

[Start](#) > [Documents & laws](#) > [Act \(2003:778\) on protection against accidents](#)

Act (2003:778) on protection against accidents

SFS no. : 2003:778

Ministry/authority : Ministry of Defence

Issued : 2003-11-20

Amended : until SFS 2023:409

Amendment register : [SFSR \(Government Office\)](#) >

Source : [Full text \(Government Office\)](#) >

Content:

[Chapter 1. Introductory provisions](#)

[Chapter 2. Obligations of individuals](#)

[Chapter 3. Obligations of the municipality](#)

[Chapter 4. Obligations of the State](#)

[Chapter 5. Supervision](#)

[Chapter 6. Special obligations for individuals, municipalities and state authorities](#)

[Chapter 7. Provisions on compensation](#)

[Chapter 8. Emergency services under high alert](#)

[Chapter 9. Foreign aid](#)

[Chapter 10. Authorizations, responsibilities and appeals](#)

[Transitional provisions](#)

Chapter 1. Introductory provisions

Section 1 The provisions of this Act aim to provide, throughout the country, satisfactory and equivalent protection against accidents for people's lives and health, as well as property and the environment, taking into account local conditions.

Section 2 In the Act, rescue services refer to the rescue operations that the state or municipalities are responsible for in the event of accidents and imminent danger of accidents in order to prevent and limit damage to people, property or the environment.

Rescue services also include rescue operations carried out in accordance with Chapter 4, Sections 1-4, without an accident having occurred or an imminent danger of an accident.

The state or a municipality shall be responsible for a rescue operation only if this is justified taking into account the need for rapid intervention, the importance of the threatened interest, the costs of the operation and other circumstances.

This Act only deals with rescue operations referred to in this section.

Section 3 The rescue service shall be planned and organized so that rescue operations can be commenced within an acceptable time and carried out in an efficient manner.

Section 3 a Preventive activities for which the state and municipalities are responsible under this Act shall be planned and organised so that they effectively contribute to preventing fires and other accidents and to preventing or limiting damage resulting from fires and other accidents. Particular emphasis shall be placed on preventing human death and other serious injuries.

Act (2020:882).

Section 4 The Act does not apply to health care as referred to in the Health Care Act (2017:30). *Act (2017:53).*

Section 5 The Civil Protection and Emergency Preparedness Agency shall, at the national level, promote compliance with this Act and regulations issued in connection with the Act.

The authority shall also coordinate the municipalities at the national level and support them with advice and information in their activities under this Act. *Act (2020:882)*.

Section 6 The municipalities and the state authorities responsible for activities under this Act shall coordinate the activities and cooperate with each other and with others who are affected.

Section 7 Municipalities and state authorities responsible for rescue services shall ensure that the public is informed of the capacity to carry out rescue operations. They shall also provide information on how warnings and information to the public are provided in the event of serious accidents.

Provisions on warnings and information to the public are contained in the Act (2023:407) on Important Notices to the Public. *Act (2023:409)*.

Chapter 2. Obligations of individuals

Duty to warn and call for help

Section 1 Anyone who discovers or otherwise becomes aware of a fire or an accident that poses a danger to someone's life or a serious risk to someone's health or to the environment shall, if possible, warn those in danger and, if necessary, call for help. The same applies to anyone who becomes aware of the imminent danger of a fire or such an accident.

Obligations of owners or holders of rights of use of buildings and other facilities

Section 2 Owners or holders of user rights to buildings or other facilities shall maintain equipment for extinguishing fires and for saving lives in the event of a

fire or other accident to a reasonable extent and otherwise take the measures necessary to prevent fires and to prevent or limit damage resulting from fires.

Section 3 Has been repealed by *law (2020:882)*.

Obligations in case of hazardous activities

Section 4 At a facility where the operations involve a risk that an accident will cause serious damage to people or the environment, the owner of the facility or the person carrying out the operations at the facility is obliged to maintain or pay for emergency preparedness with personnel and property to a reasonable extent and otherwise take necessary measures to prevent or limit such damage.

The person carrying out the activity is obliged to analyze the risks of accidents such as those specified in the first paragraph.

