

## **Confined Space Entry**

Many workplaces contain spaces that are considered to be “confined” because their configurations hinder the activities of any employees who must enter into, work in, and exit from them. In many instances, employees who work in confined spaces also face increased risk of exposure to serious physical injury from hazards such as entrapment, engulfment, and hazardous atmospheric conditions. Confinement itself may pose entrapment hazards, and work in confined spaces may keep employees closer to hazards, such as asphyxiating atmosphere, than they would be otherwise. For example, confinement, limited access, and restricted airflow can result in hazardous conditions that would not arise in an open workplace.

No entry will be allowed for anyone (employee or not) to enter a confined space, as defined above, on City property or due to City operations without having the proper training and proper equipment in place in accordance with their department procedures.

The following definitions apply:

- A. *Confined space*: An area with a limited or restricted means of entry or exit, that is large enough for an employee to enter and perform assigned work, and that is not designed for continuous occupancy by the employee. These spaces may include, but are not limited to, underground vaults, tanks, man holes and catch basins.
  
- C. *Permit-required confined space* (also known as a *permit space*): An area that meets the definition of a confined space and has one or more of these characteristics that pose health or safety hazards, thereby requiring a permit for entry: (1) contains or has the potential to contain a hazardous atmosphere; (2) contains a material that has the potential for engulfing an entrant; (3) has an internal configuration that might cause an entrant to be trapped or asphyxiated by inwardly converging walls or by a floor that slopes downward and tapers to a smaller cross section; and/or (4) contains any other recognized serious safety or health hazards.

