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Sprinkler / Standpipe FDC Five Year Functionality Test Procedures

Fire department functionality tests shall only be performed by a person holding a valid Certificate of Fitness Type 2, issued by the Nassau County Fire Marshal (effective January 1, 2015).

- The fire department connection (FDC) for a sprinkler system shall be tested by applying a hydrostatic pressure of 100 psig directly to each fire department connection and satisfactorily maintaining such pressure for not less than 2 hours.
- Residual air in the FDC system shall be drained during the initial application of hydraulic pressure.
- The entire system may be subjected to the hydrostatic testing, or fire department connections may be isolated from the sprinkler system in accordance with the following procedures:
 - If the fire department connection check valve is of the flange type, a blind gasket or blank disc shall be installed between the flanges at either the inlet (dry side) or system (wet side) of the FDC check valve.
 - If the fire department connection check valve is the screw type valve without flanges, the line at the dry side of check valve must be cut and the end capped.
 - When the test is completed, the blind gasket or blank disc shall be removed and flange gasket replaced. If the pipe was cut to conduct the test, it shall be provided with flanges after the test so that it can be used when future tests are conducted.
- Rotating the check valve or backflow valve is not an acceptable procedure for FDC testing.
- A dry standpipe system shall be fully pressurized from the FDC. Blanking or isolation of any portion of the system shall not be permitted.

System Restoration

- After a blind gasket or blank disc is removed and piping is properly reconnected, a final test equal to street main pressure shall be applied to the fire department connection header to check that the flange connection is water tight.
- When the test is completed, the fire department connection header shall be drained and the ball drip valve left in good working order.

- The contractor shall endeavor to ensure that the sprinkler / standpipe system is not out of service overnight. If it is impracticable to restore the system for fire department use, the certificate of fitness holder shall notify the owner or building manager and the Nassau County Fire Marshal.
 - The building owner/manager shall be responsible for establishing an approved fire watch until the sprinkler system is restored.

Pneumatic Testing

- Sprinkler system fire department connections **SHALL NOT** be tested using air or other pneumatic methods.

Sprinkler / Standpipe FDC Five Year Functionality Test Paperwork

- The sprinkler contractor will complete the application with the site information, contractor information and test date and time.
- Application forms are submitted to the Nassau County Fire Marshal with the required fee (\$450 per FDC)
- Forms are processed and a copy of the application will be emailed to the company performing the test as confirmation of the test date and start time. A copy of the emailed application must be brought to the job site by the technician.
- The sprinkler company technician performing the test shall possess a valid certificate of fitness Type 2 issued by the Nassau County Fire Marshal, and shall have his/her ID card on site. If the technician does not have a valid COF Type 2 the test will fail (effective January 1, 2015).
- It is a 2 hour test, and should be up to pressure at the time indicated on the application form. The pressure will be maintained for 2 hours. At the completion of the 2 hour test window, the test will conclude, even if a Fire Marshal does not arrive during the specified time.
- After witnessing a proper test setup, the Fire Marshal will sign and date the application form indicating he/she was on site. The form will be left with the technician on site.
- Upon completion of the test, the contractor will mark the form as pass or fail in the appropriate section and return the completed form the Nassau County Fire Marshal for processing and records file.
- If a system fails, a new application and associated fees must be resubmitted prior to scheduling a new test.