These SOPs/SOGs are based on FEMA guidelines FA-197

1.0 POLICY REFERENCE

This policy is to provide guidelines for the care, maintenance, testing and record keeping of all fire hose of the OPDPS Fire Department ensuring it remains in compliance with NFPA 1962.

2.0 PURPOSE

This standard operating procedure/guideline addresses hose testing and maintenance.

3.0 SCOPE

This SOP/SOG pertains to all personnel in this organization.

4.0 DEFINITIONS

These definitions are pertinent to this SOP/SOG.

5.0 PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES & INFORMATION

5.1 Policy:

1. All new fire hose will be tested prior to being placed in service and annually thereafter.
2. Each shift will be assigned a type of hose to test each year.
3. All fire hose will be assigned an individual number after acceptance testing for use in recording its history. This number is followed by the month then the year of manufacture and is permanently marked on both ends of the hose. The number will start by 01 and move up sequentially. i.e. (01(num) 08(month) 10(year))

**Maintenance**

1. Any hose subject to possible damage will be service tested before being placed back in service or storage.
2. Relay-supply hose shall not be operated at pressures exceeding 185psi.
3. All hose will be loaded so that couplings pull straight out, to avoid couplings from “flipping” when being deployed

**Cleaning and Storage**

1. After each use all fire hose must be sufficiently cleaned before reloading or storage.
2. Only mild soap and water shall be used to clean fire hose.
3. If fire hose has been exposed to hazardous materials and cannot be decontaminated with mild soap and water it shall be removed from service, contained in an appropriate container and properly disposed of.
4. Fire hose is stored avoiding direct sunlight.
5. Fire hose shall be thoroughly dried before being stored or reloaded onto an apparatus.

**Testing**

1. All elements of a firefighting attack line must be system tested together including any nozzles and couplings.
2. Inspect all hose being tested for physical damage and remove any hose failing inspection from service until repair can be made or the hose is condemned.
3. The maximum length for service testing is 300’
4. All hose in a single layout must be of the same diameter and test pressure.
5. Attack hose is tested to 300 PSI for a length of 5 minutes.
6. Supply hose is tested to 200 PSI for a length of 5 minutes.
7. Any hose that leaks, shows coupling slippage or burst fails the test.
8. Once the hose has been pressurized to the test pressure, all sections will be observed for possible failure prior to the pressure being relieved. Personnel must remain a minimum of 15 feet from pressurized hose.

**Disposal/Retirement**

1. A replacement schedule will be maintained based on age, usage and test results.
2. Hose that is removed from service shall be rolled with the male coupling on the outside of the roll and tagged as being out of service with the date and reason.
3. Hose that is no longer serviceable and cannot be repaired shall be disposed of. The hose shall have the couplings removed and disposed of. The couplings shall be placed in storage.
4. Any Hose manufactured prior to 1987 must be removed from service.
**Record Keeping**

All records shall be maintained in Firehouse.