

Fire Hydrant Inspection and Maintenance



*Calvert County Government
Department of Public Works
Water and Sewerage Division*

This manual was developed by the Water and Sewerage Division with the assistance of the Fire Division and Engineering Division.

This manual was adopted by action of the Calvert County Water and Sewerage Division on January 1, 2014.

Table of Contents

Background	5
Scope	5
Privately Owned Hydrants	5
Guidance Manuals and Publications	5
Dynamics of Water	6
WATER HAMMER	
BROWN WATER	
Purpose and Uses of Fire Hydrants	6
FIRE SUPPRESSION	
LINE FLUSHING	
TESTING SYSTEM	
OTHER USES	
BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS	
Notification to Water and Sewerage Division.....	7
PRIOR TO OPERATION	
AFTER OPERATION	
Dry Barrel Hydrants	7
DIAGRAM OF TYPICAL HYDRANT PARTS	
Painting and Color Coding Fire Hydrants	9
PURPOSE	
COUNTY HYDRANT COLORS	
FIRE FLOW COLOR CODES	
Hydrant Repairs and Maintenance	10
RESPONSIBILITY	
Installation of Hydrants	10
RESPONSIBILITY FOR INSTALLATION	
HYDRANT EXTENSIONS	
INSPECTION OF NEW HYDRANTS	
GENERAL SPECIFICATION SHEET FOR HYDRANT INSTALLATION	

Table of Contents (cont.)

Routine Inspection	12
FREQUENCY PROCEDURE	
Fire Flow Testing	14
PURPOSE	
RECORD KEEPING	
PLANNING	
RESPONSIBILITY FOR TESTING	
CAUTIONS TO BE OBSERVED WHEN FIELD TESTING	
PROCEDURE	
Using Hydrants for Pressure Testing	15
PURPOSE	
NOTIFICATION	
PROCEDURE	
For More Information	15

Appendices

Dry Barrel Hydrant Inspection Checklist

Application for Bulk Water Meter

Letter to Private Hydrant Owners

The County has over 300 public fire hydrants. All public fire hydrants are maintained by the Water and Sewerage Division. The Water and Sewerage Division has prepared this document to provide guidance for conducting tests and inspections of public hydrants. This information may also be used as guidance for the operation and maintenance of privately-owned hydrants connected to the County water system.

Scope

This document is intended to aid informed and registered individuals with information for proper maintenance, testing and marking of public hydrants and privately-owned fire hydrants. In no way will this document replace proper training and experience. It should not be viewed as a training manual but as a guide to the equipment and expertise required for the proper execution of these functions.

Privately-Owned Hydrants

Fire hydrants spend most of their time unused and ignored, yet they are called upon in a moment's notice to provide fire flow for the protection of a business or home. They are an indispensable facet of the overall fire protection features of a building. Because of the way land is platted and easements are granted, there are a large number of private fire hydrants within the County. These hydrants are required for the fire protection of a building, but they are useless unless regularly maintained. Furthermore, they should be painted and labeled as described in this document so that firefighters can quickly identify the system capability of the hydrant.

The owner is responsible for testing, maintenance and marking of privately- owned fire hydrants and assumes all liability for the proper operation, maintenance, and marking of private hydrants. Maintenance, testing and inspection of private hydrants may only be performed by a contractor registered with the County.

Guidance Manuals and Publications

The following publications should be used when installing, testing or inspecting fire hydrants. These publications were also used in the preparing of this document.

Installation, Field Testing, and Maintenance of Fire Hydrants (AWWA M17)

Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems (NFPA 25)

Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems (NFPA 13)

Recommended Practice for Fire Flow Testing and Marking of Hydrants (NFPA 291)

AWWA Standard for Dry-Barrel Hydrants (C502-94)

AWWA Standard for Disinfecting of Water Mains (C651-99)

AWWA Standards for Installation of Pipe (C600 thru C606)

Dynamics of Water

When performing any sort of flow test or exercising of hydrants, there are several important concepts that must be understood to avoid causing damage to the hydrants and to the water system in general.

WATER HAMMER

Water hammer is caused by an abrupt change in the velocity of flowing water. It is most often the result of shutting down a valve too quickly. Imagine driving into a brick wall at 60 mph. The energy of your momentum has to be transferred somewhere. In this case it is shared, though unequally, by you, the car, and the brick wall.

Water is incompressible. It will not absorb ANY of the energy it gives off by being forced to suddenly decelerate. Therefore, the system, pipes, hydrants, and ground have to absorb all of the energy. If a valve is shut down too quickly, the weak link in the system will go first. The weak links are almost always at the flanges, or pipe joints.

