

	Standard Operating Guideline	
	SOG Name:	Traffic Cones and Wheel Chocks
	SOG Number:	200.11
	Standard:	TBD
	Guideline Owner:	Non-Emergency Operations
	Implementation Date:	June 26, 2017
	Date of Last Revision:	July 14, 2021
	Authority:	Larry H. Williams, Jr, Fire Chief

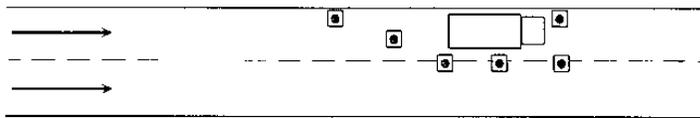
PURPOSE: Traffic cones are used to channel traffic away from department vehicles. They also serve as a warning signal that something is blocking the roadway ahead. In order to effectively channel traffic and warn motorists, cones must be properly placed to prevent accidents.

A. TRAFFIC CONES

Traffic cones shall be used whenever vehicles are parked on or about any road surface, except when vehicles are parked in a legal parking space. Traffic cones shall be used in all cases which the vehicle is serving as a Command Post or at the scene of any type of emergency.

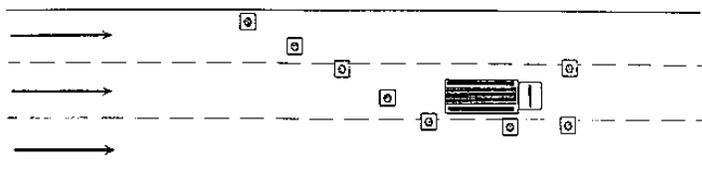
To prevent accidents at emergency scenes from occurring, the following diagrams will help serve as a guide to properly placing traffic cones around vehicles:

TWO LANE CHANNEL AROUND VEHICLE



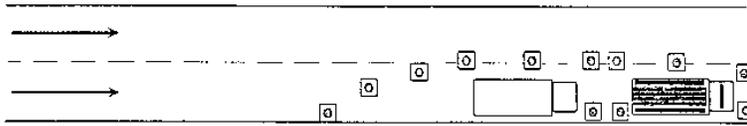
Place the first cone farthest from the vehicle at the edge of the roadway, and work the cones diagonally across the roadway and around the vehicle.

THREE LANE CHANNEL AROUND VEHICLE



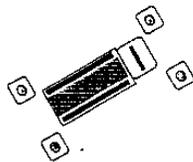
Three Lane Channel around the vehicle is the same as two lanes.

TWO LANE CHANNEL AROUND SEVERAL VEHICLES



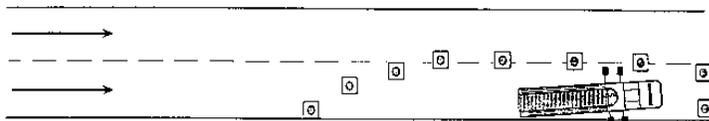
Place the first cone farthest from the vehicle at the edge of the roadway and work the cones diagonally across the roadway and around both vehicles. Place cones on the four points of each vehicle.

FOUR POINT SYSTEM



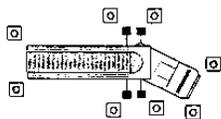
The Four Point System will be used whenever vehicles are parked in an area that does not require channeling traffic. One cone will be placed at each corner of the vehicle, at a minimum distance of four feet. The more cones used, the better. The Four Point System requires that the driver or other member of the company go completely around the vehicle when leaving a scene. This will help to prevent leaving equipment behind and running over equipment that may be under the wheels.

TWO LANE CHANNEL AROUND AERIAL APPARATUS



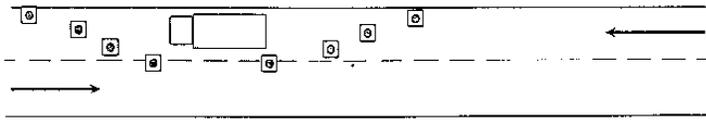
The cone placement for aerial apparatus is the same as for any other piece of equipment except that the driver must be sure to put the cones around the jacks and outriggers.

FOUR POINT SYSTEM FOR AERIAL APPARATUS



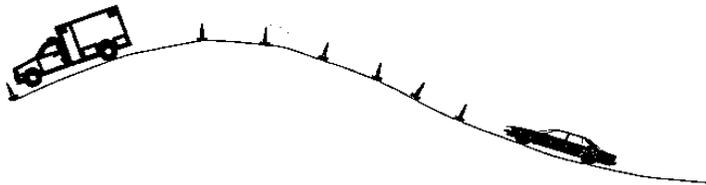
The four-point system can be used, however, additional cones need to be placed around the jacks and outriggers to facilitate warning and prevent tripping and falling.