The first and second paragraphs also apply to airports that have been granted an operating permit in accordance with Chapter 6, Section 8, first paragraph of the Aviation Act (2010:500) and activities covered by the Act (1999:381) on measures to prevent and limit the consequences of serious chemical accidents. *Act (2015:234)*.

Section 5 In the event of a release of toxic or harmful substances from a facility referred to in Section 4, the operator shall notify the County Administrative Board, the Police Authority and the municipality if the release requires special measures to protect the public. Notification shall also be given if there is an imminent danger of such a release. *Act (2014:688)*.

Chapter 3. Obligations of the municipality

Preventive activities

Section 1 In order to protect people's lives and health, as well as property and the environment, the municipality shall ensure that measures are taken to prevent fires and damage resulting from fires and, without limiting the liability of others, work to achieve protection against accidents other than fires.

Municipalities should take advantage of opportunities to utilize each other's resources for preventive activities.

Section 2 A municipality shall, through advice, information and in other ways, facilitate the individual's fulfilment of their obligations under this Act.

Section 3 A municipality shall have an action program for preventive activities. In the program, the municipality shall state

1. the objectives of the activities,
2. the risks of accidents that exist in the municipality and that may lead to rescue operations, and
3. how the activities are organized and planned.

Before the municipality adopts an action program or decides on significant changes to the program, it shall consult with the authorities that are particularly affected by the changes.

Law (2020:882).

Section 4 For fire prevention purposes, a municipality shall be responsible for cleaning (sooting) fixed combustion appliances that are not designed to be fired exclusively with gas, and associated flues. The same shall apply to flues in restaurants, catering kitchens and comparable spaces.

The municipality may permit a property owner to carry out or have someone else carry out sweeping on their own property. Such permission may only be given if the sweeping can be carried out in a manner that is satisfactory from a fire safety point of view.

For fire prevention purposes, the municipality shall also be responsible for ensuring that the items to be cleaned in accordance with the first paragraph, as well as chimneys, roofs and adjacent building components, are inspected from a fire safety perspective (fire safety inspection). The same shall apply to fixed combustion devices designed for firing exclusively with gas and associated exhaust ducts.

Section 5 Anyone who carries out sweeping or fire protection inspections pursuant to Section 4 has the right to access the facility concerned and to obtain necessary information and documents.

The police authority shall provide the necessary assistance.

Section 6 A municipality may prescribe that a fee shall be paid for sweeping and fire protection inspections pursuant to Section 4.

The municipality may grant the person who, in accordance with Section 4, third paragraph, carries out fire protection inspections without being an official of the municipality, the authority to issue necessary orders and prohibitions on behalf of the municipality in accordance with Chapter 5, Section 2, second paragraph. Such an order or prohibition may not be combined with a fine.

Rescue service

Section 7 A municipality shall be responsible for rescue services within the municipality, unless otherwise provided for in Chapter 4, Sections 1-6.

Municipalities should take advantage of opportunities to utilize each other's resources for rescue services.

Section 8 A municipality shall have an action plan for the rescue service. In the plan, the municipality shall state

1. the objectives of the operation,
2. the risks of accidents that exist in the municipality and that may lead to rescue operations, and
3. the ability to
 - a) carry out rescue operations for each type of such accident,
 - b) carry out several simultaneous rescue operations,
 - c) carry out extensive rescue operations, and
 - d) exercise leadership in the rescue service.

The municipality must state in the program what resources are available to maintain the capability. The capability must be reported for conditions both in

peacetime and during heightened alert.

Before the municipality adopts an action program or decides on significant changes to the program, it shall consult with the authorities that are particularly affected by the changes.

Law (2020:882).

Initiation of rescue operation

Section 8 a The rescue chief decides whether a rescue operation should be initiated.

If a rescue operation is to be initiated, the rescue manager shall appoint a rescue leader to lead the operation. *Law (2020:882).*

Subsequent actions

Section 9 A rescue operation is concluded when the person leading the operation (rescue leader) makes a decision to this effect. The decision shall be reported in writing. When a rescue operation is concluded, the rescue leader shall, if possible, notify the owner or user of the property targeted by the rescue operation of the need for surveillance, residual value protection, clean-up and restoration.

If surveillance is needed due to the risk of new accidents but cannot be carried out, the rescue leader may carry out the surveillance at the expense of the owner or user.

The police authority shall provide the necessary assistance.

