



Kerrville Fire Marshal

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Section 4

Fire Department Connection (FDC) Guidelines

These guidelines are to be followed when a business facility or organization proposes to install or modify a fire department connection (FDC) serving an automatic fire sprinkler system or standpipe system within the City of Kerrville. These guidelines are not to be interpreted as containing all data required for proper design, installation or approval.

All fire department connections serving an automatic fire sprinkler and/or standpipe system for the purpose of these guidelines and any other guidelines or requirements of the Fire Marshal shall conform to the *International Fire Code* as adopted and amended by the City of Kerrville, *NFPA 13* and *NFPA 24*.

This guide does not replace, nor supersede any adopted codes and/or ordinances adopted by the City of Kerrville, or determinations and positions of the Fire Chief or Fire Marshal.

Information needed at time of site plan drawings

1. Show location of FDC connection(s) on site plan.

Information needed at time of construction drawings

2. FDC's for automatic sprinkler systems and/or standpipe systems for new buildings should be equipped with a 5 inch Storz connection and locking KNOX cap.
 - a. The Storz connection shall be at a short bend downward (30 degree bend) and equipped with a locking Storz cap.
 - b. A 2½ inch Siamese connection may be allowed on systems that are not capable of having a 5 inch Storz connection (with Fire Marshal approval). The 2½ in Siamese connections shall be equipped with locking KNOX caps. Fire hose threads used shall be national standard hose thread.
3. There shall be a check valve located immediately behind the FDC connection.
4. FDC's shall be located and installed as follows:
 - a. Underground piping shall be designed and constructed as required for an underground fire main in accordance with *NFPA 24*, Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances, as the installation standard.
 - b. The pipe size and arrangement of the Fire Department Connection should conform to the latest edition of *NFPA 13*, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems.
 - c. FDC's shall be located at a distance of 1½ times the building or structure height or at least 40 feet away from the building, whichever is greater, in a remote location approved by the Fire Marshal.
 - d. FDC's must be located within 75 feet of a fire hydrant and 25 feet of a fire lane.
 - e. The FDC shall be facing and visible from the fire lane.
 - f. The FDC shall be clear and unobstructed with a minimum of a 5 foot clear all weather path from fire lane access.
 - g. The FDC shall be installed at 48 inches above grade.

- h. FDC's installed in a yard shall have a 4 foot x 4 foot x 4 inch concrete pad placed at the base to provide additional stability.
- i. Where the FDC is subject to vehicular damage, the connection shall be protected. Protection components shall be no closer than 3 feet to the connection and shall not interfere with the operation of the connection.
- j. The FDC shall discharge into the system on the discharge side of the fire pump if a fire pump is present.
- k. FDC signs are required for each FDC connection. See *Appendix for FDC Sign specifications*.