

	<h1>COMMERCE FIRE DEPARTMENT</h1> <p>Standard Operating Guidelines</p>
	Subject: Alternative Water Supply
	Reference Number: 2.12
	Effective Date: 4/3/2014 Last Date Revised: 4/2/2015
Approved By: Chief Kevin Dean	

Purpose: To provide adequate fire protection for residential developments and private commercial facilities located in rural and suburban areas in which city water is not available. *NFPA 1142 STANDARD ON WATER SUPPLIES FOR SUBURBAN AND RURAL FIRE FIGHTING* provides guidance on establishing alternate methods of supplying water for fire protection.

Scope: Applies to all Commerce Fire Department personnel.

Terminology:

Alternate Water Supply: Water supplies provided to meet the minimum fire flow/duration requirements where no municipal water system exists; or to supplement an inadequate municipal-type water supply.

Dry Hydrant: An arrangement of pipe permanently connected to a water source other than a piped, pressurized water supply system that provides a ready means of water supply for fire-fighting purposes and that utilizes the drafting capability of a fire department pump.

Drafting: Use of suction to move a liquid such as water from a vessel or body of water below the intake of a suction pump.

Large Diameter Hose (LDH): A hose of 3-1/2 inch size or larger.

Minimum Water Supply: The quantity of water required for fire control and extinguishment.

Mobile Water Supply Apparatus (Tanker, Tender): A vehicle designed primarily for the safe and effective pickup, transport, and delivery of water to fire emergency scenes where other apparatus or pumping equipment provide tactical fire stream application.

Water Delivery Rate: The minimum amount of water per minute (in gpm or L/min), required to be delivered to the fire scene via mobile water supply apparatus, hose lines, or a combination of both.

Water Supply Officer (WSO): The fire department officer or designee responsible for providing water for fire-fighting purposes.

General:

Alternative water supply systems may include dry hydrants, suction points, large-diameter hose relays, and hauled water using tanker shuttles.

Items to consider:

- fire-site pump capacity
- drop-tank capacities
- distance of responding apparatus from the fire station to the fire site
- distance of responding supply pumper to supply site
- distance from the fire site to the supply site
- amount of water carried by apparatus
- discharge rate of water supply apparatus
- fill rate of water supply apparatus
- quantity of water available and the rate available from the supply source
- set-up times

The use of an alternative water supply should be considered anytime the use of a city or county water system is a considerable distance from the fire scene. Incident Commander should consider use of a Water Supply Officer anytime this type of system is used.