



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION BUREAU MANUAL
CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS
427.3 FIRE HYDRANT FIRE FLOW TESTING PROCEDURES
EFFECTIVE: APRIL 1, 2016
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SCOPE

Fire hydrant fire flow testing.

PURPOSE

This policy has been established to provide clarification of the requirements for fire hydrant fire flow testing.

REQUIREMENT AND PROCEDURE

1. Tiburon Fire Protection District (TFPD) shall provide Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD) with a minimum of 24 hours notice prior to non-emergency use. The MMWD contact number is 415-927-9951. (Systems Operators) – they will notify Water Quality and System Maintenance.
2. TFPD shall provide MMWD with the appropriate TFPD contact information to enable MMWD to make arrangements with TFPD, if MMWD has concerns about potential damage or water quality problems from operating specific hydrants.
3. Make certain that the flowing water will not cause any property damage.
4. Remove both 2 ½" caps.
5. To prevent debris from getting into gauges, briefly flush both barrels.
6. Turn hydrant valves on and off slowly to prevent damage to water systems.
7. Determine which barrel the diffuser should be attached to.
8. Place the pressure gauge on the appropriate upper barrel. The bleeder valve must be open to allow air to escape.

9. Place the diffuser on the appropriate lower barrel, with gauge handle facing away from the gauge to remove any debris from the valve.
10. Turn on the top barrel (with pressure gauge). Close bleeder valve when water is flowing from same.
11. On log sheet, record the static reading from the pressure gauge.
12. With the top barrel open, turn on the bottom barrel of the hydrant which has the diffuser connected to it.
13. With water flowing through the diffuser, turn the diffuser pressure gauge handle toward the gauge.
14. On log sheet, record the residual reading from the top barrel pressure gauge and the nozzle pressure from the diffuser pressure gauge.
15. Upon completion of flowing the hydrant, if water is turbid, continue running hydrant until water clears.
16. When done flowing the hydrant, begin the shut off procedure starting with the lower barrel with the attached diffuser. First turn the diffuser pressure gauge handle away from the gauge, with water flowing, slowly begin to shut off bottom barrel of hydrant. Keep constant watch on pressure gauge (on the top barrel) to make sure it does not climb above original static pressure. If pressure begins to climb, stop and see if pressure levels off. If pressure levels off below or at original static pressure, continue to close valve. If pressure does not level off or open position – notify MMWD immediately. MMWD will dispatch a valve technician to respond. While awaiting the valve technician's arrival, keep a constant flow discharging from the hydrant.
17. Once the valve to the bottom barrel has been close, proceed to shut down the upper barrel. First bleed off valve on the top barrel pressure gauge, to prevent damage to gauge. Slowly shut off the top barrel.
18. Remove all devices and replace hydrant caps.
19. On red or orange top hydrants, use the small pressure gauge for a more accurate reading.
20. Report all information to the company officer.
21. Report all problems, including damage and low flow issues, to MMWD through the company officer.

22. All water flowing into bay or creeks must be dechlorinated.
23. Record all test information into Records Management System.

CROSS REFERENCES

California Fire Code