

Pinion Pine Fire

Standard Operating Procedure
2012/13 revision



06 - STANDARD ON HOSE TESTING

PURPOSE: How to correctly and safely perform hose testing

SCOPE: All personnel

1. Lay out hose to be tested in lines of convenient length. Make sure that lines are straight and without kinks or twists. Record identifying numbers of length to be tested. Examine all gaskets. Worn or cracked gaskets should be replaced.
2. Connect a fire department engine or hose tester at a suitable location to provide the source of water and pressure for testing.
3. Connect lines to be tested to engine or hose tester. Attach a nozzle to the far end of the lines.
4. With the test gate valve open and nozzle open, fill the hose with water at a pressure not to exceed **250 PSI**. After the line is charged and all air has been exhausted, close the nozzle slowly.
5. Check all couplings for leakage and tighten couplings with spanners where necessary. Mark each end of the hose around the couplings with pencil. This is to determine if there is any coupling movement during the test.
6. Hold the test pressure for **5 minutes**. During this time, walk down the line and inspect for coupling leaks or pinholes in the hose. Personnel should keep a distance of at least 15 feet from the hose except as necessary to inspect couplings.
7. After 5 minutes, reduce engine speed to idle, disengage the pump and open drain valve on the engine to reduce pressure. When the pressure drops below 100 PSI, open the nozzle slowly to finish relieving pressure, close gates and disconnect the lines.
8. Observe the marks placed on the hose at the back of the couplings. If couplings have moved, leaks observed or hose burst, a tag should be affixed to it describing the problem and it should be noted on the annual hose test record form.
9. Hose records should also be marked to indicate the condition of each length tested.
10. After testing, hose should be properly drained, dried and either reloaded or rolled.