HILLSBORUGH COUNTY FIRE RESCUE
FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE
CONTRACTOR'S GUIDE

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Site Review and Construction:

- Provide required Fire Department access roads and onsite water as per the currently adopted edition of NFPA 1, section 18.
- Fire Department access roads shall be provided throughout the construction process and onsite water shall be provided to the site before any combustibles are introduced.
- Fire Department access roads shall be a minimum of 20 feet wide and capable of supporting the imposed loads of our apparatus in all weather conditions.
- A minimum vertical clearance of 13 feet 6 inches shall be provided.
- A Fire Department access road shall extend to within 50 feet of a door leading to the interior of any proposed structure.
- Any dead-ends over 150 feet on a Fire Department access road shall be provided with an approved cul-de-sac, T, or Y type turnaround.
- In the Urban Service Area, a fire hydrant is required to be within 500 feet to the most remote point of any proposed structure (300 feet to industrial occupancies). This distance is measured along the road as our apparatus would drive. Hydrant cannot be across any major two lane or larger roads. (traffic count).
- In the Rural Service Area, onsite water shall be provided through a dry hydrant system in accordance with the currently adopted edition of NFPA 1142 and the requirements of the Hillsborough County Fire Marshal's Office. The dry hydrant connection shall be within 500 feet of any proposed structure.
- A Knox Box is required for any gate controlled access. Contact the Fire Marshal's Office at 813-744-5541 to obtain an application.

Building Plans Review and Construction Inspections:

- Plans currently reviewed for compliance with the currently adopted edition of the Florida Fire Prevention Code.
- Plans submitted shall include a code analysis with occupancy class, type of construction, number of stories, square footage, occupant load, fire sprinkler system Y/N, and fire alarm system Y/N.
- Provide a floor plan at ¼ scale on 24" x 36" plan sheets.
- Clearly define existing and proposed conditions.
- Separate submittals are required for fire sprinkler systems, fire underground, fire alarm systems, and dry hydrant system permits.
- An approved/stamped set of construction plans shall be on the job site at all times. If stamped plans are not at job site, the inspections will fail.
- Inspections shall be called in to the Fire Marshal's Office at 813-744-5541 prior to 3:00pm and will be performed within 48 hours.

- The Final C.O. inspection shall include satisfying the following: All required fire protection and life safety systems shall be installed, tested, and in full operation with any related permits finaled.
- All occupancies shall have the proper size, type, and number of fire extinguishers provided as per the currently adopted edition of NFPA 1, section 13.6.
- All commercial projects shall have their roads/drives paved with any required signage installed in accordance with the currently adopted edition of NFPA 1 section 18.
- The building address shall be posted in accordance with the currently adopted edition of NFPA 1, section 10.12. Numbers shall be a minimum 6 inches and of contrasting colors.
- This list of requirements is not all inclusive, other requirements may apply depending on individual project issues.

Fire Sprinkler & Fire Underground Plans Review and Inspections:

- Provide license number and information on fire sprinkler application, include the job value and as much pertinent information as possible such as pipe size, pipe length, pipe type, etc… Include any required hydraulic calculations.
- A minimum of 2 sets of plans shall be submitted for review, and shall be signed/sealed if job value is greater than $5000.00.
- System shall be designed with a 10 PSI safety factor.
- Plans shall clearly indicate type of sprinkler head, make and model, new head count, orifice size, and temperature rating of proposed sprinkler heads.
- Plans shall clearly indicate any required Fire Department Connection (FDC), either on the building or freestanding (if freestanding FDC shall be a minimum of 40 feet from protected structure). As approved by the Fire Marshal.
- FDC shall be installed street side on the front of the protected structure within 100 feet of a fire hydrant.
- FDC's within Hillsborough County shall be a 2 – ½ inch siamese connection. An NFPA 13R system requires a single 2 – ½ inch connection.
- A free standing FDC shall utilize DR-14 pipe and an FDC on the building shall utilize DR-18 type pipe.
- Plans shall clearly indicate fire underground pipe type, pipe size, and pipe length.
- A fire hydrant shall be on a minimum 6 inch fireline.
- Fire underground shall have a full visual inspection, **all joints must be fully exposed,** and any required thrust blocks shall be in place.

- All joints shall be wrapped or painted in accordance with the currently adopted edition of NFPA 24, section 10.3.6.
- 100% of fire underground installed shall be hydrostatically tested at 200 PSI for a minimum of 2 hours.
- A flush shall be conducted and witnessed by a Fire Inspector.
- Provide Statement of Compliance sheet(s) and any other required test paperwork to Fire Inspector.
- New fire sprinkler systems shall have a pressure test at 200 PSI for a minimum of 2 hours with all sprinkler piping exposed.

- Fire sprinkler finals shall include a visual inspection of the entire system, flow and tamper functional, the installation of the hydraulic calc plate at the riser, and a spare sprinkler head box installed at the riser with spare heads and a wrench.
- This list of requirements is not all inclusive, other requirements may apply depending on individual project issues.
- Note: No permit is required for 5 sprinkler heads or less.

Fire Alarm System Plans Review and Inspections:

- Provide license number and information on the fire alarm application, make sure to include the job value.
- A minimum of 2 sets of plans shall be submitted for review, and shall be signed/sealed if job value is over $5000.00.
- Plans shall clearly indicate all proposed and any existing devices.
- Plans shall include a riser diagram showing a device count.
- Battery calculations shall be submitted along with cut sheets for all devices used.
- All new systems, and some addition to existing systems, require a rough in inspection.
- Fire alarm final shall include a functional test of all installed devices, initiating, notification, monitoring signals (verify building address), ansul (if provided), and flow/tamper signals if provided.
- A copy of the inspection from the fire alarm contractor shall remain at the FACP.
- Provide Statement of Compliance paperwork and any required test papers to the Fire Inspector.
- This list of requirements is not all inclusive, other requirements may apply depending on individual project issues.
- Note: No permit is required for 2 devices or less, not including a new fire alarm control panel.

Dry Hydrant System Plans Review and Inspections:

- Provide license number and information on the fire sprinkler application. Include the job value on the application.
- Plans shall clearly demonstrate the calculation utilized from the currently adopted edition of NFPA 1142 to determine the amount of gallons of water required to protect any proposed structure.
- Plans shall clearly indicate location of tank(s), any underground piping, the well for initial fill and maintaining full water level, tank vent size, and the 4 – ½ inch NST male connection within 10 feet of a hard surface fire department access road.
- Connection for fire department hook up to draft water shall be a 4 – ½ inch National Standard Thread (NST) male connection.
- Tank vent shall be same size or bigger than the 4 – ½ inch fire department connection.
- The system is required to be pre-tested prior to requesting the fire final functional test.

- System shall have a final inspection by Fire Inspector with the nearest Fire Station Engine and crew to perform a functional test, connecting to the 4 – ½ connection and pumping 400 GPM for 5 minutes.
- Tanks and connection shall be no closer than 50 feet to protected structure(s) due to exposure hazard.
- 4 – ½ NST male connection shall be installed so the most remote portion of the protected structure is within 500 feet. This distance is measured along the road as our apparatus would drive.
- Provide Statement of Compliance paperwork to the Fire Inspector.
- This list of requirements is not all inclusive, other requirements may apply depending on individual project issues.