BROWN WATER

Brown water is the basic complaint the Water and Sewerage Division receives when people turn on their faucet and see less than clear water coming out. This may be caused by several things. One thing that will often cause brown water is a sudden change in the amount of flow in water main, such as when operating a fire hydrant.

During normal conditions, water flows through the center portion of a water main. Because of friction between water and the wall of the pipe it is easier for the center portion to flow than the outer portion. As the average velocity increases, so too will the velocity of the water close to the wall of the pipe. As this water moves faster, it begins to kick up sediment that usually stays at the bottom of the pipe. This sediment gets stirred up and does not settle back down until the velocity slows. Once the sediment has been kicked up into the center portion of the pipe, it is now in the main stream of flow.

Purpose and Uses of Fire Hydrants

FIRE SUPPRESSION

Although fire hydrants are often used for other purposes, their primary function is to supply water for fire protection. Any other use is considered of secondary importance and rigorously controlled for the protection of the water distribution system.

LINE FLUSHING

The fire hydrants ease of operation and high flow capability make it a natural for use in flushing distribution system main lines. When line flushing is done in conjunction with systematic hydrant inspection, the primary function of the fire hydrant is kept in proper perspective.

TESTING SYSTEM

The County often uses fire hydrants to test the hydraulic capabilities of the distribution system. These tests, like line flushing, should be conducted in conjunction with tests to evaluate distribution system flow capacities in accordance with fire flow requirements as well as customer flow and pressure needs.

OTHER USES

Fire hydrants are also commonly used as a water source for street cleaning, sewer cleaning, commercial construction, street construction, and as a water source for other commercial applications.

BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS

Anytime a public or privately-owned hydrant is used for purposes other than fire suppression, flushing, or flow testing, a backflow prevention device must be used to protect the County water system. The Water and Sewerage Division has backflow prevention devices that can be installed by the hydrant user. Further information on using a hydrant for purposes listed under 'Other Uses' above, may be obtained by contacting the Water and Sewerage Office. A signed form and deposit are required prior to using a hydrant.

Notification to Water and Sewerage Division

PRIOR TO OPERATION

The County Water and Sewerage Division shall be contacted prior to performing any maintenance, repairs or other work on the public water system or on any privately-owned fire suppression system connected to the public water system. The Water and Sewerage Division must be notified before a public or private fire hydrant is used for purposes other than emergency fire suppression. Often, when a large volume of water is moved through a device such as a hydrant, sediment in the line will be stirred up and the Water and Sewerage Division will receive complaints about discolored water. If the Water and Sewerage Division knows the reason for the discolored water, it is easier to reassure the customer and explain the cause and time required to clear up the water system.

