

**Fire and Emergency Services Company Officer**  
**Lesson 15 — Community Relations and Public Fire**  
**and Life-Safety Education**

**Assignment Sheet 15-1**  
**Respond to Scenarios About**  
**Community Needs**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**References**

*Fire and Emergency Services Company Officer*, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, p. 339  
NFPA 1021, 4.3.1

**Introduction**

The most cost-effective method to enhance a fire department’s public image is the implementation of a public fire and life safety education program. It is an ideal way for the organization to provide a valuable public service while allowing a positive interaction with the community. The company officer must be able to access the needs of the community that is served and know how to most effectively deliver the program that has been identified.

**Directions**

Answer the questions that follow. Then read and analyze each of the activity scenarios and complete the answers to the questions that accompany them.

1. Fire and life safety program developers follow a structured and organized plan when creating programs. List this five-step process as described in the lesson.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

e. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Define the terms hazard and risk as they relate to fire and life safety education.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

### **Wildland/Interface Fire Safety**

Anytown is located in an area adjacent to a large wildland area. Current development and expected future growth is expanding the city into portions of this timber- and brush-covered area. Large slash piles have been created by the construction of new roads and are located throughout the development. Due to the quantity of debris, removal has been extremely slow. As the company officer for Fire Station 7, you are concerned that the residents of the new developments are not preparing their property to defend against wildland/interface fires. City code enforcement officials have also expressed concern about these conditions but have not been able to get the developers to remove the piles. To add to the danger, while attempting to keep the rustic outdoor appearance to their homes, many of the new owners have allowed tree canopies to grow over the top of their roofs. Additionally, light-fuels, grasses, weeds and small brush vegetation is being allowed to grow up to the sides of the houses. The development is also served by the city water system that has been extended from adjacent portions of the city. Water pressure is low because planned new storage reservoirs have not been constructed.

The fire department has purchased a brush fire response vehicle and assigned it to Fire Station 7. The unit is cross staffed by Engine 7 personnel and responds as a paired unit for brush or forest fires. Station 7 is the closest station to the new developments, but as development proceeds and population increases in the wildland area an additional station and staffing will be necessary. The new station is planned for construction in three years.

3. Identify the major community fire and life-safety problems presented by these new developments?

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Using the five-step planning process, how would you develop a program that meets the needs of the community as it is described in the scenario 1? Explain the elements for each step in the process and how you would apply them.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

e. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### **Fire Prevention in Culturally Diverse Neighborhoods**

You are the company officer assigned to Engine 6 in the southwest portion of the City of Anytown. This section of the city is composed of a culturally diverse neighborhoods. The area is home to several ethnic groups that have lived there for generations. These groups include a large Asian population. Many of those who live in this portion of the city trace their heritage to China, Korea, and Vietnam. Though the area is affluent, with thriving businesses, ethnicity prevails in localized areas and enclaves. The language that is spoken by a particular ethnic group predominates within their own areas. Communication has become a problem for the fire department when responding into these neighborhoods. You have become concerned after responding to several instances where cooking fires have occurred as the result of improper safety measures having been employed by the occupants. These have included the use of unventilated charcoal fires inside of homes and businesses; the improper disposal of charcoal and wood embers following food preparation; and, the use of non-approved cooking appliances within commercial restaurants.

5. List the cultural classifications that define diversity as identified in the lesson.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

e. \_\_\_\_\_

f. \_\_\_\_\_

g. \_\_\_\_\_

h. \_\_\_\_\_

i. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Describe the benefits of having a diverse population to a community.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Explain the barriers that may be created by having a diverse population in the community.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Describe differences in how a company responds to emergencies in these culturally diverse neighborhoods.

a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_