

WRJFD POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE CARE AND USE OF FIRE HOSE

A. Attack Hose and Supply Hose.

1. Hose shall be inspected when it is placed in service.
2. Hose that is in service shall be service-tested at least annually.
3. Hose shall be service-tested the later of 1 year after its date of manufacture or before it is placed in service for the first time.
4. Hose held in storage for longer than 1 year shall be service-tested before it is placed in service.
5. Only clean hose shall be placed into service.
6. Hose carried on fire apparatus shall be loaded in such a way that air can circulate under the hose load to eliminate or reduce the growth of mildew in the hose jackets and rust and corrosion in the hose compartment.
7. Hose shall be removed from the apparatus and reloaded so that the folds occur at different positions with sufficient frequency to prevent damage and the setting of permanent folds in the rubber lining.
8. Large-diameter hose used to supply a pump from a hydrant shall be protected from chafing with chafing blocks or similar protection where it comes in contact with pavement or curbing.
9. When connecting a pump to a hydrant, the hose shall be bent slightly to avoid kinks when the water is turned on.

B. Supply Hose.

1. Hose marked SUPPLY HOSE shall not be used at operating pressures exceeding 185 psi (12.8 bar or 1275 kPa).

C. Discharge Relief Devices.

1. A relief device that discharges to atmosphere shall be used on the discharge side of the pump when pumping into supply hose.
2. The relief device shall be set so that the discharge pressure does not exceed the service test pressure of the hose being used.

3. The relief device shall be capable of dumping enough water to atmosphere to prevent the pressure in the discharge hose from exceeding the service test pressure of the hose if the flow is shut off downstream of the device.

Only slow-operating valves shall be used with supply hose.

D. Relay Operations.

1. Where supply hose is used in relay operations between pumps on fire department apparatus, the intake of each receiving pump shall be equipped with a relief valve.

2. The maximum pressure setting of the relief valve(s) shall be not more than 10 psi (0.7 bar or 69 kPa) over the static pressure of the water source to which it is connected or not more than 10 psi (0.7 bar or 69 kPa) over the discharge pressure of the supply pump in the relay.

3. In no event shall the relief valve be set to relieve at a pressure that exceeds 90 percent of the service test pressure of the hose used with the system.

E. Damage Prevention.

1. Hose, while in use, shall be positioned to minimize mechanical damage and heat exposure.

2. Vehicles shall not be driven over fire hose unless the hose is bridged.

3. Nozzles and valves shall be opened and closed slowly to prevent pressure surges and water hammer that can burst the hose and in turn cause injury to people or damage to the pump.

4. Care shall be taken to prevent the hose from chafing.

5. Care shall be taken to avoid dragging large-diameter fire hose, but if the hose must be dragged, it shall be dragged when flat.

6. When hose is in use during subfreezing weather, care shall be taken to prevent water from freezing inside the hose.

a. To help prevent freezing once the water is turned on, some water shall be left running through the hose.

- b. When the hose line is no longer needed, it shall be uncoupled and drained before the water freezes.
- c. Hose that has frozen during use shall be thawed and service-tested before being put back in service or in storage.

7. After each use and before being placed in storage or back in service, the hose shall be drained, cleaned, dried, and inspected as specified in Sections 4.6 and 4.7.