

AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEMS STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE

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I. Scope

This standard regulates emergency operations in buildings equipped with automatic fire sprinkler systems.

- A. Establish guidelines for emergency operations in buildings equipped with automatic fire sprinkler systems.
- B. Ensure that automatic fire sprinkler systems are properly supported so that they perform as designed.
- C. Ensure that activated automatic fire sprinkler systems are restored to service properly and that the fire has been extinguished.

II. General

- A. It shall be the policy of this department to support and supplement automatic fire sprinkler systems that have activated during a fire.
- B. It shall be the responsibility of all personnel to know which buildings within our first due that are equipped with automatic fire sprinkler systems and to be familiar with the location of fire department connections and control valves.

III. Operations

A. System support:

- 1. The first-due engine company should lay a supply line to the fire department connection (FDC) and then supplement the system by pumping two 2½-inch or 3-inch lines. It is best to connect to both inlets of a sprinkler siamese, since doing so decreases friction loss. It also provides safety and redundancy if one of the lines fails.
Note: Some sprinkler systems have only a single 2½-inch or 1½-inch inlet.
- 2. Pump operators should place heavy duty tarps or salvage covers over FDC supply lines to protect them from falling glass and other items. This should be done soon as possible.
- 3. Pumping pressures:
 - a. 150 psi at the fire department connection plus 5 psi per floor in multiple-story buildings.
 - b. More water may be required depending on the number of heads operating, building size and height, etc. Engine operators shall adjust pressures accordingly.

IV. System Restoration

- A. The system should not be shut off until the fire is extinguished, and only then by order of the incident commander. The member shutting off the system shall remain at the control valve until relieved by the incident commander.
- B. Prior to shutting off the system, the water flow may be stopped by using sprinkler wedges if possible.
- C. Before leaving the scene, ensure that the system is placed back into service or there is a responsible party to leave in charge of the facility.