

Safety Corner: Landing Zone Preparation

In order to serve the community safely and efficiently the following landing zone guidelines will be used to establish and secure a landing zone for the helicopter for both scene and hospital flights.

Helicopter Safety

- ◆ Everyone must stay 100 feet from the aircraft
- ◆ Approach and depart the aircraft from the front only
- ◆ **Do Not** enter or depart the rotor arc when the aircraft is starting or shutting down
- ◆ The pilot and/or flight crew controls the activity around the aircraft
- ◆ No running or smoking within 100 feet of the aircraft
- ◆ All items within 100 feet must be secured. Ball caps, hats, linens, equipment, must be secured or off when operating around the aircraft.
- ◆ No one is allowed into the landing zone until the aircraft is in steady flight out of the area

- ◆ Protect patient from blowing debris

Landing Zone Criteria

- ◆ 100 x 100 FEET
- ◆ Clear of all debris
- ◆ Level, firm terrain with no obstructions
- ◆ No power lines or overhead obstructions near or in the area
- ◆ No vehicles or people within the zone
- ◆ Wet down if dusty
- ◆ Upwind if hazardous material involved
- ◆ Less than 10 degree slope

Landing Zone Ground Control Duties

- ◆ Assume command and secure landing zone
- ◆ Establish radio contact with the aircraft (helpful if same person)
- ◆ Assist pilot in locating LZ with general directions such as

north etc.; avoid using road names

- ◆ Do not stand in landing area

Night Operations

- ◆ **Do Not** shine light directly at Helicopter
- ◆ Emergency Vehicles may be parked so their headlights intersect the middle of the landing site and/or parked underneath wires to mark them
- ◆ Illuminate poles with lights to indicate hazards such as wires etc.

To schedule a landing zone class in your area please contact

mhodes@phihelico.com

