

QUESTION:

I'd like to ask the membership how you handle fire emergencies that occur on your grounds / outside areas adjacent to your buildings / parking lots? Do you call 911 only? Respond internally from perhaps security and maintenance or housekeeping? Full staff response as an internal emergency may be handled? Do you respond differently on different shifts? We are currently struggling with this issue. I'd be happy to redistribute the final results to everyone. Thanks so much

They would call 911 directly or our internal fire reporting telephone extension, at which time the telephone operator would then call 911. No internal fire fighting brigade. Same response regardless of shift	John Sheptak, Holy Redeemer-Insurance & Risk Management
Our corporate office in a high rise building in Philadelphia would call 911.	Cynthia Beckman Tenet
For fires outside our building we generally utilize 911 as the primary response. Our response team members do jointly respond with the Fire Department to fires in our parking structures that are attached or underneath our building. The employee parking garage response is generally limited to Plant Engineering and Security along with 911. The only real exceptions are mulch fires & cigarette butt cans smoldering outside the facility. With these, Plant Engineering and Security respond before 911. They evaluate & extinguish the mulch fires before a fire service request is initiated through 911. If the event is large enough or endangers the building then 911 is called for the fire department.	Peggy Klecha Lancaster General
We call 911 but also call a "code red". With a code red staff is guided to respond to the designated area with the fire extinguisher from their area. If feasible there is internal response while awaiting the fire department response.	Lucia Williams Sacred Heart Hospital
We are in the city, which may make it easier. Our security and facility staff respond to all alarms. Our alarms connect to an off-site monitoring service who notifies the fire department. We also call fire dispatch directly.	Pam Martin Children's Hospital of Phila
Our procedure for a fire outside of the hospital is an immediate dispatch of Security who responds with portable extinguishers.	Tom Smith Doylestown Hospital

Depending on the type of fire reported (mulch vs. vehicle), Security may assess the situation prior to calling 911 for fire company dispatch. Small fires such as mulch will be handled by Security. Anything larger (woods, vehicle etc.) would have an immediate fire company dispatch. This procedure is standard for all three shifts. Security has the authority to contact 911 at any time for fire assistance.	
At Lankenau they respond to any fires on the grounds, parking garages, and areas external to the actual building as they would for an internal fire. As with any actual fire they do contact 911. They do what they can to extinguish or control the situation until relieved by the fire dept. The response would be the same on all shifts for the personnel that are present-security, nursing supervisors, and engineering.	Nanci Hulsey, RN, BSN, CHCQM Lankenau Hospital
Our fire responder team at the facility on that property responds to all fires on our property, in or out of the facility, 911 is also called, if a fire alarm has not been tripped.	Ruth Dougherty Virtua - Corporate Risk Manager
We call 911, as does Hahnemann (according to our Fire Marshall who used to be at Hahnemann), because we were told that we assumed liability for any problem if we responded internally.	Marie Conti North Philadelphia Health System
For fire emergencies that occur on our grounds, we dispatch our Security staff and call 911. We also send Grounds staff if they are on duty. We have had several fires (usually related to cigarettes in the mulch). Security is usually able to extinguish the flames, but the fire company is able to soak the area to insure it will not re-ignite.	Nancy Young Crozer
If a fire occurs any where outside the buildings, 911 would be called. In addition, the hospital has a fire brigade consisting of Security, Maintenance and Environmental Services who respond to all fire emergencies (inside or outside buildings). The same procedure would be followed for all shifts.	Janet Poland and Joan Bartkovich Lower Bucks Hospital

Call 911 Only	Partial internal response with a call to 911 (Generally Plant Engineering and/or Security)	Full internal response with a call to 911	Respond differently on off shifts
Holy Redeemer North Phila Health System Hahnemann	Lancaster General Doylestown Virtua (Marlton) Crozer Lower Bucks	Sacred Heart Children's Hospital of Phila Lankenau	No facility that responded reported different responses according to shift.

One facility relayed that they were told that they “assume liability for any problem they respond to”

A number of facilities reported mulch fires as common. They extinguish but still call the fire department to soak the ground and ensure it will not re-ignite.