

FIRETECH TRAINING



TECHNICAL RESCUE PROGRAM

WATER RESCUE TECHNICIAN

The Water Rescue Technician (WRT) Course is a fast-paced, comprehensive 21-hour training and educational program specifically designed for Public Safety and Rescue Professionals, including Law Enforcement, Fire, Rescue, EMS and Lifeguard Personnel.

The Awareness and Operational levels are designed as a foundational course for all public safety and rescue professionals, regardless of their swimming ability or experience in, on or around the water. Technician level course participants must be in good physical condition, and be comfortable and able to propel themselves in deep water while wearing a lifejacket.

The Awareness level classroom consists of a 4 hour classroom session. The Operations and Technician levels also include a 18 hour practical session to include surface water rescue day operations, surface water rescue night operations and personal watercraft rescue operations.

The focus of this two-day training program is on the prevention, recognition and management of drowning and aquatic injuries, surface water rescue and survival principles and procedures. It is designed to provide public safety and rescue professional with the knowledge and skills required to safely and effectively respond to rescue and recovery incidents in, on, and around the water.

Subjects and/or practical evolutions include the following:

- Physiology/Mechanisms of Drowning
- Principles of Water Rescue and Survival
- Threat Analysis and Pre-Incident Planning
- Types and Uses of Personal Flotation Devices
- Shore-based Non-swimming Rescues
- Basic Contact and Swimming Rescues
- Cold Water Rescue and Survival
- Ice Rescue and Survival
- Swiftwater Rescue and Survival
- Firefighter Survival in the Water
- Management of Aquatic Spinal Injuries
- Personal Defense and Survival Maneuvers
- Incident Command
- Personal watercraft rescue operations

Course Schedule

The 21-hour Water Rescue Technician Course is scheduled from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM then 7:00PM to 10:00 PM. for day one and 8:00am to 5:00pm for day 2. Day 1 will include classroom session from 08:00 – 12:00 hrs., followed by 8-hour in-water practical session to include and night operations. Day 2 will include personal watercraft operations, RDC operations along with in-water practical sessions and scenarios. Certificates are awarded to those who successfully meet all educational course objectives including: (A) participation in classroom session, and (B) completion of all practical evolutions and scenarios.

The WRT Candidate must be in good physical condition and must be able to effectively propel themselves in the water and be comfortable in deep water while wearing a Lifejacket.

All practical evolutions, with the exception of some shallow water skills and the Firefighter Survival evolutions, are performed while wearing a Personal Flotation Device (PFD). No other prerequisites are required.

Required Equipment:

Participants must wear either swim shorts or long pants and t-shirt (or wetsuit) and tennis shoes (or wetsuit booties). All participants must also wear a lifejacket (type 3 or type 5) not provided by FireTech Training

Course Completion:

Individuals who participate in a Water Rescue Technician Course and who successfully complete the classroom session and the final written examination, but who cannot participate or successfully complete the practical session, will be awarded a Water Rescue Awareness certificate.

Continuing Education Credit

8-hours of continuing education units are typically awarded by state and/or national professional associations such as the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians for completion of this training course, should you wish to arrange this in advance. This curriculum meets and exceeds NFPA 1670 and 1006 Standard for Technical Rescue.

Course Itinerary

Day 1

0800 – Course Lecture

1200 – Lunch

1300 – In-water practical

1700 – Dinner

1900 – Night Operations

2200 – Clean up

Day 2

0800 – In-water operations

1230 – Lunch

1330 – Scenario

1600 – Clean up

1700 – Lessons Learned and end of class