



Rev. 6-11-2007

# Knox County Fire Prevention Bureau Fire Department Connections for Water Based Fire Suppression Systems-IFC 912

## Location 912.2

**912.2.1 Visible location.** Fire department connections shall be located on the street side (addressed side) of buildings, fully visible and recognizable from the street or nearest point of fire department vehicle access or as otherwise approved by the fire code official. **The fire department connection shall be identified by a permanent approved sign which shall have the letters "FDC" at least 6" high in red on a white background.**

**912.2.2 Existing buildings.** On existing buildings, wherever the fire department connection is not visible to approaching fire apparatus, the fire department connection shall be indicated by an approved sign mounted on the street front or on the side of the building. Such sign shall have the letters "FDC" at least 6 inches (152 mm) high and words in letters at least 2 inches (51 mm) high or an arrow to indicate the location. All such signs shall be subject to the approval of the fire code official.



## Access 912.3

**912.3 Access.** Immediate access to fire department connections shall be maintained at all times and without obstruction by fences, bushes, trees, walls, gas meters or any other object for a minimum of 15 feet (914 mm).

**912.3.1 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.

### FDC LOCKING CAP ORDER INSTRUCTIONS

1. Go to: <http://www.knoxbox.com/>
2. Select **"PRODUCTS"** and then **"FDC PLUGS"** and research the type of Knox FDC plug that best fits your situation.
3. Select **"ONLINE PURCHASE"** and then **"FDC PLUGS"**
4. Enter the zip code of the facility that the FDC is located. Select **"CONTINUE"**
5. Select **"KNOX COUNTY FIRE PREV BUR- 400 MAIN ST. RM. 585 KNOXVILLE TN 37902"** Select **"CONTINUE"**
6. Select the style to be purchased.
7. Select **"BUY NOW"**

**Follow directions.**

## Location Continued

### NFPA 13 A.8.16.2.1

Fire department connections should be located and arranged so that hose lines can be readily and conveniently attached without interference from nearby objects including buildings, fences, posts, or other fire department connections. Where a hydrant is not available, other water supply sources such as a natural body of water, a tank, or reservoir should be utilized. The water authority should be consulted when a non-potable water supply is proposed as a suction source for the fire department.

The authority having jurisdiction has determined that an adequate water source is a fire hydrant within 100 feet of the fire department connection.

### NFPA 14 4-3.5.4\*

A fire department connection for each standpipe system shall be located not more than 100 ft (30.5 m) from the nearest fire hydrant connected to an approved water supply.

## Signs 912.4

**912.4 Signs.** A metal sign with raised letters at least 1 inch (25 mm) in size shall be mounted on all fire department connections serving automatic sprinklers, standpipes or fire pump connections. Such signs shall read: **AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS or STANDPIPES or TEST CONNECTION** or a combination thereof as applicable.

## Installation

After you have received the lockable caps you must contact the fire inspector at 215-4660 for installation. You can install the caps yourself but you cannot lock them. Until your fire inspector locks the caps they can be removed by unauthorized persons.

This handout is intended as a guide. It is by no means all-inclusive or has all code related sections listed. If you have questions regarding this information please contact the Knox Co. Fire Prevention Bureau at 215-4660.