

FPB POLICY 2009-1: WATER FLOW TESTING REQUIREMENTS

Created: July 17, 2009 Effective Date: September 1, 2009
From the Office of the Fire Prevention Bureau – Phone (515) 283-4240



This policy is promulgated in accordance with Section 104.1 of the 2006 International Fire Code and is an official interpretation of Section 508.4 of the 2006 International Fire Code.

The following shall apply to new construction and modifications to existing sprinkler systems:

Water flow test information is required to be submitted with all sprinkler submittals that require hydraulic calculations. Sprinkler alterations that are less than 21 sprinklers, presently do NOT require a plan submittal or hydraulic calculations. The following is the Des Moines Fire Prevention Bureau's policy on water flow testing:

- 1.) If the water flow test is within the last 3 years, submit the information with your plan submittal. Nothing further will be required for water flow test information.
- 2.) If the water flow test is older than 3 years and the system is designed with a 10 psi safety factor in the hydraulic calculations, submit the information with your plan submittal. Nothing further will be required for water flow test information.
- 3.) If the water flow test is older than 3 years and the system is NOT designed with a 10 psi safety factor in the hydraulic calculations, then a new water flow test is required. Contact Des Moines Water Works (515-283-8772 select option 6) to schedule a new water flow test. After a new test has been conducted, the system is not required to be designed with a 10 psi safety factor. Submit the new test data along with your plan submittal. Nothing further will be required for water flow test information.

Any comments or questions regarding the above information may be submitted to:

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