



CHARLESTON FIRE DEPARTMENT



Fire Marshal Division

Information Bulletin

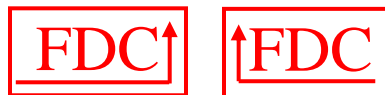
Fire Department Connection Signs

Fire Department Connections (FDC) shall be clearly labeled and indicate the area(s) served. Fire Department Connection Signage is a requirement of the International Fire Code. 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:

- 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 either the building address, building name, or other method clearly indicating the property served by the connection.
 - c) Systems serving a limited area, special conditions, minimum pump pressures, pressure limits, portions of a building serviced, etc. will be noted on the sign in 1" letters.
 - d) Red perimeter borders are encouraged but not required
 - e) The border, or area outside of the required text, shall remain as small as practical to reduce the overall size of the sign. Excessively large signs will be rejected.
 - f) Examples include but are not limited to:



- 2) Placement of signs:
 - a) Building mounted connections: Signs must be positioned on the building, above the connection, not less than 8 feet or more than 12 feet above grade.
 - b) 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 for emergency vehicles. These signs, when required, will include a directional arrow indicating the direction of travel to the connection. Examples include:



- c) 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.
- 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 shall utilize reflective letters or backing.

Please contact the Charleston Fire Department – Fire Marshal Division at (843)724-3429 with any questions or for additional information.