500 annually |
| 81 to 85 Confined Spaces  | \$19,500 annually |
| 86 to 90 Confined Spaces  | \$20,500 annually |
| 91 to 95 Confined Spaces  | \$21,500 annually |
| 96 to 100 Confined Spaces | \$22,500 annually |
| 100+ Confined Spaces      | \$25,000 annually |

A per entry fee will be charged to companies for Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH) entries. The fee will amount to \$150 per hour for the rescue vehicle, plus personnel costs. The minimum charge will be **two** hours.

A flat fee of \$1,500 will be charged annually for businesses involved in construction and/or maintenance activities in *below grade*\* or “elevated” environments.

A flat fee of \$2,500 will be charged annually for heavy industry utilizing hazardous processes or machinery.

Manufacturing, storage, or businesses having a combination of the above listed hazards will only submit an annual fee for the most hazardous (costly) condition.

\*Refer to “Confined Spaces” if OSHA regulated areas.

## BENEFITS

The benefits of participation are simple. There is minimum expense for each business to meet compliance with OSHA regulations connected with permit-required confined spaces and/or other areas that may be met by the availability of the TRT.

In addition, a close working relationship will be forged between the business (including their in-house first responders) and the TRT through preplanning and on-site practice exercises. Only businesses participating in the PIER program will be authorized to list the Lynchburg Fire Department as their confined space rescue provider.

### Who should consider participating?

- Business enterprises and industries having OSHA regulated confined spaces;
- Businesses involved in construction and/or maintenance activities in below-grade or elevated environments;
- Heavy industry utilizing hazardous processes or machinery.

### Who do I contact to participate?

If you are interested in participating in the PIER Program, or if you would like additional information about the program or its fees, contact:

Gregory Wormser, Battalion Chief  
 Lynchburg Fire Department  
 800 Madison Street  
 Lynchburg, VA 24504  
 (434) 455-6370  
[gregory.wormser@lynchburgva.gov](mailto:gregory.wormser@lynchburgva.gov)



### Lynchburg Fire Department

#### Vision

“To be a leading public safety agency in the Commonwealth, providing superior services that promotes life safety and minimizes property damage.”

#### Purpose/Mission

First in Safety, First in Service, First in Community.

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## Lynchburg Fire Department

Established 1883