

Upgrade Information for AEDs

Automated external defibrillators (AEDs) have become almost as common in public buildings as fire extinguishers. These life-saving devices are located in many settings including factories, offices, churches, schools, shopping malls and airports.

AEDs use voice prompts to direct rescuers in the proper steps to follow when resuscitating a cardiac arrest victim. These voice prompts correspond to the cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) guidelines that all rescuers and laypeople are taught in CPR classes. American Heart Association released new guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Emergency Cardiovascular Care (ECC). These guidelines are the culmination of years of work to develop science-based recommendations for treating cardiovascular emergencies, particularly sudden cardiac arrest. As a result, most AEDs in use now need to be re-programmed to these guidelines. The AEDs will still operate as designed, however they may cause some confusion to the rescuer using the device.

Pewaukee Fire Department carries 3 Lifepak 12's and 4 Lifepak 500's on various apparatus. As of now we are awaiting the software upgrade package from Medtronic/Physio Control. Once downloaded, this upgrade will give us the capability to change the set up options of all our Lifepak 500's to adhere to the 2005 Guidelines at the appropriate time. We hope to receive the upgrade by the end of November. Our personnel are also in the process of CPR/Defib training adhering to the new American Heart Standards.

Pewaukee Fire Department is asking the owners and managers of businesses and other facilities that have AEDs to contact the manufacturer to have the units programmed with the new CPR guidelines. Upgrade information may be available on the manufacturer's website or by calling the company's office and/or your sales representative.

Please contact our department if you are a Pewaukee business that carries the Lifepak 500 and need to upgrade your defibrillator. We will offer this service to you free of charge. If you need additional information on the new guidelines for CPR, please contact DC Friedel or FF Hetherington at 262 523-4616.

Contact information for several AED manufacturers is provided below.

Manufacturer	Brands	Contact Information
Cardiac Science	First Save, Power Heart G3, Power Heart G3 Pro	www.cardiacscience.com 800-426-0337
Defib Tech	Lifeline, Reviver	www.defibtech.com 866-333-4248
HeartSine Technologies	Samaritan PAD, Samaritan AED	www.heartsine.com 866-HRT-SINE
Medtronic	Lifepak CR Plus, Lifepak Express, Lifepak 500, Lifepak 500 DPS	www.medtronic.com 800-442-1142