



Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Justice and Public Safety – 911 Division

Emergency 911 Fire Decal Installation and Maintenance

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The Emergency 911 decals are made of a durable 3M 680 CR material. Please review the 3M Product and Instruction Bulletins as well as the video for installation provided on our website before installation.

Decal Installation:

Prepare for decal installation by ensuring surface area on vehicle is clean and dry and free from any dirt, dust, or loose paint.

There are two methods recommended for applying decals:

1. Applying entire decal at once
2. Applying decal using the hinge method

Either method can be used based on the size of decal and ease of application.

Applying Entire Decal at Once:

If you chose to use the method for applying the decal all at once, the following steps should be followed:

1. Remove the entire liner from the decal.
2. Position the decal using the level line at the bottom to assist with placement.
3. Use your thumb to gently tack the top edge of the decal in place.
4. Smooth wrinkles and bubbles out the decal using a firm piece of plastic (**for example, a credit card**) to apply pressure to the decal in overlapping stroke.
 - Always start in the center of the decal and move towards the edges.
 - Always pull the plastic applicator rather than push. Pushing can stretch the decal.

Applying Decal Using the Hinge Method:

If you chose to use the method for applying the decal using the hinge method, the following steps should be followed:

1. Position the decal using the level line at the bottom to assist with placement.
2. Use strips of masking tape along to top of the decal to hold in place.
3. Apply a strip of masking tape horizontally across the top of the graphic, creating the hinge.
4. Raise the decal up over the top of the hinge and peel the liner back a few inches starting from the top of the decal.
 - Note: The entire liner may be removed at this time, if desired. However, leaving the liner in place just prior to smoothing makes application more controllable, keeps the adhesive clean, and reduces the possibility of stretching the film.
5. Using care not to stretch the decal, hold the decal near bottom center and begin smoothing at the top center. Use firm pressure on the plastic applicator and overlapping strokes.
 - Smooth the graphic beginning at the center of the tape hinge and working outward to the closest edge.
 - Always pull the plastic applicator rather than push. Pushing can stretch the decal.
6. Once that section of the decal has been smoothed down, use two hands to peel back the liner a few more inches.
7. Continue smoothing the decal using the technique described above.
8. Continue to gradually remove the liner and smooth out until the entire decal is applied.
9. Remove the tape hinge and smooth out the top edge.

Helpful Tips:

Removing Air Bubbles:

1. Puncture the bubble at one end with a pin. **DO NOT** use a razor blade or knife.
2. Press out the entrapped air by moving your thumb toward the puncture.
3. Smooth over any resulting wrinkles.

Cutting Around Bolts:

Applying the decal over raised areas, such as bolts, causes low to moderate tenting over the area, which traps air that must be removed.

1. Use a razor or sharp knife to cut an X through the decal directly over the bolt.
2. Smooth the decal down around the bolt with the plastic applicator.
3. Carefully cut the excess decal around the bolt.

Removing Decals:

If the decal needs to be removed for any reason, please follow the instructions as identified in the attached Instruction Bulletin – Storage, Handling, Maintenance and Removal of Films and Sheetings, by clicking the **3M Instruction Bulletin** link.

Decal Maintenance

To maintain the quality and use of the Emergency 911 decals, please follow the below recommendations for maintenance.

Wash Regularly:

- Wash whenever the vehicle appears dirty. Contaminants allowed to remain on the graphic may be more difficult to remove during cleaning.
- Rinse off as much dirt and grit as possible with a spray of water.
- Use a wet, non-abrasive detergent and a soft, clean cloth or sponge.
- Rinse thoroughly with clean water. To reduce water spotting, immediately use a silicone squeegee to remove water and finish with a clean microfiber cloth.

Pressure Washing:

Although hand washing is the preferred cleaning method, pressure washing may be used under these conditions.

- Ensure the water pressure is kept below 2000 psi (**14 MPa**).
- Keep water temperature below 180 °F (**80 °C**).
- Use a spray nozzle with a 40-degree wide angle spray pattern. Keep the nozzle at least 1 foot (300 mm) away from and perpendicular (**at 90 degrees**) to the graphic.

Removing Difficult Contaminants:

Soften difficult contaminants such as bug splatter, bird droppings, tree sap and similar contaminants by soaking them for several minutes with very hot, soapy water. Rinse thoroughly and dry.