



# Fire Protection Training

Procedures Handbook 4300

TOOLS & EQUIPMENT

**TOPIC:** Types and Uses of Water Vacuums

**TIME FRAME:** 15 Minutes

**LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION:**

**BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVE:**

*Condition:* A written quiz

*Behavior:* The student will be able to list and describe the types of water vacuums and their uses.

*Standard:* With a minimum of 70% accuracy

**MATERIALS NEEDED:**

- Chalkboard
- Industrial-type water vacuum (large)
- One backpack-type water vacuum

**REFERENCES:**

- IFSTA, Salvage and Overhaul, 7th Edition, Chapter 5

**PREPARATION:** One of the easiest and fastest ways to remove water from a confined space is to use the water vacuum. Since fast and efficient work reduces property damage, it is the fire department's duty to provide equipment and staff to help perform adequate salvage. Salvage is one of our primary jobs and we should use all the tools available to perform this task efficiently.



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## TYPES AND USES OF WATER VACUUMS APPLICATION

### PRESENTATION

#### I. USES OF WATER VACUUMS

A. Small Quantities of Water Can Be Removed From Floors in Any Area Using an Industrial-Type Water Vacuum

1. Water vacuums have suction powerful enough to extract water from even deep pile carpeting

B. Dirt and Small Debris May Also Be Removed from Carpeting as well as from Tile and Other Types of Floor Coverings

#### II. TYPES OF WATER VACUUMS

A. Large Industrial Type

1. Range in size from 3 to 20 gallons (11.4 to 75.7 liters)
2. Usually equipped with wheels
3. Particularly well suited for removing water from carpeting

B. Backpack Type

1. Compact version of the industrial type
2. Also known as a "water-vac"
3. Capacity of 4 to 5 gallons (15.1 to 18.9 liters)
  - a. Must be emptied frequently because of limited storage capacity

#### III. OPERATION

When might water vacuums be utilized?

Information Sheet #1

43010.6

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TYPES AND USES OF  
WATER VACUUMS  
**APPLICATION**

**PRESENTATION**

- A. Operates in a Manner Similar to an Ordinary Vacuum Cleaner, Except that the Electric Motor is Located so that Vacuumed Water is Deposited into an Attached Metal or Plastic Container

43010.6

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TYPES AND USES OF  
WATER VACUUMS

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## **SUMMARY:**

Small quantities of water can be removed from floors in any area by using an industrial-type water vacuum. They range in size from 3 to 20 gallons, in both backpack style and on wheels.

## **EVALUATION:**

A written quiz.

## **ASSIGNMENT:**

To be determined by instructor(s).