## **Rogers Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures**

Policy Title: Hearing Conservation

**Policy Number:** 311 **Volume:** Safety

**Approved By:** Tom Jenkins **Last Updated:** March 2018

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Updated – March 2018 (Ear plug availability)

## **PURPOSE**

To provide protection for all members of the Rogers Fire Department by providing guidelines towards preserving each member's hearing.

## **POLICY**

Hearing protection shall be defined as the Apparatus Intercom headsets, Apparatus Intercom hearing protection muffs, or approved disposable hearing protection devices (earplugs).

Other than in situations where the use of such protective equipment would create an additional hazard to the user, the above hearing protection devices shall be worn by:

- 1) All personnel on apparatus while responding to emergency incidents
- 2) All personnel operating pumps
- 3) All personnel when using or in close proximity of power tools or equipment, etc.
- 4) All personnel when in compressor room when air compressor is in operation

Siren and power equipment checks will be performed only on the appropriate apparatus day by members wearing hearing protection. Do not sound sirens and/or air horns when anyone is in close proximity to Fire Department apparatus that is not wearing hearing protection.

A supply of disposable hearing protection devices (earplugs) will be maintained at each RFD facility. It is the responsibility of the facility supervisor to ensure that each facility has an adequate supply of earplugs. Approved earplugs should have a minimum Noise Reduction Rating (NRR) of 33.

It is the responsibility of each member to maintain a set of earplugs with their personal protective equipment for use in the above situations.