



**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION**

620 South 'E' Street
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0179
(909) 386-8400

Standard Number

W-4

Revision Date:
3-22-16

FIRE SAFETY STANDARD

TEMPORARY WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS FOR FIRE PROTECTION

AUTHORITY

Sections 102.9, 103 and 104.1 of the 2013 California Fire Code provides that the fire code official of the San Bernardino County Fire Department shall have the authority to adopt policies, procedures, rules, and regulations in order to clarify the application of the Fire Code and to specify requirements not specifically provided for by the Fire Code. For further requirements on this subject, see section 508 of the 2013 California Fire Code. This standard may be modified with the approval of the Fire Code Official.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this standard is to provide guidance for the use of temporary fire protection water supply systems during construction.

SCOPE

This standard will allow a developer to begin construction of residential or commercial projects prior to a construction of a permanent water supply. In no way shall this standard be misconstrued to allow occupancy of any project without completion of an approved permanent water supply for fire protection.

DISCLAIMER

These standards may change without notice. Whenever applicable statutes, regulations and standards are updated and adopted, the latest shall apply. Please contact the Community Safety Division at (909) 386-8400 to determine if these standards have changed.

These requirements do not exempt any individual from complying with other applicable state, county, or city codes and standards.

SUBMITTALS

- 1) Three (3) sets of plans shall be submitted to the Fire Department for approval. These plans shall show all temporary water tanks, lines and their appurtenances and shall establish the minimum fire flow needed for the proposed project(s).



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- 2) These plans may be designed by a plumbing contractor, civil engineer or grading contractor.
- 3) No work on the project shall commence until plans are approved by the Fire Code Official.

GENERAL

- 1) Prior to the delivery of any combustible materials to any site that does not have a permanent water supply system, a temporary water supply may be installed with the approval of the Fire Code Official, after submittal of a permit application and site plan indicating the tank, hydrants, water lines, etc.
- 2) This water supply may consist of a temporary water line with temporary hydrants when approved by the Fire Code Official.
- 3) Hydrants shall be anchored in a manner to withstand the surge of water flowing out of the outlets at high pressure. If required, a 3' x 3' x 3' concrete footing for each hydrant shall be provided, maintained to withstand construction traffic.
- 4) A temporary water supply will consist of an approved elevated water tank containing a minimum of 10,000 gallons storage capacity. Fire Flow shall be as required by Appendix B of the 2013 CA Fire Code.
- 5) Temporary hydrants for new developments shall not be more than three hundred (300) feet (as measured along an approved vehicular path of travel) to main driveway on the address side of the proposed structure.
- 6) Each applicant shall check with the affected water district prior to Fire Code Official approval of connection to any public water system. The required fire flow for the project shall be met during construction.

ABOVEGROUND TANK INSTALLATION

- 1) The tank location and access must be approved by the Fire Code Official prior to delivery of combustible materials to the job site. The temporary water supply system shall be maintained operational at all times.
- 2) The tank shall be elevated a minimum of six (6) feet above grade.
- 3) The tank shall be located within three hundred (300) feet of the most distant building being protected.
- 4) A roadway to the tank capable of supporting fire apparatus shall be provided and maintained during the time that the tank is being used for fire protection.



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- 5) The tank shall be kept filled at all times and shall be posted "FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT USE ONLY" The letters shall be six (6) inches high, on a contrasting background, as approved by the Fire Code Official.
- 6) All valves to be locked with an approved fire department Knox Lock or breakaway lock.
- 7) Four (4) inch suction hose end to be locked to the tank with an approved fire department Knox Lock or breakaway lock.
- 8) Signs stating "NO PARKING WITHIN 100 FEET" shall be posted on all sides of the tank.

ABOVEGROUND WATER LINES

- 1) Aboveground water lines (minimum 6") may be acceptable at the discretion of the Fire Code Official. This shall be reviewed on a case by case basis.
- 2) Aboveground water lines shall be located to provide protection from construction traffic.