



Virginia Department of Fire Programs
Technical Rescue Division
SURFACE WATER RESCUE – LEVEL I
Chapter 11 (11.1.1 – 11.1.15) NFPA 1006, 2013 edition
WATER SEARCH & RESCUE OPERATIONS
Chapter 9 (9.1 -9.3) NFPA 1670, 2009 edition

Section 1 – Administrative Guidelines

1.1 Course Description:

This program meets or exceeds the requirements for NFPA 1006 *Standard for the Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications*, Chapter 11 Level I. The student will learn to perform at the Operations level as specified in NFPA 1670, *Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents*, Chapter 9.

This 20 hour program is designed to introduce students to the basic principles of surface water rescue of victims in confined water or water whose movement is less than 1 knot. Students will receive training in planning the response, proper PPE selection, information gathering, reach and throw rescue techniques, boat assisted rescue and recovery techniques and personal survival/self rescue skills. Students will be expected to demonstrate survival-swimming skills with the use of a personal floatation device as part of the class.

1.2 Course Information:

This course meets or exceeds:

NFPA 1006 Standard on Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications, 2013 edition
Chapter 11.1 Surface Water Rescue-Level I

NFPA 1670 Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents 2009 edition; Water Search and Rescue, Chapter 9.

<u>1006 Standard</u>	<u>Course Correlation</u>
11.1.1 Develop a preplan for waterways in the AHJ area	Section 1, 6
11.1.2 Select water rescue equipment pertinent to a water rescue	Section 1, 3, 6
11.1.3 Develop search parameters for a search	Section 1, 6
11.1.4 Develop an action plan for a shore based rescue	Section 1, 6
11.1.5 Conduct a witness interview	Section 1, 6
11.1.6 Deploy a reach type object	Section 3
11.1.7 Deploy a rope bag, then a coiled rope 40 ft in 40 seconds	Section 3
11.1.8 Integrate watercraft into rescue operations	Section 3, 4, 6
11.1.9 Define helicopter support and safety measures	Section 1, 6
11.1.10 Operate watercraft in surface water areas	Section 3, 4, 6
11.1.11 Properly extricate a victim from the water	Section 4, 5, 6
11.1.12 Show basic water skills	Section 2, 3



Virginia Department of Fire Programs
Technical Rescue Division
SURFACE WATER RESCUE – LEVEL I
Chapter 11 (11.1.1 – 11.1.15) NFPA 1006, 2013 edition
WATER SEARCH & RESCUE OPERATIONS
Chapter 9 (9.1 -9.3) NFPA 1670, 2009 edition

11.1.13	Escape from a simulated life threatening position	Section 3
11.1.14	Identify rope rescue procedures particular to the AHJ's water response	Section 5
11.1.15	Support Level II operations	Section 1, 3, 5, 6

1.3 Logistical Requirements of Host Jurisdiction

- 1) Classroom Facilities
 - a. Suitable size, comfortable and meeting the needs to deliver course lecture
 - b. Adequate and appropriate restroom facilities
 - c. Lighting able to be controlled for projector operation
 - d. Table and chairs for 24 students
 - e. LCD projector and screen, computer with remote mouse
 - f. Chalkboard, whiteboard, or easel pad with markers or chalk

- 2) Water Requirements
 - a. At least eight feet in depth
 - b. Large enough area for boat operations
 - c. Good access to the water, preferably a boat ramp
 - d. Adequate parking for vehicles
 - e. An area to be able to carry the boats into the water
 - f. Water speed less than two feet per second
 - g. The air and water temperature combined have to be 110 degrees or above
 - h. A changing area and restroom facilities if possible

1.4 Required Student Materials/Equipment/Uniforms

- 1) PPE
 - a. Shoes or water boots with adequate soles and closed toes. A pair of old tennis shoes is acceptable.
 - b. Appropriate bathing suit- (Men- shorts consistent with board short or swimming trunks, Ladies- 1 piece-conservative)
 - c. Dry cloths to change in at the end of each day



Virginia Department of Fire Programs
Technical Rescue Division
SURFACE WATER RESCUE – LEVEL I
Chapter 11 (11.1.1 – 11.1.15) NFPA 1006, 2013 edition
WATER SEARCH & RESCUE OPERATIONS
Chapter 9 (9.1 -9.3) NFPA 1670, 2009 edition

1.5 Course Pre-requisites

- 1) Students MUST be 18 years of age
- 2) Students must be a member in good standing with a recognized fire, EMS, or public safety agency/department to apply to attend.
- 3) Successful completion of Virginia Department of Fire Programs *Introduction to Technical Rescue, Module I & Module II*
- 4) Students shall be psychologically, physically, and medically capable to perform assigned duties and functions at technical search and rescue incidents and perform training exercises in accordance with the NFPA 1500 *Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program*, Chapter 10-Medical and Physical Requirements.