Section 10 When a rescue operation is completed, the municipality shall ensure that the accident is investigated to a reasonable extent to clarify the causes of the accident, the course of the accident and how the operation was carried out.

Anyone conducting such an investigation has the right to access the scene of the accident. The police authority shall provide the necessary assistance.

After completing the investigation, the municipality must send an investigation report to the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency.

The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations on what the investigation report shall contain. *Act (2020:882)*.

Organization

Section 11 A municipality's tasks under this Act shall be carried out by one or more committees.

Section 12 Has been repealed by *law (2020:882)*.

Section 13 Assignments to decide on behalf of a municipality may not include injunctions or prohibitions in the event of a fine or the enforcement of measures at the expense of the defaulter.

Section 14 The personnel who, on behalf of the municipality, are responsible for carrying out preventive activities, planning, leading, implementing and following up rescue operations and exercising supervision must have the necessary competence through training and experience.

Section 15 The personnel who are part of a municipality's rescue service organization shall be employed by its own municipality or another municipality or by an association of municipalities. The municipality may delegate to someone else the task of taking initial limited measures in rescue operations or carrying out rescue operations that require special expertise.

The rescue service organization may also include a rescue service. A rescue service consists of personnel who have been selected on a duty basis.

If a special unit for operations has been organized at a facility in the municipality, the municipality may enter into an agreement with the owner or user of the facility that the unit shall be included in the municipality's organization for rescue services. The rescue operations of such a unit are to be considered municipal

rescue services under this Act even when the operations are carried out within the facility itself. *Act (2020:882)*.

Management

Section 16 A municipality shall have a rescue chief. The rescue chief shall be responsible for ensuring that the rescue service is appropriately organised.

The rescue chief may assign someone who is authorized to be a rescue leader to make decisions that, according to this Act, must be made by the rescue chief or rescue leader.

Unless otherwise stated in the assignment, the person who has received such an assignment may in turn instruct someone else who is authorized to be a rescue leader to make decisions in accordance with this Act.

An assignment according to the second and third paragraphs may only be given to someone who is employed by a municipality or a municipal association. The decision to give an assignment must be documented in writing. *Act (2020:882)*.

Section 16 a If a rescue operation affects the area of more than one municipality, the rescue leaders in the municipalities concerned shall decide which municipality shall be responsible for leading the rescue operation. If the rescue leaders cannot agree, the decision shall be made by the county administrative board(s) concerned. *Act (2020:882)*.

Section 16 b The municipality shall have a management system for the emergency services, where overall management shall be maintained at all times. If several municipalities cooperate to achieve overall management, it shall be exercised jointly by the municipalities.

The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations on the municipality's management system and on the marking of the staff's work clothes, vehicles and other equipment. *Act (2020:882)*.

Chapter 4. Obligations of the State

Rescue service

Mountain rescue service

Section 1 In mountainous areas, the authority or authorities designated by the Government shall be responsible for the rescue service, which includes

1. investigating and rescuing anyone who has disappeared under circumstances where there may be a risk to their life or a serious risk to their health,
2. rescuing anyone who has had an accident or is suffering from an illness and who needs to be treated or receive other assistance quickly.

Air rescue service

Section 2 In the event of aircraft accidents within Swedish territorial waters and within Sweden's economic zone, the authority designated by the Government shall be responsible for rescue services. What has now been said does not apply to waterways, canals, ports and lakes other than Vänern, Vättern and Mälaren.

The authority shall also be responsible for the necessary damage response efforts when an aircraft is in distress or when danger threatens air traffic, and shall be responsible for the search for missing aircraft.

Maritime rescue service

Section 3 Within Sweden's territorial waters and within Sweden's economic zone, the authority designated by the Government shall be responsible for the search and rescue of people who are or may be feared to be in distress at sea and for transporting patients from ships. What has now been said does not apply to watercourses, canals, ports and lakes other than Vänern, Vättern and Mälaren.

Investigation of missing persons in other cases

Section 4 In cases other than those referred to in sections 1-3, the authority or authorities designated by the Government shall investigate persons who have

disappeared under circumstances in which it may be feared that there is a danger to their lives or a serious risk to their health.

