



Northville Township Fire Department

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Fire Hydrant Standards

Referenced Standards:

- 2015 International Fire Code as adopted by Chapter 79-2

Commentary:

This document is designed to provide clear guidance on how to maintain effective access to all fire hydrants within the Township. Clear access allows for quick identification for efficient and effective fire department operations. We want to stress the importance of maintaining proper clearance around all fire hydrants. While fire hydrant access may become more prevalent in the winter, it is important to maintain clearance all year long (trees, bushes, rocks, etc.). Fire hydrants can be your lifeline and are critical to our operations.

In the winter months, snow plows can create fire hydrant access issues that can be very dangerous to residents living in the area. Under no circumstances is it appropriate to plow snow in front of, on or around a fire hydrant. It is your responsibility to maintain clear and visible access to each fire hydrant within this area, regardless of the amount of snow. Blocking/covering a fire hydrant is a violation of the adopted fire code of the Charter Township of Northville and violations may result in tickets or fines in accordance with this code.

Please keep in mind that, as a minimum requirement, you must **maintain three (3) feet of clear space around each fire hydrant**. Also make sure that each hose connection is accessible and provides unobstructed access to attach a hoseline to the hydrant from the road. To efficiently and effectively perform our duties we must always have clear access to all hydrants. Please make sure that you maintain the visibility and accessibility of all hydrants on the property and in your surrounding area.

Standards:

507.5.4 Obstruction

Unobstructed access to fire hydrants shall be maintained at all times. The fire department shall not be deterred or hindered from gaining immediate access to fire protection equipment or fire hydrants.

507.5.5 Clear space around hydrants

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

If you have any questions, please contact the Fire Prevention Division at (248) 348-5807 or via email at thughes@twp.northville.mi.us.

Respectfully,

Thomas M. Hughes, Jr.
Fire Marshal