Technical rescue is psychologically and physically demanding work. Students must be capable of lifting heavy loads, working at various elevations and operating in potentially hazardous environments.

1.6 Course Registrations

1. All students must be pre-registered in VDFP's Fire Service Training Records System (FSTRS) before being allowed to participate in the class.
2. Students will be required to sign a Virginia Department of Fire Programs "Notice of Acknowledgement" form verifying the students meets the course pre-requisites.
3. No unregistered students (walk-ins) will be allowed.
4. Class size is limited to 24 students.



Virginia Department of Fire Programs
Technical Rescue Division
SURFACE WATER RESCUE – LEVEL I
Chapter 11 (11.1.1 – 11.1.15) NFPA 1006, 2013 edition
WATER SEARCH & RESCUE OPERATIONS
Chapter 9 (9.1 -9.3) NFPA 1670, 2009 edition

1.7 Course Curriculum/Outline

Surface Water Rescue Level I

20 hour program

1. Day 1 Evening-Welcome/Introduction Paperwork 4 hours lecture
 - A. NFPA Standards
 - B. Water Rescuer Safety
 - C. Lecture

2. Day 2 Morning- 2 hours
 - A. Swim Test
 - i. 100 yard swim, with PFD`, maintaining constant forward progress, completed in less than 8 minutes. Student cannot stop and place feet on ground or hold onto side of pool.

3. Day 2 Morning/Afternoon Workshops 6 hours skill

Land Based-

 - A. Introduction to Throw Bags
 - B. Land Based Rescue Techniques

Water Based-

 - A. Water Entry and Survival Skills
 - B. Self Rescue Techniques

Boat Operations-

 - A. Boat Launching and Recovery
 - B. Boat Operations – Paddle

4. Day 3 Morning Workshops 4 hours skill
 - A. Back Boarding
 - B. Broaching Inflatable Boats
 - C. Navigation Course Paddle

5. Day 3 Evening Workshops 2 hours skill
 - A. Boat on Rope Systems
 - B. Boat Assisted Victim Rescue/Recovery

6. Practical Evolution
 - A. Scenario developed to simulate agency response to a rescue



Virginia Department of Fire Programs
Technical Rescue Division
SURFACE WATER RESCUE – LEVEL I
Chapter 11 (11.1.1 – 11.1.15) NFPA 1006, 2013 edition
WATER SEARCH & RESCUE OPERATIONS
Chapter 9 (9.1 -9.3) NFPA 1670, 2009 edition

1.8 Reference Material and Supplemental Information

Water Levels I and II, Treinish, Delmar, 2010

1.9 Course Completion Requirements for Students

- 1) Students are required to attend 100% of the classroom and practical sessions.
- 2) Successful completion of all required skills as indicated in the course outline.
- 3) Students are required to successfully complete a “Skills Task Book”. Each skill is pass/fail, with two opportunities to complete each skill.

2.0 NFPA 1006 Skill Sheet

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 11.1.1.1 | Develop a preplan for waterways in the AHJ area |
| 11.1.1.2 | Select water rescue equipment pertinent to the rescue |
| 11.1.1.3 | Develop search parameters for a search |
| 11.1.1.4 | Develop an action plan for a shore based rescue |
| 11.1.1.5 | Conduct a witness interview |
| 11.1.1.6 | Deploy a reach type object |
| 11.1.1.7 | Deploy a rope bag, then a coiled rope, 40 feet in 40 seconds |
| 11.1.1.8 | Integrate watercraft into rescue operations |
| 11.1.1.9 | Define helicopter support and safety measures |
| 11.1.1.10 | Operate watercraft in surface water |
| 11.1.1.11 | Properly extricate a victim from the water |
| 11.1.1.12 | Show basic water skills |
| 11.1.1.13 | Escape from simulated life threatening position |
| 11.1.1.14 | Identify rope rescue procedures particular to the AHJ’s water response |
| 11.1.1.15 | Support Level II operations |