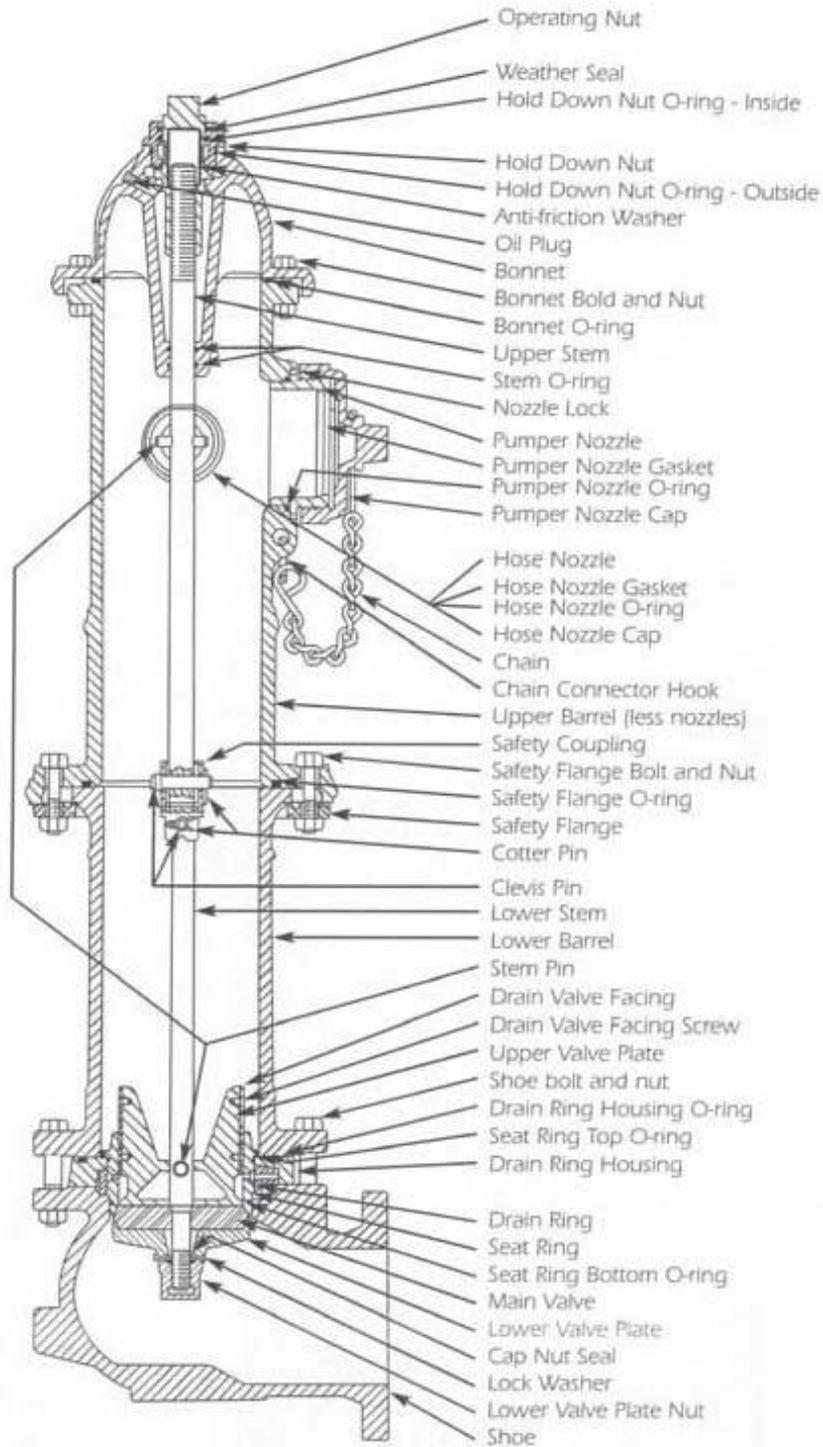
AFTER OPERATION

After operating a public hydrant, the Water and Sewerage Division should again be notified. This is especially important during cold weather. The Water and Sewerage Division will check the hydrant to ensure the barrel is dry to prevent freezing and ensure the hydrant is shut off completely. The owner of a private hydrant is responsible to ensure it is shutoff correctly and drained.

Dry Barrel Hydrants

The County uses dry barrel hydrants. Dry barrel hydrants are manufactured in accordance with AWWA Standard C-502. Dry barrel hydrants have the main valve located below ground and the section that extends above ground is void of water except during operation. These hydrants are equipped with drain valves to allow the portion of the hydrant above the main valve to automatically drain.

Typical Hydrant Parts Names for Dry Barrel Hydrants



Painting and Color Coding Fire Hydrants

PURPOSE

The appearance of fire hydrants has a direct impact on the public's confidence in the quality of the drinking water and Fire Divisions' ability to protect their homes and businesses. Therefore, it is necessary to maintain the appearance of the hydrants.

Fire hydrants are also color coded to indicate various system conditions including flow, type or size of water main, type of distribution system (potable, non-potable, or private) and system pressure.

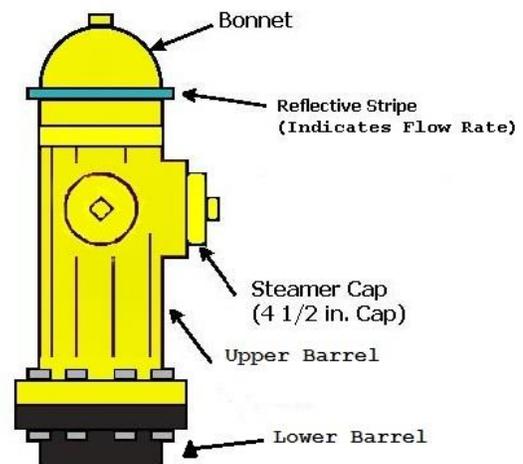
COUNTY HYDRANT COLORS

All fire hydrants in the County are painted Sherwin Williams Mueller yellow F75YH1 for the main color. This color makes hydrants more visible and separates them from surrounding landscaping and structures. The bonnet of privately owned hydrants shall be painted white to match Sherwin Williams Mueller White F75W478.

Each hydrant shall be given two coats of good weatherproofing paint before leaving the factory and another after installation. The lower barrel shall be painted black and the upper barrel shall be painted yellow to match the existing hydrants throughout the County. The color of the field coating shall be submitted to the Owner for approval prior to application on the new hydrant.

