

SAN JOSE FIRE CODE, SECTION 508 FIRE PROTECTION WATER SUPPLIES

508.1 Required water supply

An approved water supply capable of supplying the required fire flow for fire protection shall be provided to premises upon which facilities, buildings or portions of buildings are hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction.

508.2 Type of water supply

A water supply shall consist of reservoirs, pressure tanks, elevated tanks, water mains or other fixed systems capable of providing the required fire flow.

508.2.1 Private fire service mains

Private fire service mains and appurtenances shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 24.

508.2.2 Water tanks

Water tanks for private fire protection shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 22.

508.3 Fire flow

Fire flow requirements for buildings or portions of buildings and facilities shall be determined by an approved method *or Appendix B*.

508.4 Water supply test

The fire code official shall be notified prior to the water supply test. Water supply tests shall be witnessed by the fire code official or approved documentation of the test shall be provided to the fire code official prior to final approval of the water supply system.

508.5 Fire hydrant systems

Fire hydrant systems shall comply with Sections 508.5.1 through 508.5.6 *and Appendix C or by an approved method*.

508.5.1 Where required. Where a portion of the facility or building hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction is more than 400 feet (122 m) from a hydrant on a fire apparatus access road, as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the facility or building, on-site fire hydrants and mains shall be provided where required by the Chief.

Exceptions:

1. For Group R-3 and Group U occupancies fully sprinkler throughout, the distance requirements may be modified by the Chief.

508.5.2 Inspection, testing and maintenance

Fire hydrant systems shall be subject to periodic tests as required by the fire code official. Fire hydrant systems shall be maintained in an operative condition at all times and shall be repaired where defective. Additions, repairs, alterations and servicing shall comply with approved standards.

508.5.3 Private fire service mains and water tanks

Private fire service mains and water tanks shall be periodically inspected, tested and maintained in accordance with *Title 19 California Code of Regulations Chapter 5*.

508.5.4 Obstruction

Posts, fences, vehicles, growth, trash, storage and other materials or objects shall not be placed or kept near fire hydrants, fire department inlet connections or fire protection system control valves in a manner that would prevent such equipment or fire hydrants from being immediately discernible. The fire department shall not be deterred or hindered from gaining immediate access to fire protection equipment or fire hydrants.

508.5.5 Clear space around hydrants

A 3-foot (914 mm) clear space shall be maintained around the circumference of fire hydrants except as otherwise required or approved.

508.5.6 Physical protection

Where fire hydrants are subject to impact by a motor vehicle, guard posts or other approved means shall comply with Section 312.