

In an emergency, it's important the fire department and emergency responders are able to quickly locate and access fire protection equipment such as the fire department connection or FDC.

The fire department connection is a hose connection attached to a stand-alone pipe or piping attached to the building where the fire department supplies water to the fire protection standpipe or sprinkler system.



As a general rule, fire protection equipment including fire department connections are identified by a red post and red sign with white letters. The sign shall include the following information:

1. All words in letters at least one-inch in height.
2. Type of system(s) being served:
 - a. Auto-Sprinklers
 - b. Standpipes
 - c. Fire Pump Connection
 - d. Boost to or Pump at _____ psi (for buildings utilizing Pressure Reducing Valves), or
 - e. A combination thereof.

Example:

**COMBINATION AUTO-
SPKR / STANDPIPE**

In some instances, it may be necessary to include the premise address, building identification, or portion of the building protected on the sign if it's unclear which building or portion thereof the FDC serves.

EXTERIOR SIGNS

The signs required to identify fire protection equipment and FDC's must be constructed of durable materials, permanently installed, able to withstand the elements, and readily visible. A metal sign with raised letters may also be required for wall mount connections so that any repainting or fading of the colors will not affect the sign to be read.



LOCATIONS



The location of the FDC's may not always be visible from the street or nearest point of fire apparatus access. In those instances, the location of the connection must be clearly identified with approved signage. The letters "FDC" must

be at least 6 inches in height.

ACCESSIBILITY

Immediate access to the FDC must be maintained at all times without obstruction by fences, bushes, trees walls or any other object. A working space of at least 3 feet must be provided and maintained in front and to the sides of the FDC. Also, the caps for the hose connection ports must also be in place, or replaced when missing to prevent trash or foreign materials obstructing the piping. If sufficient foreign materials or obstructions have been found, a complete flush of the piping may be required.