

Standard Operating Guidelines

Guideline 211.0 Hose Testing



Purpose:

Hose testing operations can be very hazardous and has contributed to a number of deaths and serious injuries. To that end, this guideline is implemented for the safety of firefighters in the course of testing hose.

Guideline:

The following will be the standard operating guideline for testing fire hose.

All personnel involved with testing fire hose shall wear as a minimum gloves and helmets as protective equipment.

When testing is being conducted at the station in the north parking lot, traffic cones shall be placed in the parking lot at the entrance to Bryan Street and the entrance to the parking lot at the back of the station.

Hose manufactured in prior to July 1987 should be removed from service.

Hose manufactured after July 1987 shall be tested at pressures below:

1" hose	300 psi, unless marked otherwise on the hose.
1 ½ - 3" hose	300 psi, unless marked otherwise on the hose.
5" hose	200 psi, unless marked otherwise on the hose.

Testing with hose test machine:

The hose test machine shall be used for all hose requiring a test pressure over 250 psi. Hose shall be laid out in the parking lot and connections made to the hose testing machine.

Testing with apparatus:

5" hose may be tested using apparatus pump when test pressure does not exceed 250 psi. Hose shall be laid out and connections made to the passenger side of the apparatus. No hose that is being tested shall be connected to the pump panel side of the apparatus.

Test caps with bleeders shall be used. No nozzles are to be used for hose pressure testing.

Hose shall be filled at no greater than normal hydrant pressure and air expelled from the hose.

Once all air has been expended, personnel shall walk the length of hose checking for leaks. Any leaks found at couplings, couplings shall be tightened if possible. If leak is in

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the hose, the line shall be shut down, pressure relieved, hose marked with black or other suitable marker at location of leak and removed.

After hose has been checked for leaks testing will begin. At this time all personnel shall stand clear of all hose being tested.

Test pressures shall be maintained for 3 minutes, after which the bleeder valve will be opened and pressure relieved from hose lines, and hose shall be broke down walked out, rolled, and inventoried. Hose failing test shall be taken out of service.

Test results shall be recorded for each hose tested.