TWO LANE CHANNEL AROUND VEHICLE
(TWO LANE HIGHWAY)



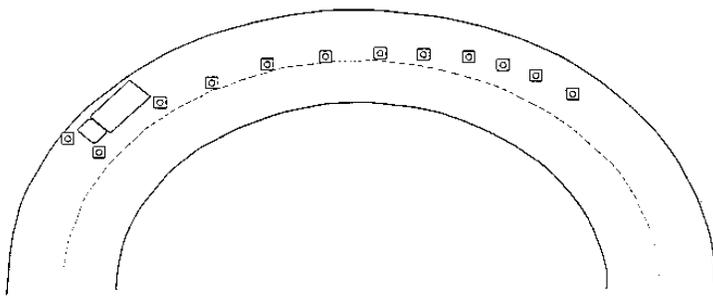
Place the first set of cones the same as two lane channel on 4 lanes with the same diagonal placement channel beyond and around the vehicle. Channeling traffic on a two lane road requires 2 people to direct traffic safely around apparatus. Therefore request law enforcement for traffic control.

TWO LANE CHANNEL ON A HILL



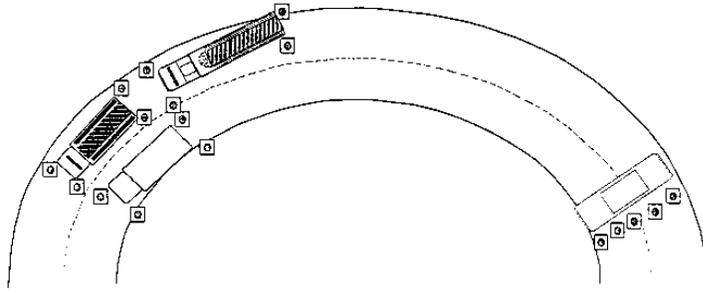
To block traffic on a hill, place the first cone beyond the crest of the hill, or completely stop traffic prior to the hill.

TWO LANE CHANNEL ON A CURVE



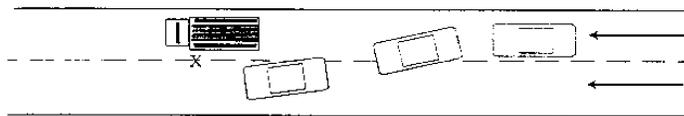
It is possible to channel traffic around a curve provided the first cone is placed such that the oncoming driver is made aware of imminent danger. The first cone should be placed well before the curve, and the rest of the cones should be worked diagonally across and around the vehicle. Channeling traffic on a curve requires two people to direct traffic safely around apparatus. Therefore, request law enforcement for traffic control.

TWO LANE BLOCKED ON A CURVE



Place the cones completely across the roadway. It is better to block the roadway with vehicles, with the appropriate warnings, lights, cones, etc. at night. Always remember that a traffic cone will not stop an oncoming vehicle, but it will warn an oncoming driver. If needed, call for police assistance to help control traffic. Traffic should be blocked at both ends of the emergency scene.

STEPPING FROM PUMPER



The designs of some crew cabs necessitate that personnel step out on the street to exit the vehicle. Personnel should exit facing the oncoming traffic. Pump Operators are urged to wear the orange vest when operating the pumper, for added visibility. Traffic cones shall be placed around apparatus as soon as possible after the apparatus has arrived on scene.

B. WHEEL CHOCKS

Department vehicles are required to place wheel chocks on the rear drive wheels **immediately** upon arrival on scene or at special event. The driver of each unit is responsible for ensuring that wheel chocks have been properly placed on their vehicle.

- **Both** sides of the wheel should be chocked at **ALL** incident scenes and/or special events.

(Signature on File)

Larry H. Williams, Jr.
Fire Chief
DOTHAN FIRE DEPARTMENT

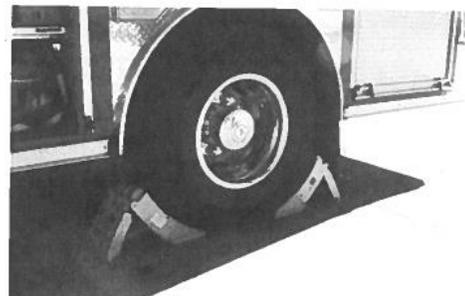


Figure 11.4 The apparatus wheels should be chocked during pumping operations.