Environmental rescue service at sea

Section 5 Within Sweden's territorial waters and within Sweden's economic zone, the authority designated by the Government shall be responsible for rescue services when oil or other harmful substances have entered the water or there is an imminent danger of this. What has now been said does not apply to watercourses, canals, harbours and lakes other than Vänern, Vättern and Mälaren.

Emergency services in the event of a release of radioactive substances

Section 6 In the event of a release of radioactive substances from a nuclear facility to such an extent that special measures are required to protect the public or when there is an imminent danger of such a release, the authority designated by the Government shall be responsible for emergency services.

Section 10 of the Nuclear Activities Act (1984:3) contains provisions on the obligation for owners of nuclear facilities to take the measures necessary to maintain safety at the facility.

Subsequent actions

Section 7 A rescue operation is concluded when the person leading the operation (rescue leader) makes a decision to this effect. The decision shall be reported in writing. When a rescue operation is concluded, the rescue leader shall, if possible, notify the owner or user of the property affected by the rescue operation of the need for surveillance, protection of residual values, clean-up and restoration.

If surveillance is needed due to the risk of new accidents but cannot be carried out, the rescue leader may carry out the surveillance at the expense of the owner or user.

The police authority shall provide the necessary assistance.

Section 8 The authority appointed by the Government shall be responsible for the clean-up following releases of radioactive substances from a nuclear facility.

For clean-up after releases of radioactive substances in cases other than those stated in the first paragraph, the state authority shall be responsible as prescribed by the Government or, in special cases, decided.

Clean-up after a release of radioactive substances refers to measures that the state must take to make it possible to reuse land, water, facilities and other property that has been contaminated by a release of radioactive substances. The state is obliged to take such measures only to the extent that this is justified in view of the consequences of the release, the importance of the threatened interest, the costs of the intervention and other circumstances.

Management

Section 9 The rescue leader is appointed by the authority responsible for the rescue service.

Section 10 The Government may prescribe or in special cases decide that a county administrative board or another state authority may take over responsibility for the rescue service in one or more municipalities affected by a rescue operation, if the operation is particularly extensive or there are other exceptional reasons. If an authority has taken over responsibility, the rescue manager is appointed by the authority.

In the case of clean-up following releases of radioactive substances from a nuclear facility, the Government may prescribe or, in special cases, decide that a county administrative board shall take over responsibility for the clean-up within several counties or that another state authority shall take over responsibility within one or more counties. *Act (2020:882)*.

Chapter 5. Supervision

Section 1 The municipality shall supervise that individuals comply with this Act and regulations issued in connection with the Act.

The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations on how supervision shall be planned and carried out. *Act (2020:882)*.

Section 1 a The Civil Protection and Emergency Preparedness Agency shall supervise that the municipalities comply with this Act and regulations issued in connection with the Act. The county administrative boards shall, upon request, provide information on local and regional conditions. *Act (2020:882)*.

Section 1 b The authority appointed by the Government shall supervise the state rescue service.

The Civil Protection and Emergency Preparedness Agency shall in other cases supervise that state authorities comply with this Act and regulations issued in connection with the Act.

Act (2020:882).

Section 2 The municipality has the right to access buildings, premises and other facilities for the purpose of supervision. The municipality also has the right to obtain the information and documents needed for the supervision.

The municipality may issue the orders necessary in individual cases to ensure compliance with this Act or regulations issued in connection with the Act.

A decision on an injunction may be combined with a fine. If someone does not take an action that they are obliged to take according to the municipality's injunction, the municipality may take the action at their expense. *Law (2020:882)*.

Section 2 a State supervisory authorities have the right to obtain from the person subject to supervision the information and documents necessary for supervision.

If a municipality fails to fulfil its obligations under this Act or regulations issued in connection with the Act, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency may order the municipality to remedy the deficiencies. *Act (2020:882)*.

Section 3 The police authority shall provide the assistance needed for supervision.

Section 4 The municipality may prescribe that a fee shall be paid for supervision caused by the provisions of Chapter 2, Section 2.

Act (2020:882).

Chapter 6. Special obligations for individuals, municipalities and state authorities

Duty

Section 1 When necessary, everyone who turns eighteen or older and sixty-five years of age during the calendar year is obliged to participate in rescue services, to the extent that his or her knowledge, health and physical strength permit.

