FREWSBURG FIRE DISTRICT OPERATIONAL POLICY	Section 5	SAFETY AND HEALTH	
	SUBJECT	HOSE TESTING	
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I. SCOPE

This testing procedure is intended for use with the basic type of fire hose used by this department, in accordance with NFPA 1962.

II. PURPOSE

To detect any weakness in the structure of the fire hose assembly before the weakness causes failure of hose in-service.

III. SAFETY

Utmost care and safety precautions must be taken when conducting pressure testing. All testing should be conducted by or in the presence of trained personnel.

IV. FREQUENCY OF HOSE TESTING

The Department's fire hose shall be pressure service tested each year as directed by the Fire Chief.

V. HOSE INSPECTION

The hose shall be inspected prior to being tested. You should be looking for the following:

1. Physical damage to couplings, threads, and gaskets
2. Physical damage to the outer hose jacket
3. Making sure you can read the hose ID number.
4. Marking hose with a permanent marker behind both couplings (where the hose connects to the coupling) prior to the pressure test.
5. ALL 4” hose should be checked for tightness with a 5/16” Allen wrench or Allen head ratchet driver.

VI. HOSE TESTING

The hose shall be pressure tested in the following manner:

1. Select a test site that will not impair civilian motor traffic.
2. The test site should have a slight grade, for draining hose lines.

3. Connect the pumper to a water source.
4. Connect hose lines to the pumper discharge(s).
5. Hose lines being tested shall have some type of gated valve attached to drain the air prior to the test and water after the test. (This can be a gated valve or a nozzle.)
6. Fill the hose lines up with water and bleed off any trapped air. The hose shall be pressurized to 50 (fifty) psi and an inspection conducted checking for leaks.
7. Increase and maintain the required pump discharge pressure for (5) five minutes on the hose lines.
8. Pump discharge pressures on hose being tested are as follows:
    a. 1 1/2" (one and a half inch) hose line shall be tested at 250 (two hundred fifty) psi for (5) five minutes.
    b. 1 3/4" (one and three fourths inch) hose line shall be tested at 250 (two hundred fifty) psi for (5) five minutes.
    c. 21/2" (two and a half inch) hose line shall be tested at 250 (two hundred fifty) psi for (5) five minutes.
    d. 3" (three inch) hose line shall be tested at 250 (two hundred fifty) psi for (5) five minutes.
    e. 4" (five inch) hose line shall be tested at 200 (two hundred) psi for (5) five minutes.
9. Each length of hose to be tested simultaneously and be at the same service test pressure. The hose test layout shall be straight without kinks or twists.
10. All personnel should wear protective helmet and boots. The pump operator should be close to the pump for an EMERGENCY SHUTDOWN.
11. After the test is complete, an inspection shall be conducted -checking for coupling separation and defects in the hose.

VII. RECORD KEEPING

1. Personnel shall record the hose ID number on the Departments hose testing form.
2. Note any failure or defects.
3. If you have any failures, place hose out of service by typing an overhand knot in the hose and turn it into the Fire Department Shop.
4. Make a copy of the hose test form for station records and turn in a copy to the Fire Chief.