All hydrants shall arrive on site painted the standard yellow color as stated in the previous paragraphs. At the time of the pressure testing and bacteria testing of a newly installed waterline, the County will perform flow tests to determine the gallons per minute (GPM) available at each hydrant. The County will inform the contractor of the flow testing results at which time the contractor will install a reflective strip on the bonnet of the hydrant to indicate flow rate according to the flow ranges listed below.

Typical Hydrant Paint Scheme



FIRE FLOW COLOR CODES

All fire hydrants are also color coded, as set forth in NFPA Standards, to indicate the expected fire flows from the hydrant during normal operation. In most cases the bonnet is marked with a reflective strip to correspond with the following colors to indicate available flow:

Flow		
GPM at 20psig*	(l/sec at 140 kPa)*	Color
Greater than 1,500	(60)	Light Blue
1,000-1,499	(60)	Green
500-999	(30-60)	Orange
Less than 500	(30)	Red

*This is the calculated flow at a calculated residual of 20 psi (140kPa) and with the actual residual on an adjacent non-flowing hydrant being 40 psi (280 kPa) or greater. When the actual observed residual on the adjacent non-flowing hydrant is less than 40 psi (280 kPa), the color scheme should be based on one half of the observed flow.

Private hydrants are distinguished by the addition of white paint to the bonnet. Some existing private hydrants may not match the County color scheme. As these hydrants are identified, the owners will be required to re-paint them yellow with white bonnets to conform to municipal specifications.

Hydrant Repairs and Maintenance

RESPONSIBILITY

The Water and Sewerage Division is responsible for all repairs to the public fire hydrants in the County. The maintenance of public hydrants is a shared responsibility between the Water and Sewerage Division and Fire Division. If during inspection or operation, a public hydrant is found to be inoperable, or in need of major repairs, the hydrant should be reported to the Water and Sewerage Division and marked out of service. The Water and Sewerage Division will notify the Fire Departments of out of service hydrants. Hydrant repairs are expected to be completed within a week of defect notification.

The owner is solely responsible for testing, maintenance and marking of all privately owned fire hydrants. Information regarding the testing and repair of privately owned hydrants must be provided to the County Water and Sewerage Division and the Fire Division on an annual basis. The Fire Division is responsible for keeping records pertaining to the certification and maintenance of private hydrants but does not assume any responsibility for the testing and maintenance of privately owned hydrants.

All out-of-service hydrants should be immediately reported to the Water and Sewerage Division and marked out of service.

Installation of Hydrants

RESPONSIBILITY FOR INSTALLATION

Public fire hydrants are installed by the owner/developer of land incident to a subdivision or by the Water and Sewerage Division. In either case, a Contractor hired by the County or developer may perform the actual work. Fire hydrants shall be installed as per Calvert County Water and Sewerage Standard Detail W1.06. All water mains, valves, and other devices, connected to the County water system, must conform to Calvert County standard details and must be approved by the County Water and Sewerage Division prior to installation. Calvert County standard details may be obtained by contacting the Water and Sewerage Division.

