Schenectady Firefighters Cancer Foundation
Cancer Prevention in Action
Cancer Prevention Sun Safety Policy

Rationale: Skin Cancer is the most common cancer in the United States. Exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation causes nearly all skin cancer cases. Cancer is the leading cause of death in the fire service.
The New York State Public Employee Sun Safety Law, enacted on August 18,2006 is an amendment to section 218-a of the New York State Labor Law. It requires New York State agencies to provide sun safety information to employees who spend over five hours per week outdoors to help reduce prolonged exposure to the sun.

Policy: The Schenectady Firefighter Cancer Foundation will encourage protection from adverse effects associated with prolonged exposure to outdoor UV radiation of its members and their families through sun safety behaviors to help create a healthy and safe environment.
The following Sun Safety Strategies will be encouraged:

- Encourage members to obtain the UV Index forecast prior to the start of shift and announce it at morning briefings.
- When possible, plan outdoor activities including daily training around the strongest UV rays before 10am and /or after 4pm when the sun's intensity is not as strong.
- Plan activities using existing shade structures when possible or increasing shade at activities. Encourage breaks from outdoor activities in shaded areas.
- Encourage individuals to wear sun protective clothing including long sleeves and pants, brimmed hats, and sunglasses during outdoor activities.
- Encourage individuals to use sunscreen products and re-apply every two hours when possible, during outdoor activities.
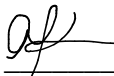
Education and Communication: To help create a healthy and safe environment sun safety education and communication of sun safety behaviors will be encouraged through verbal prompts, role models and written communications when possible.

Monitoring and Review: Schenectady Firefighters Cancer Foundation will evaluate and revise this policy as needed.

Director: _____   Date: ___5/30/2023___

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