Fire Hydrant Flow Testing

Fire Protection Consulting

Fire Hydrant Flow Testing

Private Hydrant Testing

Fire Safety Training

Hydraulic Water Modeling

MIC Testing

Fire Code Consulting

Construction Management

Construction Consulting

Forensic Analysis

Litigation Support

When insufficient flow test data is used, project costs escalate.

ESL has the experience to get accurate flow test results, anticipate problems and keep your project on track.

Engineered Solutions International, LLC
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Engineered Solutions

Telephone: 404-378-5801 • Fax: 404-920-3269 • www.SolutionsLimited.com

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Fire Hydrant Flow Testing

What is fire hydrant flow testing?

Flow testing provides the basis for calculating water availability in a water system by providing a snapshot of the available water pressure at a specific water flow. When combined with a greater knowledge of the water system, flow testing can be used to locate problems in a system (closed valves or blockages), determine sizes and routing for new underground developments, confirm function of existing fire protection systems, and to design or modify fire sprinkler systems.

Why is fire hydrant flow testing important?

Without enough water a sprinkler system can be inoperable. Fire hydrant flow testing provides the foundation upon which a fire protection system is designed, built and maintained. The flow testing process determines the available water supply and if a sprinkler system needs a fire pump or above ground tank, as well as what size water lines will be required both underground and inside the building.

Who requires fire hydrant flow testing?

Testing is typically required by the Fire Marshal or Building Official who reviews fire sprinkler permit drawings. It is also required as part of the due diligence phase for many end users whose higher sprinkler densities require higher water demands. Insurance companies also often require annual testing to ensure existing or new systems have adequate pressure.

When should fire hydrant flow testing be conducted?

For new construction, hydrant flow testing should be done in the due diligence phase before any new underground water lines are installed. By identifying potential water issues early in the project you can avoid costly last-minute mistakes. There is often a cost savings by reducing underground lines to the minimum size required to meet base-of-riser flow demands. Additionally, this process will identify any large cost items such as fire pumps, water tanks, special backflow requirements or full flow meters.

Post-construction testing is also recommended to ensure that the water is being correctly delivered to the site and all valves are opening and functioning. Many local jurisdictions and insurance companies require annual testing to verify that the available water supply has not changed.

Why use Engineered Solutions (ESL) for your fire hydrant flow testing?

ESL keeps your project on track by knowing what tests you need, how the test is set-up, which hydrants to open, and what the results mean to your project. Proper fire hydrant flow testing is much more than just reading a gauge – its the experience to know what that reading means, what is happening in the system during the test, and how that water system operates and how it will affect your development.

ESL is a collaboration of professional engineers and technical experts with extensive flow testing and analysis experience. We have conducted flow tests nationwide for developers, civil engineers, local jurisdictions, insurance companies, and end-user clients. Use our years of experience with water systems and flow testing to get an informed assessment of your water availability.

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