



Houston Fire Department Life Safety Bureau (LSB)



LSB Standard No. 09, Rev. 05

Marking of Fire Hydrant Locations

Supersedes: LSB Standard No. 09, Rev. 04, 11/02/2021

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LSB Standards are established in accordance with provisions of the City of Houston *Fire Code*. They are subject to the administrative sections covering alternative materials and methods, modifications, and the Board of Appeals.

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Marking of Fire Hydrant Locations

Section 9.1 – General

9.1.1 Scope.

This standard applies to fire hydrants located within apartment complexes in the City of Houston.

9.1.2 Purpose.

This standard shall provide guidelines for apartment complexes containing fire hydrants (new and existing), and other properties as may be required by the Fire Code Official, to clearly identify locations of the fire hydrants, in accordance with the *Fire Code*.

9.1.3 Obstruction of Fire Hydrants.

Posts, fences, vehicles, growth, trash, storage, and other materials or objects shall not be placed, kept, or allowed to accumulate near fire hydrants, fire department inlet connections, or fire protection system control valves in a manner that would prevent such equipment or fire hydrants from being immediately discernible. The fire department shall not be deterred or hindered from gaining immediate access to fire protection equipment or fire hydrants.

9.1.4 Clearance Around Hydrants.

A 3 foot (914 mm) clear space shall be maintained around the circumference of fire hydrants except as otherwise required or approved.

Section 9.2 – Definitions

9.2.1 Apartment House.

An apartment house is any building or portion thereof that contains three or more dwelling units, including residential condominiums.

Section 9.3 – Identification

9.3.1 Reflective Signs.

The owner of an apartment complex or the owner's agent shall place or post at every apartment complex entrance driveway a sign indicating the number of fire hydrants in the complex. The sign shall be constructed of durable materials, measure not less than 18 inches by 18 inches, and have face with reflective lettering and numbering not less than 3 inches in height. The sign shall display "H.F.D." at the top and the number of fire hydrants in the complex at the bottom.

9.3.2 Identifying Hydrants.

The owner of an apartment complex or the owner's agent shall place on a street or driveway in the apartment complex to indicate the location of a fire hydrant adjacent to

that street a blue reflective *traffic marker*. Each blue reflective traffic marker shall measure approximately 4 inches by 4 inches and be placed 4 to 6 inches *off the centerline* of the street to indicate on which side of the street the fire hydrant is located.

References

1. City of Houston *Fire Code*.

All reference materials used under this Life Safety Bureau standard shall be in accordance with the most current adopted City of Houston *Construction Code*.

Conversion factors: 1 inch = 25 mm; 1 foot = 305 mm