

SUBJECT: HOSE MAINTENANCE
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PURPOSE

To provide proper care and maintenance for fire hose so as to insure its usability and full service life.

POLICY

- A. Fire hose shall be maintained according to manufacturer's recommendations and Departmental guidelines.
- B. All jacketed rubber-lined hose shall be tested annually.
- C. Records shall be kept on each piece of fire hose used by the Department.

TESTING HOSE

- A. Fire Department hose shall be tested annually according to NFPA standards.
- B. Make appropriate entries in Hose Records in Fire House software.

CARE OF HOSE

- A. Cleaning hose:
 - 1. Use plain water
 - 2. A mild soap solution may be used if necessary
 - 3. A stiff brush may be used to scrub hose
 - 4. Avoid using oil products or harsh cleaners.
- B. Drying hose:
 - 1. Place hose in hose tower or lay on floor after cleaning
 - 2. Hose should remain in the tower until the jacket is fully dry to avoid mildew
 - 3. Avoid loading wet hose on fire apparatus whenever possible.

- C. Storing hose:
1. Hose shall be stored using standard roll.
 2. Hose shall be fully dry before being placed into storage.
 3. Hose shall be stored in Fire Stations in the area specifically designed for that purpose.

NEW HOSE

- A. New hose received shall be visually checked for defects and damage.
- B. New hose shall be tested.
- C. Each length of new hose which passes its test shall be numbered and a information shall be entered in FireHouse software prior to it being placed into service. Hose identification number shall be stenciled on both male and female ends.

DAMAGED HOSE

- A. Repairable damaged hose:
1. Place hose out of service
 2. Tag hose at male coupling indicating type and location of damage.
 3. Store damaged hose in rolls with male coupling exposed.
 4. If hose is to be re-coupled, coordinate with the Water Supply Officer.
 5. Hose to be re-coupled shall have the coupling closest to the damage cut off prior to being sent out for re-coupling.
 6. Lengths of repaired hose shall not be less than forth (40) feet. (Except for those "short sticks" of hose used in monitor operations, hose loads and the aerial tower).
 7. Hose which has been repaired shall be tested and all appropriate information recorded prior to placing it back into service.
- B. Unrepairable damaged hose:
1. Remove from service.
 2. Tag hose as "unrepairable".
 3. Cut both couplings off hose and save them
 4. Make notations in Hose Record

RESPONSIBILITY

- A. It shall be the overall responsibility of the Water Supply Officer to provide overall management of the testing and maintenance of fire hose.

- B. It shall be the responsibility of the Shift Supervisor to insure that proper care and procedures are utilized during the maintenance, testing and use of fire hose.
- C. All members shall utilize the proper procedures and provide the proper care when maintaining, resting and utilizing fire hose.