



Fire Prevention Bureau

Information Bulletin for

Fire Department Connection/Standpipe Locking Caps and Connection Signs

Fire Department Connection/Standpipe Locking Caps

The functionality and access of a Fire Department Connection (FDC) is critical to the Fire Department's operation. The following information has been assembled as a guideline for maintaining a building's FDC and standpipe systems.

International Fire Code (IFC), 2021 Edition, section 912 provides specifications for FDC requirements. This document is intended to provide owners, occupants, and contractors with the acceptable criteria.

- 1) **Access** - Immediate access to fire department connections shall be maintained at all times and without obstruction by fences, bushes, trees, walls or any other fixed or moveable object. Access to fire department connections shall be approved by the Fire Marshal or his designee.
- 2) **Clear space around connections** - A working space of not less than 36 inches (762 mm) in width, 36 inches (914 mm) in depth and 78 inches (1981 mm) in height shall be provided and maintained in front of and to the sides of wall-mounted fire department connections and around the circumference of free-standing fire department connections, except as otherwise required or approved by the Fire Marshal or his designee.
- 3) **Locking fire department connection caps.** - The fire code official is authorized to require locking caps on fire department connections for water-based fire protection systems where the responding fire department carries appropriate key wrenches for removal.

The only lockable cap that is accepted by the Greenville City Fire Department is the Knox FDC/Standpipe Locks. Locks may be ordered by visiting:

[Products - Knox Rapid Access System \(knoxbox.com\)](http://knoxbox.com)



Fire Prevention Bureau

Fire Department Connection Signs

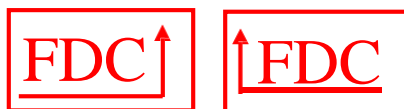
All Fire Department Connections shall be clearly labeled and will indicate the area served. All newly installed signs, for new projects or sign replacement, must conform to the specifications within this document. Existing signs that provide the needed information may remain until replacement is needed. A sign shall be positioned at each connection and include the following: (i.e. psi or what is serviced)

- 1) Signs shall consist of the following:
 - a) 6" red letters reading "FDC" posted on a durable sign with a white background.
 - b) 2" red letters below "FDC" indicating the building address, building name, or other method clearly indicating the property served by the connection. Systems serving a limited area or portion of the building will be noted on the sign.
 - c) Red perimeter borders are required.
 - d) Indicate the pressure required at the inlets to deliver system demand.

Examples include but are not limited to:



- 2) Placement of signs:
 - a) Remote connections: Signs may be attached to the upright portion of the FDC or positioned on a post behind the FDC. Signs must remain visible and unobstructed. Signs shall be mounted on posts when shrubs or other vegetation is planted in the area so that the sign remains visible.
 - b) Building mounted connections: Signs must be positioned on the building at an approved height by the Fire Marshal or his designee.
 - c) Connections that are not visible from the approach side of building may require additional Signage along the front face of the building or along the primary path of entry for emergency vehicles. These signs, when required, will include a directional arrow indicating the direction of travel to the connection. Examples include:



- 3) Alternative layouts, designs, and colors may be approved by the Fire Marshal, or his designee, on a case-by-case basis. Alternative color schemes must utilize reflective letters or backing.

**Please contact the Greenville City Fire Department
Fire Prevention Bureau at (864)-467-4450 with any questions or for additional information.**