



Yuma County Department of Development Services

2351 W. 26th Street, Yuma, AZ 85364

Water Requirements for Manual firefighting during Construction

1. Purpose:

To ensure an adequate supply of water is provided for manual firefighting operations during the period of construction.

2. Legislative Authority:

2003 International Fire Code (IFC)

3. Definitions:

Fire Apparatus Access Road: A road that provides fire apparatus access from a fire station to a facility, building, or portion thereof; term is inclusive of fire lane, Public Street, Private Street, parking lot lane and access roadway.

4. Policy:

When a project requires water for manual fire fighting, construction shall not begin unless hydrants, water mains or on-site storage of water is provided and operational as approved by the *Fire Code Official*.

Exception: When a building and site are completely void of any combustible materials, the architect or builder may request to continue with construction, which would include emergency access roadways and trenching, provided all of the following conditions are met:

1. All fire apparatus access roads are in place, operational and unobstructed; except for agreed upon times with established alternative routing during the time trenches are open;
2. An inspection to evaluate an alternative route and determine the length of time a trench will be open has been requested and conducted prior to any trenching that may affect an access road;
3. The required water supply for the fire department is operational and approved prior to combustible material arriving on site.

All construction shall cease until required water supplies have been tested and approved. Violations of this policy may require water for manual firefighting to be installed and approved on-site prior to approval of building permits. The *Fire Code Official* may approve deviations from this policy upon written request that include plans or systems to reduce the risk of fire.

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