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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fire Department Needs Community Resources for Rescue Training

Dublin, OH –Central Ohio businesses have something the Washington Township Fire Department needs--
-facilities where they can practice their rescue skills in realistic rescue scenarios.

Fighting fires is only one aspect of a Washington Township fire fighter's job. Many of the emergencies first responders answer involve specialized rescues including automobile, confined space, high angle, trench, fast water, flat water, ice, and collapse.

Performance on the scene depends a great deal on the amount of training and experience responders have with a particular rescue situation. Participating in realistic scenarios is one way first responders can get the experience they need to work efficiently in an emergency.

With the support from Central Ohio businesses and the City of Dublin, the Fire Department has had the opportunity to use bridges, rivers, ponds, and wooded ravines in and around Dublin for high-angle rope and water rescue training. Eitel's Towing in Orient has provided space and a variety of vehicles (bus, cement truck, cars) to stage large-scale extrication scenarios. The Shelly Group in Delaware County offers a quarry for the Township's dive team search and rescue practice.

"Scenario-based training is invaluable to us," said fire fighter Doug Hyland. "It prepares us for special situations like no other kind of training can. We really appreciate all that the community does for us to help make it possible. The real pay-off comes when we are able to help someone faster because we are more experienced with a particular situation."

The Washington Township Fire Department will feature two rescue demonstrations at their annual Fire Prevention open house on Sunday October 4th, from 1-4 p.m. Auto extrication will be demonstrated at Station 92 (4497 Hard Road) at 1:30 p.m. Two dive team demonstrations will take place at the Dublin Recreation Center at 3 and 4 p.m. Stations 93 (5825 Brand Road) and 91 (6255 Shier Rings Road) will offer fire extinguisher practice and photos with Sparky® respectively.

For more information, call 652-3920.

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The Washington Township Fire Department provides fire prevention, fire suppression, emergency medical services, and education and safety programs for Washington Township, which encompasses portions of Franklin County including the City of Dublin and parts of Delaware and Union Counties.