HazMat Incident Operations

Think Safety

- · Assess situation.
- Safe approach: upwind/upgrade/upstream.
- Identify, isolate, establish perimeter, and deny entry.
- · Notify agency dispatcher.
- Exact location, use GPS.
- Request needed assistance: identify a safe route.

Scene Management

- Goal is to protect life, environment, and property.
- Attempt to identify substance using Emergency Response Guidebook (use binoculars, placards/labels, container shapes/colors, Material Safety Data Sheets, shipping papers, or license plate).
- · Assess quantity of material involved.
- Identify exposures and hazards surrounding the site.
- Anticipate weather influences.

Organizational Responsibilities

- Establish command including an IC and Safety Officer.
- Develop action plan for area security and evacuation.
- Advise all on-scene and responding resources of changes in situation.
- Keep dispatcher advised of changes.
- · Document all actions taken.
- Make special note of any responder exposures.