When to Call for an Emergency Scene Response

- Ground transport to regional trauma center is > 30 minutes
- Prolonged extrication (> 15 min)
- Remote location or location inaccessible by ground (i.e. island)
- Off road accident
- When specialized equipment or procedures are needed (i.e. blood or advanced airway management)
- For patients with blunt, penetrating or burn trauma who meet Maine EMS criteria in Trauma Triage Protocol

What to Report

1. Agency name, contact person, phone number
2. Scene specifics:
   - Mechanism of injury and number of patients
   - Patient’s approximate age and weight; physical address or location; Delorme map page and grid
   - Landmarks
   - Latitude/longitude or GPS coordinates, if available
   - EMS radio frequency, ground contact and unit number of Incident Commander
3. LZ specifics:
   - Wires
     - Any type of wire, cable, clothes line or rope in the air or laying on the ground near the LZ
     - Power or telephone lines
     - Antenna and guy wires
   - Obstacles
     - Including, but not limited to, antennas, livestock, vehicles, signs and poles
   - Terrain
     - Surface type (snow, ice, hot top, sand, dirt, mud, tall or short grass); and presence of possible debris such as light snow, loose dirt or grass
4. At night it may be helpful to put lights under and adjacent to known wires and obstructions

Safety Rules

- LZ coordinator will stay in communication with pilot from time of contact through departure of the aircraft. The LZ coordinator’s responsibilities are to maintain security of the LZ and coordinate group movements with the pilot.
- Spotlights, headlights and/or handheld lights should not be pointed directly at the helicopter.
- Eye and ear protection should always be worn around the aircraft if rotors are turning.
- Secure all loose clothing and gear.
- People not assisting with the patient must be kept 100 ft away from the aircraft.
- Proceed toward the aircraft ONLY if signaled by the pilot or flight crew.
- When the rotor blades are moving, ONLY approach the aircraft when escorted by a flight crew member.
- NEVER approach the helicopter from the rear/tail section. THIS IS A VERY DANGEROUS AREA!
- ONLY flight crew members will open and close the aircraft doors.
- Nothing should be carried/extended over shoulder height.
- Patient loading is accomplished from the left side of the aircraft in the feet first direction.

When calling LifeFlight of Maine, please follow these procedures:

Bangor  |  Lewiston  |  Sanford
www.lifeflightmaine.org
Landing Zone Guidelines

- Designate one person (LZ Coordinator) to ensure security and to communicate with the pilot throughout the call.
- Whenever possible use pre-designated LZs at facilities, cities and towns.
- LZ area must be 100 ft x 100 ft.
- Surface should be as smooth as possible with no more than an 8 degree slope.
- Each corner identified by a marker. Strobes may be used, but are ineffective on bright days.
- Identify wind direction if possible.
- Use red or blue lights to mark the LZ corners at night.
- Vehicles may mark the LZ by criss-crossing headlight beams, highlighting the center of the LZ.
- Establish radio contact with the pilot on state fire to communicate obstacles, terrain, hazards/wires and wind direction.
- Once the pilot confirms location of LZ, turn off all unnecessary white lights such as white strobes and headlights.