



Miami Township Fire & EMS

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Questions? Email: FirePrevention@miamitwpoh.gov

Private Fire Hydrants, Private Fire Mains, and Fire Department Connections

Requirements include the following. Primary sources are the Ohio Fire Code and NFPA 25, *Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems*. Installation is covered by NFPA 24.

In the Clermont County Water Resources coverage area (all of Miami Township, Clermont County), private fire hydrants are yellow and public fire hydrants are red.

Fire Protection Water Supplies

507.5.3 Private fire service mains and water tanks.

Private fire service mains and water tanks shall be periodically inspected, tested and maintained in accordance with NFPA 25 as listed in rule 1301:7-7-80 of the Administrative Code at the following intervals:

- (i) Private fire hydrants of all types: Inspection annually and after each operation; flow test and maintenance annually.
 - (ii) Fire service main piping: Inspection of exposed, annually; flow test every 5 years.
 - (iii) Fire service main piping strainers: Inspection and maintenance after each use.
- Records of inspections, testing and maintenance shall be maintained.

507.5.4 Obstruction

Unobstructed access to fire hydrants shall be maintained at all times. The fire department shall not be deterred or hindered from gaining immediate access to fire protection equipment or fire hydrants.

507.5.5 Clear space around hydrants

A 3-foot (914 mm) clear space shall be maintained around the circumference of fire hydrants except as otherwise required or approved.

507.5.6 Physical protection

Where fire hydrants are subject to impact by a motor vehicle, guard posts or other approved means shall comply with paragraph (L)(312) of rule 1301:7-7-03 of the Administrative Code.

Fire Department Connections (FDCs)

912.5 Signs

A metal sign with raised letters at least 1 inch in size shall be mounted on all FDCs. [this sign shall display information as approved by Miami Township Fire & EMS]

912.7 Inspection, testing and maintenance.

Fire department connections shall be periodically inspected, tested and maintained in accordance with NFPA 25 as listed in rule 1301:7-7-80 of the Administrative Code. Records of inspection, testing and maintenance shall be maintained

Highlights of frequency of Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance by individuals holding proper fire protection licensure. For full information reference NFPA 25.

Hydrants Inspection (dry barrel and wall)	Annually and after each operation
Hydrants Testing (flow test)	Annually
Piping Testing (exposed and underground) (flow test)	5 years

All hydrants in Ohio should be dry barrel hydrants – water normally does not stay in the hydrant and the connection valve is underground at the water main.

Dry barrel and wall hydrants shall be inspected annually and after each operation for the following conditions:

- Presence of water or ice in barrel, which could indicate a faulty drain, a leaky hydrant valve, or high groundwater table
- Improper drainage from barrel
- Leaks in outlets or at top of hydrant
- Cracks in hydrant barrel
- Tightness of outlet caps
- Worn outlet threads
- Worn hydrant operating nut
- Corrosion detrimental to hydrant integrity

Fire department connections shall be inspected quarterly to verify the following:

- Fire department connections are visible and accessible.
- Couplings or swivels are not damaged and rotate smoothly.
- Plugs or caps are in place and undamaged.
- Gaskets are in place.
- Identification signs are in place.
- Check valve is not leaking.
- Automatic drain valve is in place and operating properly.
- Fire department connection clapper(s) is in place and operating properly.
- Interior of the connection is inspected for obstructions.
- Visible piping supplying the fire department connection is undamaged.

The piping from the fire department connection to the fire department check valve shall be hydrostatically tested at 150 psi (10 bar) for 2 hours at least once every 5 years.

For all aspects of inspection, testing, and maintenance, sample forms are available for downloading at www.nfpa.org, www.nfsa.org, and www.firesprinkler.org. Additional forms might be available through commercial insurance carriers.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns regarding these requirements.