The duty is fulfilled at the request of the rescue leader.

Among those who are subject to compulsory service according to the first paragraph and who reside in the municipality, a committee referred to in Chapter 3, Section 11 may select suitable persons to be part of the municipality's rescue service. Volunteers shall be selected in the first instance. Those selected are required to participate in exercises with the rescue service for a maximum of twenty hours annually.

Interference with another's rights

Section 2 If danger to life, health or property or to damage to the environment cannot be prevented in any other way, the rescue leader in a rescue operation may prepare himself and the participating personnel for access to another person's property, cordon off or evacuate areas, use, remove or destroy property and make other interventions in the rights of another person, to the extent that the intervention is justifiable with regard to the nature of the danger, the damage caused by the intervention and the circumstances in general. Such interventions may also be made by a committee referred to in Chapter 3, Section 11 or, in the

case of a state rescue service, by the authority responsible for the rescue service. If the county administrative board or another state authority in accordance with what is stated in Chapter 4, Section 10, first paragraph, has taken over responsibility for the municipal rescue service, interventions may be made by that authority instead of by the municipal committee.

In the event of clean-up following a release of radioactive substances, the authority responsible for the clean-up may, under the conditions set out in the first paragraph or if necessary to enable the contaminated property to be reused, make such interventions in the rights of others as set out in the first paragraph.

Prohibitions or orders referred to in Chapter 7, Section 5 of the Act (1980:424) on measures to combat pollution from ships may be issued under this section only if the decision of the Swedish Transport Agency cannot be awaited. *Act (2009:1361)*.

Section 3 The police authority shall provide the assistance needed in the event of an intervention pursuant to Section 2.

Section 4 The person who, on the basis of Section 2, has decided on a cordon or evacuation shall, to a reasonable extent, assist in arranging accommodation for those who are in need of it as a result of the measure.

Section 5 Devices that are permanently needed for the rescue service may be placed on another person's land or building, if this does not have any significant impact on the use of the land or building.

Decisions on measures pursuant to the first paragraph are made by a committee referred to in Chapter 3, Section 11 or, in the case of state rescue services, by the authority responsible for the rescue services.

Reporting of decisions on duty and on interference with the rights of others

Section 6 Anyone who has made a decision on duty or interference with another person's rights under Section 1 or 2 shall report the decision in writing. The decision shall state when and by whom it was made, the reasons for the decision and who it concerns.

Obligation to participate in rescue services or clean-up after releases of radioactive substances

Section 7 A government agency or a municipality is obliged to participate with personnel and property in a rescue operation at the request of the rescue leader and in the case of clean-up after a release of radioactive substances at the request of the authority responsible for the clean-up.

However, such an obligation exists only if the agency or municipality has adequate resources and participation does not seriously hinder its normal operations.

Section 8 State authorities, municipalities and individuals shall, at the request of an authority responsible for rescue services or clean-up following releases of radioactive substances, provide information about personnel and property that can be used in the rescue services or in the clean-up.

Section 8 a If, in the event of extensive municipal rescue operations, there is a competing need for reinforcement resources, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency may, at the request of one or more rescue managers, prioritize and distribute available resources.

The authority may request that state authorities and municipalities provide information about the resources they have available and that they participate in the rescue operation with these. A state authority or municipality is obliged to participate only if it does not seriously hinder the authority's or municipality's normal operations. *Act (2020:882)*.

Section 9 Municipalities are obliged to participate in the planning of emergency services in the event of releases of radioactive substances from nuclear facilities and to participate in exercises in such emergency services.

Municipalities are also required to participate in planning and exercises for cleanup after releases of radioactive substances from nuclear facilities.

Alarming

Section 10 Municipalities and state authorities responsible for rescue services shall ensure that there are devices for alerting rescue services.

When a rescue service carries out a rescue operation, the Police Authority must be notified of the operation.

If the effects of an accident may require special measures to protect the population or the environment in a country other than Sweden, the rescue agency carrying out the rescue operation shall immediately notify the relevant authority in the other country.

Act (2014:688).

Chapter 7. Provisions on compensation

Compensation to municipality

Section 1 If a municipality has participated in another municipality's rescue service, the municipality is entitled to reasonable compensation from the other municipality.

