

SCENARIO: TRUCK IN SINKHOLE

Thursday, 16 June 2005



Crash Rescue
pipe

Training article for discussion by your crash rescue or salvage crews. Given the photo supplied in the article, print them out and discuss what you would do. Scenario:

- A leaking water pipe has undermined the road and a garbage truck has broken through the road surface and fallen into the sinkhole
- Assume the driver is uninjured but still in the truck cabin
- Road surface could be further undermined as water is still leaking from the broken pipe



Discussion:

- What are your first priorities upon arrival on scene?
- What methods will you use to stabilise the truck, remembering the road surface could collapse?
- How would you get the driver out of the cab?
- How would you deal with any other damaged utilities under the road, gas / electricity etc?
- What would your initial SITREP be? Who else would you call for?
- What methods will you use to recover the truck?
- Would you pump the water out of the hole, or will this make the truck slip further in?
- If using tow trucks or cranes, what attachment points would you use on the truck?
- How would you gauge how much of the road had been undermined?