



Toms River Fire Department

Bulletin Number
08-01

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5/1/2008

Training Bulletin

Title: Hurricane Windows

The 2006 Building Code provides for debris resistant windows (Hurricane Windows) in high wind damage areas. These areas are one (1) mile from the mean high tide line. This area is the barrier island section of Toms River. Testing done at Station 27 showed that a firefighter using an axe is almost unable to break or cut through these windows. A firefighter who needs to exit a window from an interior position under emergency conditions will have to open the window and attempt to egress. The use of hand tools will be futile. Firefighters attempting to ventilate these windows need to use either a chain saw, K-12 saw, or saws all. These windows are a hazard to firefighting operations; firefighters encountering them while operating on the fireground shall immediately notify command of their existence.

Venting: Testing showed that 1st floor venting can be done with a gas powered saw. Venting from a ladder is best accomplished by using the point of a haligan or a pick axe to gain a purchase and then use a saws all. Caution: protect your self from flying glass chips and glass dust; very similar to cutting a car windshield.