If a municipality has participated in state rescue services or in clean-up operations following releases of radioactive substances or in exercises in such rescue services or clean-up operations, the municipality is entitled to reasonable compensation from the state.

Section 2 When an outflow of oil or other harmful substances into water causes municipal rescue services to be deployed, the municipality is entitled to compensation from the state for the part of the rescue services costs that exceed an amount determined by the government, if the outflow has occurred outside Sweden's territorial waters or within the part of the territorial waters where rescue operations must be carried out in accordance with Chapter 4, Section 5 or within the Göta River, Trollhätte Canal or Södertälje Canal.

If a municipality has incurred costs for clean-up due to such an outflow as referred to in the first paragraph, the municipality is entitled to compensation from the

state for the part of the clean-up costs that exceeds an amount determined by the government.

Section 3 If a rescue operation by the municipal rescue service has entailed significant costs, the municipality is entitled to compensation from the state for the part of the costs that exceeds a deductible. A prerequisite for the right to compensation is that the costs are directly attributable to the rescue operation. The deductible is calculated according to principles established by the Government.

Compensation to individuals

Section 4 Anyone who, due to duty or voluntarily with the consent of the rescue leader, has participated in rescue services under this Act or in training for such services is entitled to reasonable compensation for travel and subsistence costs as well as for work and time lost in accordance with regulations issued by the Government or by the authority designated by the Government. The right to compensation also includes damage to clothing and other personal belongings.

The first paragraph does not apply to anyone who has received compensation from someone else or who, due to service or otherwise through an agreement, is entitled to compensation for participation in rescue services.

Section 5 In Chapters 43, 87 and 88 of the Social Insurance Code and in the Act (1977:266) on State Compensation for Non-Commercial Damage etc., there are provisions on compensation for personal injury to those who have participated in rescue services under this Act or in training in such services. *Act (2010:1289)*.

Section 6 If equipment for emergency services or clean-up after releases of radioactive substances has been provided voluntarily or has been used pursuant to Chapter 6, Section 2, the owner or usufructuary is entitled to compensation for damage to or deterioration of the property, lost yield or benefit from the property and costs incurred as a result of the property being provided.

The first paragraph does not apply to anyone who has received compensation from someone else or who, due to employment or otherwise by contract, is entitled to compensation for providing property for rescue services or for clean-up after releases of radioactive substances. Nor does it apply to anyone who has provided property for rescue services, if the rescue operation was intended to prevent or limit damage to his property or was caused by an accident in his activities.

Section 7 If property is taken into use through a measure pursuant to Chapter 6, Section 5, the owner or usufructuary is entitled to compensation for lost yield or benefit.

Section 8 Questions about compensation under Sections 4, 6 and 7 are examined in the case of municipal rescue services or training in such services by a municipal board referred to in Chapter 3, Section 11 and which is responsible for the rescue services or, in the case of state rescue services and clean-up after releases of radioactive substances, by the authority responsible for the rescue services or clean-up.

The compensation shall be paid by the municipality or, in the case of state rescue services and clean-up after releases of radioactive substances, by the state.

Chapter 8. Emergency services under high alert

Section 1 When personnel subject to total defence obligation who are registered for civilian duty at a municipal rescue service organization are called up for service in accordance with Chapter 4, Section 7 of the Total Defence Obligation Act (1994:1809), this personnel is also included in the municipality's rescue service organization.

Section 2 In order to protect and rescue the population and civilian property from the effects of war, the municipality's rescue service organization under high alert shall, in addition to what is otherwise stated in this Act, be responsible for

1. detection, marking and clearance of dangerous areas,
2. indication, decontamination and other measures for protection against

nuclear weapons and chemical warfare agents,

3. supplementary measures that are necessary for activities under this section to be carried out.

Personnel within the municipality's rescue service organization shall, during the same time, participate in measures for first aid and transportation of injured persons, as well as for civil protection.

What applies to municipal rescue services shall also apply when personnel within the municipality's rescue service organization perform tasks according to the first and second paragraphs.

Section 3 If Sweden is at war or at risk of war or if there are such extraordinary circumstances that are caused by there being a war outside Sweden's borders or by Sweden having been at war or at risk of war, the Government may issue such regulations that deviate from this Act if it is of importance for total defence or if it is needed for the rescue service or so that clean-up after releases of radioactive substances can be carried out.

