



# Fire Department Connections (FDC)

## Installation

Fire Department Connections (FDC) shall be installed in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard applicable to the system design and shall comply with Section 912 of the International Fire Code (IFC).

## Location

With respect to hydrants, driveways, buildings and landscaping, FDC shall be so located that fire apparatus and hose connected to supply the system will not obstruct access to the buildings for other fire apparatuses. The location of FDC shall be *within 75'* of a fire hydrant unless otherwise approved by the Fire Code Official.

## Visible Location

FDC shall be located on the street side of buildings, fully visible and recognizable from the street or nearest point of fire department vehicle access or as otherwise approved by the Fire Code Official.

## Access

Immediate access to FDC shall be maintained at all times and without obstruction by fences, bushes, trees, walls or any other fixed or moveable object. Access to FDC shall be *approved* by the Fire Code Official.

Exception: Fences, where provided with an access gate equipped with a sign complying with the legend requirements of Section 912.4 of the IFC and a means of emergency operation. The gate and the means of emergency operation shall be *approved* by the Fire Code Official and maintained operational at all times.

## Physical Protection

Where FDCs are subject to impact by a motor vehicle, vehicle impact protection shall be provided in accordance with Section 312 of the IFC.

## Sign Placement - Buildings

All FDCs shall be indicated by a minimum 14"x10" sign mounted on the street front or on the side of the building. Directly above the FDC. The sign shall have the letters "FDC" at least 6 inches (152 mm) high and words in letters at least 2 inches (51 mm) high or an arrow to indicate the location. Signs shall be white with red lettering or red with white lettering, whichever is more contrasting with the background or building. All signs shall be subject to the approval of the Fire Code Official.



## Sign Placement - Remote FDC

Remote FDCs shall be provided with a sign, visible from the direction of travel either attached to the FDC or on a post in proximity to the FDC. Signs shall minimum 14'X10" and shall have the letters "FDC" at least 6 inches (152 mm) high along with the address numbers of the location of the riser served. Signs shall be white with red lettering or red with white lettering. All signs shall be subject to the approval of the Official Fire Code.

## Sign Placement - FDC/Other Appurtenances

A metal sign with raised letters at least 1 inch (25 mm) in size shall be mounted on all FDC's serving automatic sprinklers, standpipes or fire pump connections. Such signs shall read: AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS or STANDPIPES or TEST CONNECTION or a combination thereof as applicable. Where the FDC does not serve the entire building, a sign shall be provided indicating the portions of the building served.





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**Backflow protection.** The potable water supply to automatic sprinkler and standpipe systems shall be protected against backflow as required by the *International Plumbing Code*.

## Locking FDC Caps

The Fire Code Official is authorized to require locking caps on FDC's for water-based fire protection systems where the responding fire department carries appropriate key wrenches for removal of locking caps to that building or facility. The Camas Washougal Fire Department requires the use of KNOX FDC caps on all new FDC installations.



## Clear Space around Connections

A working space of not less than 36 inches (762 mm) in width, 36 inches (914 mm) in depth and 78 inches (1981 mm) in height shall be provided and maintained in front of and to the sides of wall-mounted FDC's and around the circumference of free-standing FDC's, except as otherwise required or *approved* by the Fire Code Official.

## Inspection, Testing and Maintenance

All FDC's shall be periodically inspected, tested and maintained in accordance with NFPA 25.