

Anyone Notice The Helicopter?

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On Dec. 15, 2011, Pawnee Nation Fire and Rescue hosted a Landing Zone class for firefighters, Emergency Management Services (EMS) technicians and law enforcement officers.

The class was sponsored by EagleMed and held at the Pawnee Nation Fire Department. Emergency helicopter operations are a critically coordinated team effort involving emergency medical, fire, police and civilian professionals.

Helicopter crews require assistance when selecting suitable landing zones, warning pilots of any potential hazards and securing landing zones during flight operations. This course discussed some of the issues involved in selecting and preparing an emergency helicopter landing zone and with assisting the pilot in making a safe approach, landing and departure.

The course also covered procedures needed to allow fire, police and EMS workers to provide quality care to the public. Objectives of this training focused on developing an understanding of what needs to be done when someone is in desperate need to be transported to a hospital in a short amount of time.

Training topics included Selecting a Landing Zone, Touchdown Area, Helicopter Landing Zone Preparation, Landing At Night, Dealing with Wires in the Vicinity of the Landing Zone, Wind Direction at the Landing Zone, Personnel Safety, Landing Zone Coordinator and Security, Landing Zone Communications, After the Helicopter Lands, Assisting the Crew, Lift-Off and Departure and Information You May Need to Provide When Calling EMS.

Pawnee Nation Fire and Rescue would like to thank EagleMed for facilitating this event and all of the local departments for attending. Departments that attended include Pawnee Nation Fire, Pawnee Nation Police, Pawnee Nation Rangers, City of Pawnee Fire, Maramec Fire, Blackburn Fire, Terlton Fire and Basin Fire Departments.

Pawnee Nation takes a high priority in quality training to provide safety.