



Virginia Department of Fire Programs  
Technical Rescue Division  
**SURFACE WATER RESCUE – LEVEL II**  
Chapter 11 (11.2.1 – 11.2.4) 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 II. The student will learn to perform at the Technician level as specified in NFPA 1670, *Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents*, Chapter 9.

This 20 hour program expands upon the Level I curriculum to instruct the student in the techniques necessary to perform a “Go” rescue in confined water or water whose movement is less than 1 knot. Students must demonstrate the ability to swim, float and tread water with and without the use of floatation aids. Topics to be covered include water entry techniques; defensive rescuer tactics for stressed or panicked victims; direct contact rescues, and managing water rescue incidents.

### **1.2 Course Information:**

This course meets or exceeds:

*NFPA 1006 Standard on Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications*, 2013 edition  
Chapter 11.2 Surface Water Rescue-Level II

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

#### 1006 Standard

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| 11.2.1 | Swim a designated swim course representative of the hazard |
| 11.2.2 | Perform a “Go” (swimming surface water) type rescue        |
| 11.2.3 | Show defensive swim techniques                             |
| 11.2.4 | Lead surface rescue teams during deployment                |

#### Course Correlation

- |                 |
|-----------------|
| Section 1, 3, 4 |
| Section 3, 4, 5 |
| Section 3, 4    |
| Section 2, 5    |



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### **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 both motorized and non-motorized 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
- 3) Logistical Requirements
  - a. 25 or 50 meter/yard pool at least 8 feet in depth in one end

### **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



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### **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) Successful completion of Virginia Department of Fire Programs *Surface Water Rescue – Level I*
- 5) 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.



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**1.7 Course Curriculum/Outline**

**Surface Water Rescue Level II**

**20 hour program**

- 1) Day 1 Evening
  - A. Swim Test
    - i. 300 yard swim, with or without PFD, maintaining constant forward progress, completed in less than 12 minutes. Student cannot stop and place feet on ground or hold onto side of pool.
    - ii. Tread water, unaided, for 5 minutes. Student cannot stop and place feet on ground or hold onto side of pool.
    - iii. 100 yard victim retrieval, aided, by either pushing/pulling victim, maintaining constant forward progress. Student cannot stop and place feet on ground or hold onto side of pool.
      1. Instructors will demonstrate appropriate pushing/ pulling techniques prior to students performance of task
  
- 2) Day 2 Morning 2 hours
  - A. Welcome/Introduction/Paperwork
  - B. Lecture
  
- 3) Day 2 Morning/Afternoon 6 hours skill
  - A. PPE Donning and Doffing Review as a group
  - B. Water Entry/Swimming Approaches/ Victim Contact
  - C. Blocks and Escapes
  - D. Back Boarding/Victim Removal
  
- 4) Day 3 Morning 4 hours skill
  - A. Tethered Swimmer from dock or shore
  - B. Untethered Swimmer from dock or shore
  - C. Swimmer from a Boat
  
- 5) Day 3 Afternoon 4 hours skill
  - A. Managing Water Rescue Incidents
  - B. Practical Evolutions
  - C. Cleaning equipment/Inventory
  - D. Evaluations



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**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**

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| 11.2.1 | Swim a designated swim course representative of the hazard  |
| 11.2.2 | Perform a “Go” (swimming) type rescue                       |
| 11.2.3 | Show defensive swim techniques and tactics for water rescue |
| 11.2.4 | Lead surface rescue teams during deployment and operations  |