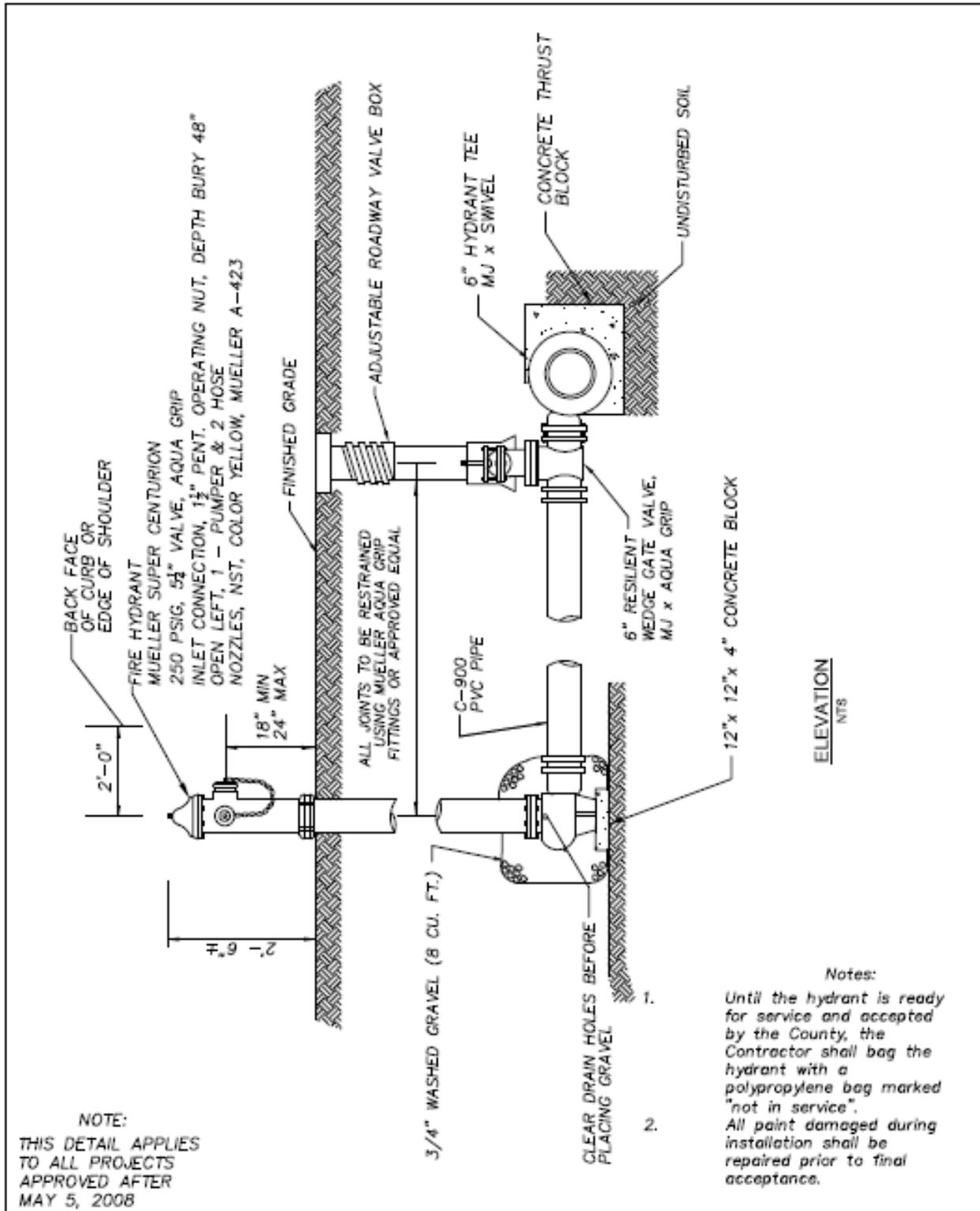
HYDRANT EXTENSIONS

Hydrants come in various bury lengths (the length of the barrel) to accommodate most installations. Hydrant extensions are available to raise hydrants to the proper level above ground. Only one hydrant extension may be used on a hydrant. If more than one extension is required, the hydrant shall be replaced with a new hydrant having the proper bury length. A special pipe, called a Gradeloc fitting, can also be used to adjust the elevation of a hydrant. However, it is best to install the proper bury length hydrant to begin with.

INSPECTION OF NEW HYDRANTS

All new public and private hydrant installations shall be inspected by the Water and Sewerage Division. Inspections shall include the checklist shown below and a fire flow test.

General Specification Sheet for Hydrant Installation



NOTE:
THIS DETAIL APPLIES TO ALL PROJECTS APPROVED AFTER MAY 5, 2008

- Notes:
1. Until the hydrant is ready for service and accepted by the County, the Contractor shall bag the hydrant with a polypropylene bag marked "not in service".
 2. All paint damaged during installation shall be repaired prior to final acceptance.

REVISIONS: 5-7-08	CALVERT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS-BUREAU OF UTILITIES APPROVED: BUREAU CHIEF DATE: MAY 1, 2008	STANDARD DETAILS FIRE HYDRANT ASSEMBLY	W 1.06 Sheet 1 of 2
----------------------	---	--	----------------------------------

Routine Inspection

FREQUENCY

In freezing climates, AWWA fire hydrant standards committee recommends that hydrants be inspected in the fall, in the spring and after each use. Lack of experience with the brands being inspected and time between inspections increase the length of time necessary to inspect a fire hydrant. To control these factors, the County specifies the types of hydrants that may be installed and endeavors to inspect public hydrants on an annual schedule. Routine inspection of common fire hydrants by experienced operators should take approximately 20 minutes per hydrant.

