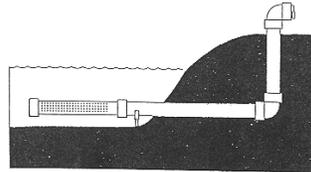




Dry Fire Hydrant Grant Program

Specifications



Introduction

The Virginia Dry Fire Hydrant Grant Program is funded under the 1995 Fire Programs Fund Bill; adopted in 1995 by the Virginia General Assembly with the intent of improving fire protection and conserving energy. The program is administered jointly by the Virginia Department of Forestry and Department of Fire Programs with the assistance of an advisory committee.

This document provides the information pertinent for applying for a Dry Fire Hydrant Grant. Please note that applications must be received by the Virginia Department of Forestry (or postmarked) by **March 31**.

Each fire department may submit **up to three (3) applications**, please note the site location priority. We will fund as many hydrants as the budget allows. If funding is not available, your secondary choices will become alternates in case your top priority site is not suitable. Please note the requirements of the application package, specifically the inclusion of the maps and photos. A county map section showing the general location is acceptable. However, a sketch map showing the site and proposed location of the hydrant on the water source, as well as a printed photo of the proposed location, is also required. Incomplete applications may be delayed or not accepted.

We will again have the ability to provide assistance toward the repair of existing dry fire hydrants that have become inoperable. A portion of the dry fire hydrant funds will be utilized for these repair-type projects as they are encountered.

Application Deadline

Applications must be received or postmarked by March 31.

Eligible Grantees

Fire departments listed with the Department of Fire Programs are eligible to apply for Dry Fire Hydrant Grants.

Funding Criteria

- ◆ Demonstrated need supported by a county map indicating proposed dry fire hydrant locations and any existing drafting sources along with complete site information.
- ◆ Documentation indicating necessary permits or waivers thereof.
- ◆ Proposed dry fire hydrant must be a new initiative and not currently being funded.

Dry Fire Hydrant References

National Fire Protection Association Standard 1142 (Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting) and Dry Fire Hydrant Manual, USDA Forest Service May Be Referenced For Technical Information.

Permits and Proffers

It is the responsibility of the fire department making application for a Dry Fire Hydrant Grant to research and obtain any applicable federal, state and/or local permits, which may affect installation of the proposed dry fire hydrant. Applicable permits may cover property issues, such as easements and right-of-ways, as well as streambank disturbance or other environmental/conservation issues. In addition to permits, there may also be applicable proffers (agreements between a locality and a developer) that need to be considered. Some good places to start in a search for applicable permits and/or proffers include the local county administration office, the local planning district commission, and the local soil and water conservation district office.

Grant Process Summary

1. **Locate a reliable water source in your community.** NOTE: Streams, creeks, and rivers are not necessarily reliable and may receive a lower priority. Choose a location that will allow access to the proposed dry fire hydrant in all weather conditions. Evaluate the water depth to find a **minimum of 4 to 6 feet** of water for proper placement of the dry fire hydrant strainer.
2. Meet with the landowner to discuss the benefits of the dry fire hydrant. Explain the installation process. Be sure to indicate that the installation is done with a backhoe and that the contractor will return the site to a field grade quality. This means the ground will be as smooth as possible using a backhoe, hand raking with the application of seed and straw, and hand sweeping of hard surfaces.

In the event that a fence or other obstruction interferes with the installation process, it will be the responsibility of the landowner to assure the work area is cleared prior to installation of the dry fire hydrant. Once installation of the hydrant is complete, any obstruction may be returned to its original location/condition as long as it does not impede use of the hydrant.

The contractor will determine final placement of the hydrant. Prior to installation the contractor will conduct a site visit, at which time access, water dynamics, head loss, fire apparatus and landscaping will all be taken into consideration in developing the site layout and engineering of the hydrant. The sketch map must locate the proposed hydrant location at the site.

3. A standard installation shall include the following: up to ninety linear feet of six inch diameter schedule 40 PVC pipe, (1) six inch diameter PVC barrel strainer with bottom facing intake holes and a stainless steel weighted end flap, and (1) six inch PVC NST hydrant head with a six inch to four and one half inch adapter and cap.
4. Obtain approval from a local VDOF employee before submitting the application package.
5. **Completed grant applications shall be submitted no later than March 31. Applications shall be mailed to Virginia Department of Forestry, Dry Fire Hydrant Program, 900 Natural Resources Drive, Suite 800, Charlottesville, VA 22903.**
6. The Virginia Department of Forestry will notify, in writing, each grant recipient. Approved grant applications will be forwarded to the state-approved contractor who will contact the project manager listed on the application to schedule an initial site visit and subsequent installation. Scheduling of the installation will be handled by the approved contractor.

Application Deadline

Applications must be received or postmarked by **March 31**.

Application package to be submitted to:

Virginia Department of Forestry
Dry Fire Hydrant Program
900 Natural Resources Drive, Suite 800
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903

Application Package Checklist

The application package must include the following or the application will not be considered:

- Completed Application (Form 62 Dry Fire Hydrant Grant Program Application)
- County map section indicating general location of proposed hydrant site(s)
- Sketch map indicating the specific location of proposed hydrant site(s)
- Printed photograph of proposed hydrant site(s) (taken to record desired hydrant head location down to water source)
- Documentation indicating necessary permits or waivers

Program Contact

Questions or concerns may be directed to:

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