

Miami Township Fire and EMS Operating Procedures



TITLE:	FIRE HOSE CARE, MAINTENANCE AND TESTING OPERATING PROCEDURE	#1502	
EFFECTIVE DATE:	09/09/2015	DATE AMENDED:	
REVIEW DATE:	03/09/2016	APPROVED BY:	Chief Steve Kelly

This Operating Procedure shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until superseded.

PURPOSE

Establish an Operating Procedure (OP) for the care, maintenance, testing and repair of fire hose in the department's inventory.

SCOPE

This OP applies to all hose in the department's inventory and is in accordance with the recommendations of *NFPA 1962: Standard for the Care, Use, Inspection, Service Testing, and Replacement of Fire Hose, Couplings, Nozzles, and Fire Hose Appliances*.

PROCEDURES

A. General

1. Prior to being placed in-service, all new hose shall be inventoried and an Identification Number assigned to each section that will be written on the hose jacket near each coupling.

B. Hose Care And Maintenance

1. Any time the hose has been used it shall be inspected for damage or defects.
2. After any use, in which the hose was soiled or contaminated, the hose shall be washed with mild soap and water, rinsed and dried, as needed, before repacking.
3. All female hose couplings shall be fitted with gaskets. Couplings shall be inspected periodically, and gaskets that have deteriorated or are missing should be replaced.
4. Petroleum products shall not be used on threads or any part of a coupling.

C. Hose Testing

1. Hose testing is accomplished annually (or as needed) and coordinated by the employee assigned that responsibility.
2. All personnel shall wear a minimum of a helmet and gloves.
3. Test Pressures
 - a. 1", 1.5", 1.75", 2.5", and 3" hose is service tested to a pressure of 300 psi.
 - b. 5" hose is service tested to a pressure of 200 psi.
4. Test Procedure
 - a. The procedure for testing hose shall follow that outlined in the current edition of NFPA 1962.
 - b. The hose testing pump will be used to test all hose less than 5". Either the hose testing pump or an apparatus pump may be used to test 5" hose.



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- All personnel that operate the hose testing pump shall be familiar with its operation.
- c. Hose to be tested, shall be laid out on a clean, level surface in lengths not exceeding 300 feet.
 - 5" hose can be tested at lengths longer than 300 feet.
- d. Each hose section is checked as it is laid out for any obvious damage or defects.
- e. Slowly allow hose to fill with water, at the same time evacuating air from the hose. Fill hose to a pressure of approximately 45 psi. Mark each hose section at the back of each coupling and check for any defects.
- f. Slowly raise pressure to the service test pressure. Allow hose to stabilize for two to three minutes, adjusting pressure as necessary to maintain target pressure.
- g. After stabilization, service test pressure is to be maintained for three (3) minutes.
- h. At the end of the three (3) minute service test, shut down pump.
- i. Observe coupling markings for slippage at the coupling and remove any sections showing signs of slippage.
- j. Record each hose section Identification Number on the hose testing record. Any failed sections are to be tagged and removed from service with notation made on the hose testing record.
- k. Testing/retesting of repaired sections is to be done section by section.

D. Repair

1. Whenever a section of hose is taken out of service it shall be properly tagged out-of-service.
2. The tag shall include a description of the defect(s) and the location of the defect(s).
3. Out of service hose shall be inspected by the hose testing coordinator to determine if the hose should be repaired or destroyed.
 - a. Multiple defects or defects that reduce the hose length by more than 10 feet may require the hose to be destroyed.
4. Hose marked to be destroyed shall have their identifying numbers recorded and forwarded to the Fire Chief or his/her designee prior to disposal in accordance to the *Miami Township Personnel Policies and Procedures*.