

Trench rescue team trains, expands



Chronicle photo by Paul Kirby

County trains personnel to make trench rescues.

By Paul Kirby

Fire and rescue personnel from Lexington County's Fire Service, EMS and other emergency organizations have completed a trench rescue techniques course.

The techniques are used to free someone trapped in a trench or hole which has collapsed.

These emergencies claim many lives across the nation every year. Improper response increases the danger to victims and emergency personnel.

Lexington County has formed a Trench Rescue Team at the Round Hill Fire Station. This specially equipped and trained team is one of three in the state.

The team was started, equipped and trained with a state grant of \$36,000 for special equipment, a trailer to carry the equipment and training to allow several county employees to become qualified to teach the techniques.

Instructor Stuart Platt said corporate sponsors donated some of the rescue equipment.

"Trench rescue is very intense and requires a great deal of equipment, manpower and resources," Platt said.

For information or to make a donation, call Chief Reggie Beckham at 359-2224.