PROCEDURE

(A check list is included at the end of this document)

1. Notify the Water and Sewerage Division of the area(s) you will be in prior to beginning.
2. Check the appearance of the hydrant.
 - a. Remove obstructions around it. Hydrants are required to have a minimum of 3 feet of clearance in all directions.
 - b. If paint is needed, either paint the hydrant or schedule it for painting.
 - c. Check to see whether the hydrant needs to be raised or lowered (pumper nozzle cap should be no less than 18" and no more than 24" from grade) because of a change in the ground-surface grade. If adjustments are needed, schedule work.
3. On traffic model hydrants, check the breakaway device for damage.
4. Remove one outlet nozzle cap and use a listening device to check main valve for leakage.
5. Check for the presence of water or ice in the hydrant barrel, by use of a plumb bob or other suitable means.
6. Attach a section of hose or other deflector to protect the street, traffic, and private property from water expelled at high velocity.
7. Open the hydrant SLOWLY approximately 3 to 5 turns allowing time for air to escape from the hydrant barrel. Then SLOWLY open the hydrant to the full open position to check operation and to flush any foreign material from the interior and the water main.
 - a. When the hydrant is flowing full, a flow test can be conducted. Some styles of deflectors offer an opening designed specifically to allow a Pitot Tube measurement to be taken.
8. After approximately 3 to 5 minutes check the water condition using a solid white cup.
 - a. Look for discoloration and debris.
 - b. Continue to flush the hydrant until the water is clear.
 - c. If needed, the flow may be reduced by closing down the hydrant SLOWLY.
9. Close the hydrant. Remove the deflector and check the operation of the drain valve by placing the palm of one hand over the outlet nozzle. Drainage should be sufficiently rapid to create noticeable suction. For non-draining hydrants, pump the water from the barrel.
 - a. Be aware that some hydrants may not seem to slow down when you turn them. This usually means the hydrant may slam (it will have some slop in the stem and may make a thump sound when closing). This causes water hammer and could cause major damage to the water distribution system. This is why it is imperative that hydrants are closed

VERY SLOWLY.

10. Using a listening device, check the main valve for leakage.
11. Replace the outlet nozzle cap. Leave it loose enough to allow air to escape.
12. Open the hydrant only a few turns. Allow air to vent from the outlet nozzle cap.
13. Tighten the outlet nozzle cap.
14. Open the hydrant fully. Check for ease of operation. Certain water conditions may cause hard water buildup on the stem threads of toggle and slide-gate hydrants and on the threads of wet-top hydrants. Opening and closing the hydrant repeatedly usually removes this buildup. If the hydrant has no threads in water, but operates with difficulty, check the lubrication before proceeding with the inspection. Other problems that may make operation difficult are stuck packing and bent stems.
15. With the hydrant fully open, check for leakage at flanges, around outlet nozzles, at packing or seals, and around the operating stem. Repair as needed.
16. Partially close the hydrant so the drains open and water flows through under pressure for about 10 seconds, flushing the drain outlets.
17. Close the hydrant completely. Back off the operating nut enough to take pressure of the thrust bearing and packing (about ¼ turn).
18. Remove all outlet-nozzle caps, clean the threads, check the condition of the gaskets, and lubricate the threads with food grade grease. Check the ease of operation of the cap.
19. Check outlet-nozzle-cap chains or cables for free action on each cap. If the chains or cables bind, open the loop around the cap until they move freely. This will keep the chains or cables from kinking when the cap is removed during an emergency.
20. Replace the caps. Tighten them, and then back off slightly so they will not be excessively tight. Leave them tight enough to prevent their removal by hand.
21. Check the lubrication of operating-nut threads. Lubricate per the manufacturer's recommendations.
22. Locate and exercise the auxiliary valve. Leave it in the open position.
23. Repair any damage from running water.
24. If the hydrant is inoperable, tag it with a clearly visible marker and notify the office. This may save fire fighters valuable time in an emergency. Schedule the hydrant for repair.
25. Notify the Water and Sewerage Division when you are done for the day.

Warning: Never use antifreeze to prevent a hydrant from freezing or to coat the thread of the caps! Under certain conditions antifreeze may be able to enter the water distribution system and cause contamination of the water. Any hydrant found to contain antifreeze must be isolated and steam cleaned to remove all traces of the antifreeze.

Fire Flow Testing

PURPOSE

Fire flow tests are conducted to determine pressure and flow-producing capabilities at any location within the distribution system. The primary function of fire flow tests is to determine how much water is available for fighting fires, but the tests also serve as a means of determining the general condition of the distribution system. Heavily tuberculated water mains or those with heavy wall deposits can reduce flow-carrying capacities of pipe; this reduced capacity can be detected by means of a flow test. Flow tests can also help detect closed valves in the system. The results of flow tests are used by insurance underwriters as a factor in setting rates for insurance premiums and by designers of fire-sprinkler systems.

It is good practice to conduct flow tests on all parts of the distribution system approximately every 10 years (or whenever needed) to identify the service areas affected by significant changes in the distribution system.

