

**Richland County Emergency Services Department
Frequently Asked Questions**

1. How do I arrange for a presentation or talk?

Contact 576-3400 and tell us what type event you have. We try to accommodate as many requests as possible.

2. What can Paramedics do?

Paramedics are advanced Emergency Medical Technicians. They can perform advanced cardiac life support, start IV's, administer various cardiac drugs, perform EKG's, defibrillate a stopped heart, perform advanced airway care, and other life saving procedures.

3. How do I arrange for EMS Special Event Coverage?

Contact 576-3400 and request information on Special Event Coverage.

4. How many emergency calls does EMS respond to each year?

EMS responds to approximately 46,800 calls per year.

5. What type of disasters do we have in Richland County?

While it is possible to see just about every type of emergency or disaster, Richland County is most likely to see weather related emergencies such as tornados, wind/rain storms, flooding, and an occasional snow storm. Other frequent emergencies include fires and transportation related hazardous material spills.

6. How can I get disaster, emergency management or Citizen Corp – CERT information?

Contact 576-3400 for further information.

7. Am I required to have a permit to burn yard debris?

Yes. In Richland County, you must obtain a permit prior to burning yard debris. Richland County enacted an ordinance that prohibits burning debris in residentially zoned areas unless several conditions are met. Call 576-3404 for instructions on obtaining a burn permit or to report a violation.

8. If I am a business, do I need a Hazardous Materials Permit?

You will need a Hazardous Material Permit if chemicals are stored on the site. Contact 576-3400 for further information.

9. How much is the 911-subscriber fee on my telephone bill, and what is it used for?

Richland County has assessed 38 cents as the 911-subscriber fee for landline telephones. The subscriber fee pays for the E-911 telephone system, which serves Richland County including the City of Columbia, Forest Acres, Fort Jackson, The University of South Carolina, the Town of Arcadia Lakes, The Town of Blythewood and the Town of Eastover.

10. How do I apply for employment with the Richland County Emergency Services Department?

Obtain an application from the Richland County Human Resources Department, complete and return the application. If you meet the qualifications, someone will be in contact with you.