

ADOPTED: JANUARY 1, 2016

REVISED:

PURPOSE

To establish a protocol to provide continuous water supply for hydrant and non-hydrant areas and to supplement areas with weak or insufficient water systems.

PROCEDURE**A. First-in Engine**

1. Assesses water supply needs (working fire, heavy smoke showing, etc.).
2. Based on access and conditions determine which Engine will drop a tail or take a hydrant and relay information to second-in apparatus.
3. Consider alternative water supply needs.

B. Second-in Engine

1. Lays hose in to fire scene as directed and supplies attack engine, or takes secondary hydrant and utilizes water for additional lines.
2. If first-in apparatus dropped a tail, set up to pump to tail. First-in Water Tender may also act as nurse tender and/or set up to draft and pump to the tail.
3. Officer may be designated as Dump Site Manager.

C. Additional Engines

1. An additional engine company may be needed to establish and speed-up fill site operations.
2. Officer may be designated as Fill Site Manager.
3. Consider relay/tandem pumping.
4. Report to command for assignment.

D. First-in Tender

1. Pump to tail with correct pump pressure and/or set-up porta-tank if needed.
2. Become nurse tender.
3. Head to fill site when empty.

E. Second-in Tender

1. Become nurse tender –or–
2. Pump to tail and complete porta-tank setup.
3. Head to fill site when empty.

F. Additional Tenders

1. Dump or pump depending on water delivery mode.
2. Head to fill site when empty.

G. Water Supply Officer (WSO)

Supplies water to scene, directs tenders, determines water flow needs and number of tenders required.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Keep water continuously flowing up the tail to the attack engine.
- Open and close hydrants slowly (and fully) to prevent water hammer.
- Consider designating a Water Supply Officer.
- Keep traffic lanes open at the dump site.
- Order resources early to ensure adequate water is on the road, consider Tender turnaround times.
- Determine fill site(s) and consider road conditions and traffic routes.
- Run Water Supply on a separate radio channel, if possible.
- Hydrant person will communicate (visual or radio) with engineer before charging the supply line.

CHEAT SHEET**DETERMINE FIRE FLOW:**

- Small Outbuilding, Shed = 250 gpm
- Small Residence, Propane Tank, Mobile Home = 500 gpm
- Medium Residence = 750 gpm
- Large Residence, Barn – Big Fire = 1000 gpm

DETERMINE WATER DELIVERY MODE

- 250 gpm = Direct or Nurse
- 500 gpm = Direct/Nurse/Port-a-tank
- 750 gpm = Port-a-Tank
- 1000 gpm = Port-a-Tank

DIRECT/NURSE KEY POINTS

- Pump correct pressure for hose lay.
- Make sure pump has capacity for hose lay.
- Spot Tender to leave room for others.
- Get Fill Site/access/direction of travel from WSO. Head for water when empty.
- Consider radio traffic
- Deployment duration

PORTA-TANK KEY POINTS

- Use tarp/sizing template to spot Port-a-Tank.
- Maintain drive-by access to tank.
- If utilizing side dump – watch exhaust.
- Crew stays in cab.
- Head for water when empty.
- Get Fill Site/access/direction of travel from WSO.
- Consider radio traffic
- Deployment duration