

The logo for Berks County Emergency Services is a circular emblem. The outer ring is grey with the words "BERKS COUNTY" at the top and "EMERGENCY SERVICES" at the bottom in yellow capital letters. The inner circle is divided into eight segments by a yellow cross. The segments contain the following symbols: a yellow radiation symbol, a red Maltese cross, a blue Star of Life with a white caduceus, a yellow lightning bolt, a grey radio tower, a torch with a red flame, a yellow five-pointed star with a blue center, and a diamond-shaped flag with red, white, and blue sections. In the center of the emblem is a shield with a red top, a white middle section with three blue stars, and a blue bottom section with a white American flag pattern.

Working Fire Upgrade Assignments



Working Fire Upgrade on Run Card Form

Current Run Card

Incident Type and Alarm Level	Unit Type Dispatch List the primary station unit(s) and quantity of additional units to be dispatched						EMS Units		Stations Dispatched
	Aerial	Brush	Engine	Tanker	Rescue	Other	BLS	ALS	
STRUCTURE FIRE W/ENTRAP-1	2		E85 + 3			1 - RIT		2	STA79
STRUCTURE FIRE W/ENTRAP-2	2		4			1 - RIT & 85 STAFF			
STRUCTURE FIRE-1	2		E85 + 3			1 - RIT		1	STA79
STRUCTURE FIRE-2	2		4			1 - RIT & 85 STAFF		1	
STRUCTURE FIRE-3	1		3			1 - AIR			
STRUCTURE FIRE-4	1		3						

EXAMPLE: Run Card with Working Fire Assignment Level

- Structure Fire w/Entrap
 - ☐ 1 EMS unit moved to working fire assignment
- Structure Fire
 - ☐ EMS moved to working fire assignment
 - ☐ RIT moved to working fire assignment
 - ☐ 1 aerial and 1 engine dispatched on working fire assignment

Incident Type and Alarm Level	Unit Type Dispatch List the primary station unit(s) and quantity of additional units to be dispatched						EMS Units		Stations Dispatched
	Aerial	Brush	Engine	Tanker	Rescue	Other	BLS	ALS	
STRUCTURE FIRE W/ENTRAP	2		E85 + 3			1 - RIT		1	STA79
- WORKING FIRE	1		1			METED		1	
- 2ND ALARM	2		4			1 - RIT & 85 STAFF			
STRUCTURE FIRE	2		E85 + 3						STA79
- WORKING FIRE	1		1			1 - RIT, METED		1	
- 2ND ALARM	2		4			1 - RIT & 85 STAFF		1	
- 3RD ALARM	1		3			1 - AIR			
- 4TH ALARM	1		3						

Items to Note

- The upgrade to a working fire assignment will include:
 - ☐ The home fire agency's working fire unit dispatch.
Ex: 98WF
 - ☐ Text notification to all agencies assigned to the incident which will include the home fire agency's xxWF unit and any other units being dispatched.
- What happens if a 2nd alarm is requested before the working fire assignment has been dispatched? The working fire assignment and 2nd alarm assignment will be dispatched together.
- Units dispatched on the working fire assignment will not impact/reduce the units dispatched on the 2nd alarm assignment.



Discussion Points

- What will the trigger words be to upgrade to working fire assignment dispatch?
 - ☐ Discussion was held regarding the distinction between a **working fire being reported** and a **working fire being declared**, along with the terminology used to request dispatch of the Working Fire assignment. For example, the phrase, "*Make this a working fire,*" was discussed as a clear directive to dispatch the Working Fire assignment. DES will communicate the final approved terminology and procedure once a decision has been made.
- What is the default condition for the card changes? Discussion was held and the below will be the default condition for the working fire assignment:
 - ☐ WILL include the home agency's WF unit. For example, 85WF
 - ☐ WILL include the electric utility, METED or PPL. Run card areas that are split between service providers will have both electric utility units and the radio operator will check with the incident commander about which utility should be contacted.
 - ☐ Run Card authority can submit an email to request UGI be added to WF assignment on applicable cards. Deadline for email 9/15/2026. Email must come from or cc individuals having EMS and fire run card authority and the run card box numbers where UGI is to be added. See example email on next slide.
 - ☐ Go Live Date is projected to be the end of October 2026.
- Discussion was held and the Brush Fire call type will also have a Working Fire assignment. Default condition will include the home agency's WF unit.

SAMPLE EMAIL – adding automatic UGI notification to Working Fire assignment

Send email to Berksdes@berkspa.gov and cc the individuals authorized by the municipality to make changes to fire and EMS responses as per the Municipal Run Card Authorization Forms on file with DES.

Greetings,

Please add UGI to the working fire alarm assignment for structure fires in the following run card boxes:

4301

4302

4304

430410

Email must be received by 9/15/2026.

Benchmark Time Stamps

The following benchmark time stamps are available in CAD and Fire Field Mobile.

- Radio: Field users designating a benchmark time stamp will hail the radio operator and report “Benchmark xxxx”
- Fire Field Mobile: Users can access the Benchmark Times via the Widgets screen in Fire Field Mobile.
 - ☐ Benchmark 360 Complete
 - ☐ Benchmark Command Established
 - ☐ Benchmark Fire Knocked Down
 - ☐ Benchmark Fire Suppression Complete
 - ☐ Benchmark Fire Under Control
 - ☐ Benchmark Primary Search Started
 - ☐ Benchmark Primary Search Complete
 - ☐ Benchmark Water on Fire

