

GROUND LADDERS

PURPOSE:

- To establish a basic guideline for the use of ground ladders to improve the safety of firefighters in the Scriba Volunteer Fire Dept.

GUIDELINE:

- Ground Ladders should be placed on all sides of the structure whenever there are crews operating within the structure.
 - When ladders are placed for life safety the window should be removed to allow for rapid exit of interior crews
 - Interior crews should be advised when ladders are in place
 - Ladder tips should just be passed the window sill
- Roof ladders should be used on all roof operations where the pitch of the roof is over 30 degrees. This basically refers to residential structures such as cape cod style homes and duplexes.
- Ladders raised to a roof should have a minimum of three rungs above the roof line
- The halyard on any extension ladder should be tied off as soon as the ladder is lowered into the building. Only enough rope should be tied off to prevent the ladder from accidentally retracting if the dogs fail. The remainder of the rope should be placed under the ladder so that no one will trip on it.
- When a ground ladder is raised and placed for life safety it shall not be moved until the alarm is over and firefighters are no longer working in or on the structure.
- The first person to climb an extension ladder should check to make sure the dogs are secured.
- All ground ladders should be raised at a 70-degree climbing angle.
A Firefighter should foot/butt any raised ground ladder by placing their feet against the butt of the ladder or by holding the rails from the underside.
- Personnel climbing the ladder should carry tools in their right hand.
- The minimum distance between Firefighters when on a ground ladder is 10' apart.