



Fire Fighter Cancer Awareness and Prevention



TRAINING BRIEF

Cleaning Structure Firefighting Gloves

DISCUSSION

Key Points:

Your structure firefighting gloves are often the most contaminated piece of personal protection equipment that we use.

Action:

Inspect your gloves at a minimum of every 12 months or after each fire incident. Clean your gloves per the NFPA 1851 Standard.

NFPA 1851 Standard for Selection Care & Maintenance of Personal Protective Equipment does not recommend washing structure fire gloves in a washer/extractor.

Your structure fire gloves should be inspected, washed and dried in the station. Do not take your structure fire gloves home to wash in your personal washing machine.

HOW TO PROPERLY CLEAN STRUCTURE GLOVES

1. Wear appropriate PPE: EMS nitrile or latex gloves for dermal protection and eye protection.
2. One glove at a time, don one of your structural firefighting gloves. Using a soft brush, gently brush off all visual dirt and debris. Be gentle, you are just trying to remove the loose dirt and debris.
3. After brushing off dirt and debris, visually inspect each glove, looking for damage from wear and tear, contact with hazardous materials, tears and rips, and loose or broken stitching. Any damaged glove must be taken out of service.
4. Using a spray bottle of clean water, spray glove to be cleaned. Get glove nice and wet. Using opposite hand, work water into outer shell of glove to help remove dirt and debris. Rinse with spray bottle of water.
5. Using another spray bottle with a mixture of clean water and dish soap at a dilution of 1 oz of dish soap and 15 oz of water.
6. Spray glove with cleaning solution soaking outer layer of glove.
7. Using opposite hand, work cleaning solution into glove until cleaning solution becomes a lather.
8. Rinse glove clean using spray bottle with only clean water.
9. Rinse until all cleaning solution has been rinsed away.
10. Repeat using remaining glove to be cleaned (this step may be repeated as needed).
11. Set cleaned gloves aside to dry. Make sure it's a cool, dry area. Keep away from heating devices and sun.