



## Kerrville Fire Marshal

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## Section 4

### Standpipe Guidelines

**These guidelines are to be followed when a business, facility, or organization proposes to install or modify a standpipe system within the City of Kerrville. These guidelines are not to be interpreted as containing all data required for proper design, installation, or approval.**

All standpipe systems for the purposes of these guidelines and any other guidelines or requirements of the Fire Marshal shall conform to the *International Fire Code* as adopted and amended by the City of Kerrville, NFPA 13 and NFPA 14.

**This guide does not replace, nor supersede any adopted codes and/or ordinances adopted by the City of Kerrville, or determinations and positions of the Fire Chief or Fire Marshal.**

#### Where Required

1. In buildings exceeding 10,000 square feet in area per story, Class I semi-automatic or automatic standpipes shall be provided where any portion of the building's interior area is more than 150 feet of travel, vertically and horizontally, from the nearest point of fire department vehicle access.
2. Class I standpipe systems shall be installed throughout buildings where the floor level of the highest story is located more than 30 feet (9144 mm) above the lowest level of the fire department vehicle access, or where the floor level of the lowest story is located more than 30 feet (9144 mm) below the highest level of fire department vehicle access.
3. Class I manual dry standpipes are allowed in open parking garages that are subject to freezing temperatures, provided that the hose connections are located so that all portions of the building are within 30 feet (9144 mm) of a nozzle attached to 100 feet (30 480 mm) of hose.
4. Class I automatic wet standpipes shall be provided in nonsprinklered Group A buildings having an occupant load exceeding 1,000 persons.

#### Exceptions:

- a. Open-air-seating spaces without enclosed spaces.
- b. Class I automatic dry and semiautomatic dry standpipes or manual wet standpipes are allowed in buildings where the highest floor surface used for human occupancy is 75 feet (22 860 mm) or less above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.
5. A covered mall building shall be equipped throughout with a standpipe system where required by the International Fire Code 2018 Section 905.3.1. Covered mall buildings not required to be equipped with a standpipe system by the International Fire Code 2018 Section 905.3.1 shall be equipped with Class I hose connections connected to a system sized to deliver water at 250 gallons per minute (946.4 L/min) at the most hydraulically remote outlet. Hose connections shall be provided at each of the following locations:
  - a. Within the mall at the entrance to each exit passageway or corridor.
  - b. At each floor-level landing within enclosed stairways opening directly on the mall.
  - c. At exterior public entrances to the mall.
6. Stages greater than 1,000 square feet (93 m<sup>2</sup>) in area shall be equipped with a Class I wet standpipe system with hose connections on each side of the stage.
7. Underground buildings shall be equipped throughout with a Class I automatic wet or manual wet standpipe system.

8. Buildings with a helistop or heliport that are equipped with a standpipe shall extend the standpipe to the roof level on which the helistop or heliport is located in accordance with the *International Fire Code*, Section 2007.5.
9. Marinas and boatyards shall be equipped throughout with standpipe systems in accordance with NFPA 303.

## General Requirements

10. Fire hose threads used in connection with standpipe systems shall be approved and shall be compatible with fire department hose threads. The location of fire department hose connections shall be approved.
11. In buildings used for high-piled combustible storage, fire protection shall be in accordance with the *International Fire Code*, Chapter 32.
12. Standpipe systems are allowed to be combined with automatic sprinkler systems.
13. Dry standpipes shall not be installed except where subject to freezing and in accordance with NFPA 14.
14. Manual dry standpipe systems shall be supervised with a minimum of 10 psig and a maximum of 40 psig air pressure with a high/low alarm.
15. Hose valves shall be 2 1/2-inch with a locking cap installed.
16. National Standard Thread (NST) shall be provided.
17. Standpipe systems required during construction and demolition operations shall be provided in accordance with the *International Fire Code*, Section 3313. See *General Construction Site Guidelines* Section for further information.

## Location of Class I Standpipe Hose Connections

18. Class I standpipe hose connections shall be provided in all of the following locations:
  - a. In every required stairway, a hose connection shall be provided for each floor level above or below grade. Hose connections shall be located at an intermediate floor level landing between floors, unless otherwise approved by the fire code official.
  - b. On each side of the wall adjacent to the exit opening of a horizontal exit. *Exception:* Where floor areas adjacent to a horizontal exit are reachable from exit stairway hose connections by a 30-foot (9144 mm) hose stream from a nozzle attached to 100 feet (30480 mm) of hose, a hose connection shall not be required at the horizontal exit.
  - c. In every exit passageway, at the entrance from the exit passageway to other areas of a building.
  - d. In covered mall buildings, adjacent to each exterior public entrance to the mall and adjacent to each entrance from an exit passageway or exit corridor to the mall.
  - e. Where the roof has a slope less than four units vertical in 12 units horizontal (33.3-percent slope), each standpipe shall be provided with a two-way hose connection located either on the roof or at the highest landing of a stairway with stair access to the roof. An additional hose connection shall be provided at the top of the most hydraulically remote standpipe for testing purposes.
  - f. Where the most remote portion of a nonsprinklered floor or story is more than 150 feet (45 720 mm) from a hose connection or the most remote portion of a sprinklered floor or story is more than 200 feet (60 960 mm) from a hose connection, the fire code official is authorized to require that additional hose connections be provided in approved locations.
19. Risers and laterals of Class I standpipe systems in non-sprinklered buildings that are not located within an enclosed stairway or pressurized enclosure shall be protected by a degree of fire resistance equal to that required for vertical enclosures in the building in which they are located.
20. In buildings where more than one standpipe is provided, the standpipes shall be interconnected in accordance with NFPA 14.
21. In Group A-1 and A-2 occupancies with occupant loads of more than 1,000, hose connections shall be located on each side of any stage, on each side of the rear of the auditorium, on each side of the balcony, and on each tier of dressing rooms.

## **Cabinets**

22. Cabinets containing fire-fighting equipment, such as standpipes, fire hose, fire extinguishers or fire department valves, shall not be blocked from use or obscured from view.
23. Cabinets shall be identified in an approved manner by a permanently attached sign with letters not less than 2 inches (51 mm) high in a color that contrasts with the background color, indicating the equipment contained therein.
24. Doors not large enough to accommodate a written sign shall be marked with a permanently attached pictogram of the equipment contained therein.
25. Doors that have either an approved visual identification clear glass panel or a complete glass door panel are not required to be marked.
26. Cabinets shall be unlocked unless the visual identification panels of glass or other approved transparent frangible material that is easily broken and allows access.

## **Mid Rise Residential Building**

27. For residential structures, three or more stories in height, but not classified as a high-rise, see *Mid-Rise Building Construction Policy* for additional requirements.

## **Monitoring**

28. See *Monitoring of Fire Alarm/Fire Sprinkler Systems* Section for requirements.