

Lakewood Fire Department Rapid Entry Dive Rescue

The Lakewood fire department has one of the most unique rapid entry dive teams in the country. The team incorporates over 30 active and trained rescue divers. The Lakewood fire department consists of 3 fully staffed shifts. Divers are on duty 24 hours a day seven days a week. Each station engine is equipped with dive gear ready for a water response.

The only way to save a life is to get to the scene and enter the water quickly and safely. The Lakewood Fire department rescue divers conduct real life training which consist of the following:

- Shore operation
- Night operation
- Compass searches utilizing multi-person teams
- Boat operations
- Simulated drowning
- Pool training
- Annual swim qualifications
- Quarterly dive requirements

Unlike many dive teams that are called out via a pager, the Lakewood Fire Departments Rapid Entry Team responds in seconds. Upon arrival the rescue divers are suited up and ready to enter the water. The dive team's motto is simple "Speed saves lives."

All training for the Rapid Entry Program is conducted in house utilizing our own master dive instructor and certified dive masters. The Rapid Entry program is a certification for public safety divers only.

For more information about the Rapid Entry Dive Program at Lakewood Fire Department contact us at our e-mail address.