RECORD KEEPING

An accurate record, filed systematically so it is readily available, should be kept of each test. The Water and Sewerage Division stores data collected from inspections and maintenance in the Divisions GIS system. This program stores testing, maintenance, and inspection information. The program also provides a visual indication of hydrant status for the County Control Center. Hard copies of data are filed in a binder in the Water and Sewerage Division office.

PLANNING

It is important to plan ahead when conducting fire flow testing. Review distribution-system maps and determine which hydrants will be used to measure flow and which will be used to measure the static and residual pressures. Review previous tests to estimate the flow and pressures that can be expected. Select a day for testing when system consumption will be normal and weather predictions indicate that conditions will be reasonable. The Water and Sewerage Division should be notified as to the time and location of the tests so necessary adjustments to the system can be made. As flow testing can greatly increase the velocity in the main, this may cause discolored water complaints. The Water and Sewerage Division and possibly the customers in the affected area should be notified of potential water quality issues in advance of the testing. Investigate traffic patterns, as the tests may affect traffic flow.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR TESTING

The County Water and Sewerage Division shall conduct all flow testing. The AWWA M17 manual, Installation, Field testing, and Maintenance of Fire Hydrants', is currently used by Water and Sewerage as a guide. The NFPA manual 'Fire Flow Testing – Discharge Table for Circular Outlet Friction Losses in Pipes' also has a complete procedure and tables for the flow testing of hydrants.

CAUTIONS TO BE OBSERVED WHEN FIELD TESTING

Opening a hydrant rapidly can cause a negative pressure fluctuation. Therefore, hydrants should be opened slowly until fully opened. Closing the hydrants is more critical, and it must be done very slowly. Closing a hydrant rapidly causes a pressure surge, or water hammer, and this could cause a weakened main to fail.

Hydrants should be opened and closed one at a time to minimize the effect on the distribution system. Dry-barrel hydrants must be opened fully because the drain-valve mechanism operates with the main valve. A partially opened hydrant could force water through the drain outlets under pressure, eroding

the thrust support from behind the hydrant. After the test, the hydrant barrel should be drained before tightening the outlet-nozzle cap. A tight outlet-nozzle cap could prevent proper drainage and possibly cause ice blockage in either the upper or lower barrels.

Gauge measurements should be taken only when the water is running clear because sediment could damage the instruments. Use a solid white cup to check water clarity before testing and again before shutting down the hydrant to ensure water is clear.

PROCEDURE

It is recommended that the procedure outlined in AWWA Manual M17, 'Installation, Field Testing, and Maintenance of Fire Hydrants', be used for conducting flow testing.

Using Hydrants for Hydrostatic Testing

PURPOSE

At certain times, usually during the installation of a new water main, fire hydrants may be used to conduct a pressure test at pressures above main pressure. Certain steps should be followed to ensure the safety of the persons conducting the pressure test and to protect the system.

WARNING! Hydrostatic testing described in this section shall be conducted with water because of the inherent safety hazard potential associated with testing components and systems with compressed air or other compressed gases.

NOTIFICATION

The Water and Sewerage Division should be contacted prior to performing any maintenance, repairs or other work on the public water system or private system connected to the public water system. See 'Notification to Water and Sewerage Division' on page 7.

PROCEDURE

Visually inspect the hydrant for any defects. Check the bolts and breakaway flange. Check the nozzle-caps and gaskets. Ensure the caps are tightened; a loose cap or damaged nozzle can blow off under pressure. Visible leaks shall be stopped. Defective elements shall be repaired or removed and replaced and the test repeated until the test requirements have been met.

To prevent damage to the system it is imperative that hydrants are opened and closed slowly. When the test is completed and the pressure is removed from the main, close the hydrant slowly. Once all testing is done, ensure that the hydrant has drained to prevent freezing.

Verify the water elevation in the tower serving the hydrant being tested. The Water and Sewerage Division uses this elevation in their calculations. A general procedure for hydrostatic testing of Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) waterline, the main type of material used in the County is detailed in AWWA Standard C605 Underground Installation of PVC Pressure Pipe and Fittings for Water. Similar standards exist for other types of pipe.

For More Information

For more details on the information in this document, contact the following:

Calvert County Water and Sewerage Division 410-535-1600 ext. 2329

Hydrant Inspection Report

Hydrant Number		
Location		
Pressures	Nozzle	
	Initial	
	Residual	
	Pitot	
Flow gpm		
Time Flushed Min		
Water used gal		
Paint		
Chains		
Caps		
Stems		
Packing		
O-Ring		
Top Nut		
Valve		
Valve Seat		
Condition of Water		
Remarks.		



