

Hiawatha Fire & Rescue

Policy 502
Maintenance and Apparatus
Tire Chains
5/25/2001

Engine 285 and Rescue 281 are equipped with automatic tire chains. The maximum speed for driving any apparatus with chains on is 40 M.P. H.

To engage the chains:

- A. Slowly drive the apparatus forward, no faster than 10 M.P.H.
- B. Then activate the chains by flipping the tire chain toggle switch.
- C. Drive no faster than 40 M.P. H.

To disengage the chains:

- A. Driving forward, slow to under 10 M. P. H.
- B. Deactivate the chains by flipping the tire chain toggle switch.

While driving with any tire chains on (automatic or cable chains), there are special considerations that the driver and crew should be aware of:

1. If there is any noise or other condition that indicates the possibility of a loose chain or any other problem with the chains, the driver should **STOP** the apparatus as soon as possible in a safe area.
2. If a loose or broken chain is noticed, it should either be repaired or removed before continuing on.
3. When stopping to check the chains, the Officer or Senior Firefighter in charge shall notify Incident Command that the apparatus is stopping to check the chains.
4. Under no circumstances should you continue driving if you think that you may have a problem with the tire chains. This could cause unnecessary damage to the apparatus and affect the safe operation of that apparatus.