Section 4 During a state of heightened alert, the Government or the authority designated by the Government may decide that personnel within a municipality's rescue service organization may be used for tasks that do not concern the municipality itself.

If personnel have been called upon in accordance with the first paragraph, the municipality is entitled to compensation from the state for reasonable costs.

Chapter 9. Foreign aid

Section 1 The Government, a municipality or a state authority responsible for rescue services may, to the extent that follows from agreements that Sweden has entered into with Denmark, Finland, Iceland or Norway, request assistance from or provide assistance to foreign authorities in rescue operations.

In other cases, the Government or the authority designated by the Government may request or provide international assistance in rescue operations in accordance with international agreements that Sweden has entered into.

Section 2 If a foreign natural or legal person who is not domiciled in this country participates in a rescue operation in Sweden at the request of the government, a municipality or a state authority pursuant to Section 1, the state, instead of the foreign person, shall compensate for damage arising in connection with the rescue operation for which the foreign person would otherwise have been liable for damages under Swedish law.

The state shall also compensate a foreign natural or legal person who is not domiciled in Sweden and who acts on behalf of the aid provider for personal injury and damage to equipment or material used in the provision of aid, if the damage occurred in Sweden in connection with the rescue operation.

Section 3 The State may claim back compensation paid in accordance with Section 2, first paragraph, from the person who caused the damage intentionally or through gross negligence. However, for a person who is to be regarded as an employee, liability shall be limited in the manner stated in Chapter 4, Section 1 of the Swedish Civil Contingencies Act (1972:207).

Special provisions on the right to recover compensation paid for radiological damage are contained in the Act (2010:950) on liability and compensation for radiological accidents.

If foreign assistance has been requested by a municipality, the state may demand from it the reimbursement of what the state has paid in accordance with Section 2 or in accordance with commitments in international agreements regarding such assistance to the extent that the cost together with the municipality's own costs for the rescue operation does not exceed the deductible in accordance with Chapter 7, Section 3. *Act (2010:1908).*

Section 4 Aid personnel from Denmark, Finland, Iceland or Norway serve in connection with a rescue operation in Sweden in accordance with the service

regulations that apply in their own country.

Vehicles, rescue equipment and other equipment from any of the aforementioned countries may also be used in connection with rescue operations without special permission in accordance with the regulations that apply in their own country.

Provisions on immunity and privileges in certain cases in connection with foreign assistance in rescue operations in accordance with international agreements are contained in the Act (1976:661) on immunity and privileges in certain cases.

Chapter 10. Authorizations, responsibilities and appeals

Authorizations

Section 1 The Government may, in the matters dealt with in this Act, issue further regulations relating to the protection of life and health, the environment and education.

The Government may also issue regulations prohibiting outdoor burning and similar preventive measures against fire.

The Government may delegate to an administrative authority or a municipality the power to issue regulations pursuant to the first and second paragraphs.

Section 2 The Government or the authority designated by the Government may decide that natural or legal persons shall participate in exercises of importance for the rescue service to be conducted under high alert. *Act (2006:547)*.

Responsibility

Section 3 A fine shall be imposed on a person who

1. intentionally or negligently violates a ban on outdoor burning that has been issued pursuant to Section 1, second paragraph,

2. intentionally or negligently fails to fulfill his or her obligation to provide information or release documents pursuant to Chapter 3, Section 5, Chapter 5, Section 2 or Chapter 6, Section 8,

3. intentionally or negligently provides incorrect information about a situation of importance in fulfilling the duty to provide information pursuant to Chapter 3, Section 5, Chapter 5, Section 2 or Chapter 6, Section 8,

4. intentionally or negligently fails to fulfill what is incumbent on him or her pursuant to Chapter 2, Section 1 or 5,

5. intentionally or negligently, without having a valid reason, fails to fulfill the official duty that he or she is obliged to fulfill pursuant to Chapter 6. 1 §,

6. intentionally obstructs or attempts to obstruct a measure decided in accordance with Chapter 6 § 2 or otherwise disregards such a measure without a valid excuse.

In minor cases, liability shall not be imposed. Liability under this Act shall not be imposed if liability for the act can be imposed under the Criminal Code.

