

	JEFFERSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES	Initial: 03-01-2006 Revised:
	SOP#: FIRE 3-18	
	Subject: Trees Down	

TREES DOWN

A. PURPOSE

The procedure for downed trees in Jefferson County is designed to reduce confusion with both the police departments and fire services where trees are reported as being down and blocking a roadway from severe weather or for other reasons.

B. PROCEDURE

The Jefferson County 9-1-1 Center will adhere to the following procedure for reports of trees down.

1. The police department that covers an area where a tree is reported to be down will be dispatched first. This will also include areas covered by the Pennsylvania State Police. Response by the police department will be based on that department's policy. Police departments will be dispatched for traffic control and to avoid further incidents or accidents at the same location.
2. If the police department for a specific area is not available to respond or if the police department requests it, the fire service for that area will be dispatched. The dispatch will include that a police department requested them and they will also be told they are being requested for traffic control or flares or whatever the case may be.
3. The Communications Center will dispatch whomever the police departments or fire services are requesting to respond for the clean up of downed trees, such as Penn DOT, Borough crews or Township Supervisors. These contacts will only be made at the request of the police officers or O.I.C. of the fire service on scene or responding to the scene.
4. All departments or services involved should be aware that notifications for traffic control and clean up will be made as soon as possible. However, if the Communications Center is extremely busy with emergency traffic, the emergencies will take priority.
5. In the instance where wires are also involved with a tree down. the police officer or fire service O.I.C on the scene should supply the Communications Center with the following information: The pole number, service to be contacted (i.e. GPU, United Electric, Verizon, Windstream, or the cable company), and name and/or address of the nearest residence. As much information as possible should be provided to speed the response of the agency contacted.

