



DPS

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Department of Permitting Services**

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HYDROSTATIC TEST PROCEDURE FOR COLD WEATHER SINGLE FAMILY/TOWNHOUSES 13D and 13R

During cold weather months, it may be difficult to perform a hydrostatic test using water when the ambient temperature is less than 40 degrees Fahrenheit. To address this concern, **WHEN APPROVED BY THE FIRE MARSHAL**, the following “Cold Weather Procedure” may be followed in order to assure full compliance with NFPA 13D as well as the Fire Prevention and Code Compliance Division. **This procedure may only be used for NFPA 13D and 4-story townhouse systems.**

1. The sprinkler contractor shall receive approval from our office to use the Cold Weather Procedure.
2. An inspector will perform all aspects of a hydrostatic inspection. There will be no test pressure or water within the pipe during this inspection. This inspection will include all of the following but is not limited to, pipe size, bracing, sprinkler head location, spacing **and insulation**. The fire inspector will note in the inspection results paperwork given and in the DPS permitting system the procedure was performed so that future inspectors are aware.
3. The sprinkler contractor shall contact the general contractor and advise them that a “Cold Weather Procedure” hydrostatic test was performed and, item #5 noted below will have to occur at the time of final inspection in order for the sprinkler system to receive DPS approval.
4. Before any drywall is installed, water shall be introduced into the sprinkler system and the system pressurized to the required test pressure as noted the approved plans. The sprinkler contractor and the general contractor shall inspect and document this test by signing the “Hydrostatic Test Certification” form.
5. At final inspection, the original copy of the “Hydrostatic Test Certification” shall be given to the fire inspector. **The sprinkler system shall be pressurized to the test pressure on the approved plans and witnessed by the DPS inspector. A final approval will not be given if this test is not completed satisfactorily.**

NOTE: The purpose of this procedure is to prevent possible delays in the construction/inspection schedule caused by cold weather. During the actual construction of the sprinkler system the home must maintain the minimum temperature requirements to allow for proper curing of the glue.

4/25/2018