A person who has violated a fine order or a prohibition on fines shall not be held liable under this Act for an act covered by the order or prohibition.

Appeal

Section 4 A decision on the performance of official duties pursuant to Chapter 6, Section 1 or on interference with another person's rights pursuant to Chapter 6, Section 2 applies even if it is appealed.

If there are special reasons, a supervisory authority may decide that its decision shall apply even if it is appealed.

Section 5 A decision by a rescue manager or by the person who has been assigned to make a decision pursuant to Chapter 3, Section 16, concerning the performance of a duty pursuant to Chapter 6, Section 1 or concerning interference with another person's rights pursuant to Chapter 6, Section 2, may be appealed to the County Administrative Board. Otherwise, the rescue manager's or rescue manager's decision pursuant to this Act or regulations issued pursuant to the Act may not be appealed. The same applies to other decisions by the person who has been assigned to make a decision pursuant to Chapter 3, Section 16.

A decision under this Act or under regulations issued under the Act may, if it has been made by a municipal committee or by someone acting on behalf of a municipality, be appealed to the County Administrative Board.

The County Administrative Board's decision may be appealed to a general administrative court. *Law (2020:882)*.

Section 6 A decision of a state supervisory authority may be appealed to a general administrative court. The same applies to a decision of a state authority pursuant to Chapter 6, Sections 2 and 5 or Chapter 7. However, a decision of a state authority pursuant to Chapter 7, Section 1 may not be appealed.

If a municipality appeals a decision pursuant to Chapter 5, Section 2 a or Chapter 7, Section 2 or 3, the Civil Protection and Emergency Preparedness Agency shall be the municipality's counterparty after the documents in the case have been submitted to the court. *Act (2020:882)*.

Section 7 Decisions pursuant to Chapter 8, Section 4 may not be appealed.

Section 8 Leave to appeal is required when appealing to the Court of Appeal against decisions under this Act.

Transitional provisions

2003:778

1. This Act shall enter into force on 1 January 2004, when the Rescue Services Act (1986:1102) shall cease to apply. However, Chapter 3, Section 10 shall not enter into force until 1 July 2004.

2. In the case of appeals against decisions issued before entry into force, older provisions shall apply.

3. A prohibition or an injunction under older provisions shall be deemed to be a prohibition or an injunction under this Act.

4. A report pursuant to Chapter 2, Section 3 shall have been prepared and submitted to the municipality by 1 January 2005 at the latest

. The provisions on fire inspection in the Rescue Services Act shall apply until the

report has been submitted to the municipality.

5. A municipality shall have adopted an action programme pursuant to Chapter 3, Sections 3 and 8 by 1 January 2005 at the latest. Until the action programs have been adopted, the municipal rescue service plan shall apply.

6. When reference is made in Section 15 of the Nuclear Liability Act (1968:45) to the Rescue Services Act (1986:1102), the reference shall instead refer to the Accident Prevention Act (2003:778).

2020:882

1. This Act enters into force on 1 January 2021.

2. A municipality does not need to adopt an action programme in accordance with Chapter 3, Sections 3 and 8 of the new wording until 1 January 2022. Until new action programmes have been adopted, older action programmes apply.

3. A municipality does not need to fulfil the requirements in the new Chapter 3, Section 16 b, first paragraph, until 1 January 2022.

Swedish Constitution

The Swedish Code of Statutes (SFS) contains current laws and regulations. If a statute is amended, the old text is replaced with the new one.



**All public power in Sweden emanates from the people and
the Riksdag is the people's primary representative.**

Contact

Gear

Gear

08-786 40 00

Factual questions about the Riksdag and the EU

Parliamentary information

020-349 000

parliamentary information@riksdagen.se

Contact members

Questions about the Riksdag Administration's diary

registrar.riksdagsforvaltningen@riksdagen.se

Shortcuts

Work with us

Order and download

For teachers

Press

The Riksdag's open data

The Riksdag Library

The diary of the Riksdag administration

Follow the Swedish Parliament

Bluesky

Instagram

LinkedIn

X

Youtube

The Speaker of X

The Speaker on Instagram

Subscribe

For those of you who want to monitor the work in the House and the committees, there are several different ways to choose from.

Follow and subscribe

About the website

Cookies

Availability