

# SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 8

## Standard Operating Procedures

### 10.10.05 APPARATUS CHAINING



Adopted:	12/20/16
Reviewed:	12/15/23
Revised:	12/15/23
Approved:	Lonnie J. Rash

**Purpose:** To outline the procedure to chain apparatus tires when conditions call for the use of chains.

**References:** N/A

**Procedure:**

1. When the weather has an adverse effect on the safe operation and the ability to respond to areas, use the following guidelines as to when to chain up the apparatus:
2. It is the officer's discretion on when to chain apparatus.
3. The following conditions can help in the decision to chain up or not:
  - a) Snow covered, hard packed, or icy (all roads) . . . Use chains.
  - b) Slushy, patchy exposed pavement . . . . . On spots when needed.
  - c) Soft snow (making tracks) . . . . . On spots when needed.
  - d) Main roads clear, side roads snow packed . . . . . Consider using on spot.
  - e) If in doubt, always error on the side of safety and chain up.
4. The following should also apply concerning chains and their use:
  - a) During the winter season chains will be carried on the apparatus.
  - b) Whether you are responding code or not, if a link breaks stop and tie the broken link to the side rails.
  - c) **Avoid speeds over 30 mph** and use on bare pavement. Traction links on cross members will fragment and cause cross members to break. Damage could occur to chains, tires and vehicles.