City of Torrance Fire Department

Community Risk Reduction Division

**Fire Department Notes - Fire Sprinkler Installations – NFPA 13D (2016)**

1. Fire protection contractor shall verify water meter size, pipe size/material of underground supply with General Contractor.
2. Sprinkler systems connected to a water supply upstream of the main domestic shutoff valve shall be provided with a main shutoff valve to control both the fire sprinkler and the domestic systems. The fire sprinkler system piping shall not have a separate control valve.
3. Local water flow alarms shall be provided on all sprinkler systems. The alarm shall be of sufficient intensity to be clearly audible in all rooms over background noise levels with all intervening doors closed. A horn/strobe may be required inside the dwelling unit for the hearing impaired and to meet the audibility requirements.
4. One exterior approved audible and visible device, located on the exterior of the building in an approved location, shall be connected to each automatic sprinkler system.
5. Sprinklers shall be required in all attached garages. Sprinklers located in garages shall be listed residential sprinklers or quick response sprinklers having the same orifice size as the sprinklers in the dwelling unit.
6. Sprinklers may be omitted from attics and crawl spaces which are not used or intended for living purposes or storage. One or more intermediate temperature residential or quick response sprinklers, of like orifice size as the dwelling unit, shall be installed above the mechanical unit when a forced-air unit (fuel-fired equipment) is installed in an attic. Fire sprinkler protection shall be required in bathrooms with combustible shower pans, enclosures and/or tubs.
7. A 10% safety factor deduction from the existing static pressure shall be included in the hydraulic calculations
8. All overhead piping shall be hydrostatically tested for leakage at city pressure.
9. All required signage shall be installed prior to final approval.
10. A warning sign with minimum 1/4 inch letters shall be affixed adjacent to the main shut-off valve and shall state the following:

**Warning:** the water system for this home supplies fire sprinklers that require certain flows and pressures to fight a fire. Devices that restrict the flow or decrease the pressure or automatically shut off the water to the fire sprinkler system, such as water softeners, filtration systems, and automatic shut-off valves, shall not be added to this system without a review of the fire sprinkler system by a fire protection specialist. Do not remove this sign.

1. A residential fire sprinkler flow test “bucket test” Will be required at the most hydraulically demanding area(s) to ensure required water flow demand and pressures are met. (If applicable)
2. A supply of at least two spare sprinklers of each type installed in the system and a special sprinkler wrench(s) and sockets needed to operate shall be maintained on the premises in a sprinkler box.
3. A rough-in and final inspection shall be required prior to approval of the system. Please contact the city of Torrance Fire Department, Community Risk Reduction Division to schedule inspection appointments at (310) 618-2973.