Terry P. Carlson, P.E., Director
Mark Willis, Deputy Director, Enterprise Fund Operations

**CALVERT COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
WATER AND SEWERAGE DIVISION**

150 Main Street
Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678
410-535-1600 • 301-855-1243 • Ext. 2329
Fax: 410-414-2498

Board of Commissioners
Gerald W. Clark
Pat Nutter
Susan Shaw
Evan K. Slaughenhoupt Jr.
Steven R. Weems

**CALVERT COUNTY
PERMIT APPLICATION - BULK WATER SALE**

DATE: _____

NAME OF APPLICANT: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

BILLING ADDRESS (If different): _____

CONTACT PERSON FOR METER READINGS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ FAX #: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER OF APPLICANT: _____

METER MFR MODEL: _____ S/N: _____

INITIAL METER READING: _____ METER RENTED _____ OWNED _____
WRENCH RENTED _____ OWNED _____

VEHICLE MAKE, MODEL, YEAR: _____

TYPE & LOCATION OF PROJECT: _____

*** By signing this application you are acknowledging that you confirm all information above and agree to the terms and conditions of the "Calvert County Fire Hydrant Meter & Bulk Water Use Permit Agreement".**

Signature of Applicant

DATE OF ISSUED _____ DEPOSIT AMOUNT _____

FINAL METER READING: _____ METER RETURNED _____
WRENCH RETURNED _____

RECEIVED and INSPECTED BY: _____

CALVERT COUNTY - BULK WATER METER APPLICATION

1. "Permit Application for Bulk Water Sale - Calvert County" (need original application form with owner/manager signature)
2. Current Deposit required for renting a county hydrant water meter and wrench. \$980.00 - 3" hydrant meter, \$250.00 - ¾" hydrant meter, \$32.00 - hydrant wrench.
3. Current monthly rental fee is \$15 per month for renting a county bulk/hydrant water meter. Renter will be charged for any repairs/loss of meters or hydrants due to damage or misuse on their part.
4. If using your own bulk/hydrant water meter, the meter must be brought in at the time of application for visual inspection, reading and painting per Calvert County Water & Sewerage requirements.
5. Current usage Fee is \$3.75 per thousand gallons.
6. **You must bring your meters to the Industrial Park maintenance facility to be read and tested for accuracy by Water and Sewerage staff every quarter, sometime between the 5th and the 15th of the billing month.** The billing months will be **March, June, September, and December**. We will contact the customer to schedule inspection appointments. Failure to comply will result in termination of your bulk water permit. **We will no longer accept meter readings by phone, fax, or e-mail.**
7. Upon inspection of county owned returned meter, your deposit will be returned minus any rental fee, usage fee and repairs.
8. **Water is to be drawn from the below specified fire hydrants only:**
 - a. **Prince Frederick -Calvert County Industrial Park, The two blue hydrants on Ketch Road. Take 1st right in the circle, hydrants are at the end near the intersection of Ketch and Jibsail.**
 - b. **Solomons - Patuxent Business Park- The two blue hydrants are located in the Patuxent Business Park. Take the south entrance to park, go straight back to the cul-de-sac, (1) hydrant is located on the right. Take the North entrance to the park (1) hydrant is located on the right.**
9. Use of any hydrant meter, not permitted with Calvert County Water & Sewerage, use of a fire hydrant without a hydrant meter, use of an unauthorized hydrant constitutes theft and all violators will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.
10. Owner/Manager accepts full responsibility for all costs (including repair, replacement and all other costs) incurred resulting out of damage to CCW&S fire hydrants.

I hereby acknowledge that I fully understand the regulations described above, and that failure to abide by the regulations will result in revocation of my permit, loss of accompanying privileges and possible criminal prosecution.

Owner/Manager Signature

Date

[Pick the date]



Calvert County Water and Sewerage Division
150 Main Street, Suite 205
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

[Type the recipient name]
[Type the recipient address]

Dear Property Owner:

Our records indicate that you have a privately owned fire hydrant(s) on your property. It is your responsibility to maintain these hydrants to ensure that they are in proper working order in the event of a fire incident. We are requiring that these hydrants be inspected, serviced and maintained on an annual basis.

Fire hydrant systems shall be maintained in an operative condition at all times and shall be repaired where defective. Additions, repairs, alterations and servicing shall comply with approved standards.

Please notify the County Water and Sewerage Division 410-535-1600 ext. 2329 at least 24 hours in advance of scheduled service on your hydrant(s). Following maintenance, please complete the attached form and return to the County Water and Sewerage Division. Please contact the Water and Sewerage Division with any questions.

Sincerely,

R. Wayne Raither
Division Chief
Calvert County Water and Sewerage Division

Attachment.

CC: File