

The seal of Travis County, Texas, is a circular emblem. It features a central five-pointed star with a smaller star on each point. The star is surrounded by a wreath of olive and oak branches. Below the star is a small building and a ship. The year "1839" is inscribed at the bottom of the wreath. The words "COUNTY OF TRAVIS" are written along the top inner edge of the seal, and "STATE OF TEXAS" is written along the bottom inner edge.

Travis County Fire Marshal's Office
Information Bulletin - 01
Marina Fire Protection

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1. Purpose

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide guidance regarding the installation of fire protection systems for marina facilities. Fire protection systems are required due to limited fire department access and logistical concerns associated with fire suppression operations.

2. Scope

The information in this bulletin is applicable to private and commercial marinas located within the fire code jurisdiction of the Travis County Fire Marshal's Office.

2.1 The requirements of this bulletin shall apply to:

- The installation of new marinas,
- Extensions to existing marinas,
- Modifications and construction on existing marinas (replacement of docks and similar modifications).

2.2 The requirements of this bulletin shall not apply to:

- Marinas that existed prior to February 1, 2005 which have not been extended or modified,
- Marinas which do not contain more than 20 slips and do not exceed 9,000 square feet in area.
- A docking facility associated with a single family dwelling unit designed for use by the owners or residents of the dwelling unit

3. Definitions

3.1 Approved. The term "approved" means acceptable to the Travis County Fire Marshal's Office and the local Emergency Service District.

3.2 NFPA. The term "NFPA" refers to the National Fire Protection Association.

4. Standpipe - General Requirements

4.1 Installation Requirement. An approved, dry standpipe system shall be provided for marinas.

4.2 Design Standards. Standpipe systems shall be installed in accordance with the Travis County Fire Code, NFPA Standard 14, NFPA Standard 303, and this bulletin.

4.3 Conflicting Provisions. When there is a conflict between the requirements of this bulletin, and requirements of other codes or standards, the requirements of this bulletin shall apply.

4.4 Permit Required. A permit is required to install, modify or remove a standpipe system. Plans must be submitted to the Travis County Fire Marshal's Office (TCFMO) for review and approval before a permit will be issued.

4.5 Design Professional. Standpipe systems must be designed by a professional engineer or Responsible Managing Employee (RME) licensed to operate in the State of Texas. Plan submittals must be sealed by the design professional.

5. Standpipe - System Requirements

5.1 Standard marina. A standard marina provides boat slips which do not exceed 560 square feet in area. Standard marinas shall be provided with an approved standpipe system. Supply piping shall be a minimum of four inches in diameter. Hose connections shall be a minimum of two and one-half inches in diameter. The system shall be capable of supplying 100 gpm, at 65 psi, at the most remote hose connection. The system shall be designed to provide the required flow for a minimum of 90 minutes.

5.2 Large Marina. A large marina provides boat slips which exceed 560 square feet in area. Large marinas shall be provided with an approved standpipe system. Supply piping shall be a minimum of four inches in diameter. Hose connections shall be a minimum of two and one-half inches in diameter. The system shall be capable of supplying 500 gpm, at 100 psi, at the most remote hose connection. The system shall be designed to provide the required flow for a minimum of 90 minutes.

6. Standpipe - Water Supply

6.1 Water Supply Required. An approved water supply shall be provided for the standpipe system. The water supply may be provided from fire hydrants, water storage tanks, or approved pumps taking suction from the lake.

6.2 Primary FDC. An approved fire department connection (FDC) shall be provided for each standpipe system. An FDC installed in accordance with this bulletin shall comply with installation requirements of NFPA Standard 14. The primary FDC shall be installed in a location where it will not be obstructed. The primary FDC shall be installed in accordance with one of the design options listed in this bulletin.

6.3 Secondary FDC. A second FDC shall be installed in an approved location. The second FDC shall comply with installation requirements of NFPA Standard 14 and shall be installed in a location where it will be accessible from a fire boat. The secondary FDC shall be installed in a location where it will not be obstructed.

6.4 Water Supply - Design Option A. An FDC will be installed on shore in an approved location. The FDC shall be located adjacent to a fire department access drive, at an elevation which is located above the flood plain, and within 100 feet of a fire hydrant or water storage tank. The hydrant or storage tank shall be capable of providing the fire flow required by this standard. The FDC shall be connected to the marina by an approved system of underground piping and flexible hose. The piping system and flexible hose shall be designed and installed to accommodate fluctuations in lake levels. The flexible hose must be listed in accordance with a nationally recognized standard and must pass a hydrostatic test conducted at a pressure of 200 psi for a period of 2 hours.

6.5 Water Supply - Design Option B. A listed fire pump shall be installed on the marina at the entry to the marina. The pump shall not require automatic operation and shall be provided with an approved means for manual operation by emergency responders. The pump shall be installed in accordance with NFPA Standard 20 and shall be capable of providing the fire flow required by this bulletin. In addition to the fire pump, an FDC shall be installed on the marina in an approved location. The FDC will function as a backup water supply should the fire pump fail to operate.

6.6 Water Supply - Design Option C. When the pump cannot be installed at the entry to the marina, the pump shall be installed on the marina in an approved location. Automatic operation will be required in accordance with NFPA Standard 20. The pump shall be installed in accordance with NFPA Standard 20 and shall be capable of providing the fire flow required by this bulletin. In addition to the fire pump, an FDC shall be installed on the marina in an approved location. The FDC will function as a backup water supply should the fire pump fail to operate.

7. Standpipe - Special Conditions

A listed fire pump shall be installed on the marina to provide the standpipe water supply when either of the following conditions is applicable:

- When marinas, or portions of marinas, will not be accessible to emergency responders by land.
- When marinas, or portions of marinas, are subject to relocation (on a temporary basis, due to fluctuating water levels) and will not be accessible by land in their temporary location.

8. Standpipe - Hose Connections

8.1 Installation Requirement. Hose connections shall be provided so that all portions of the marina are located within 150 feet of a hose connection. This distance is measured by path of travel along the marina walkway.

8.2 Hose Threads. Hose connections shall include a hose valve and outlet. Hose connections shall have external National Hose Standard (NHS) Threads and shall be equipped with caps to protect the hose threads.

8.3 Approved Location. Hose connections shall be installed adjacent to marina walkways in a location which is visible and accessible to emergency responders.

8.4 Mounting Height. Hose connections shall be unobstructed and shall be located not less than 3 ft, or more than 5 ft, above the marina walkway.

8.5 Identification Signs. The location of hose connections shall be clearly marked by approved labels or signs.

9. Automatic Sprinkler Protection

Buildings and structures installed on a marina, which exceed 500 square feet in floor area, shall be protected throughout by an approved automatic fire sprinkler system installed in accordance with NFPA Standard 13. A listed fire pump shall be installed in accordance with NFPA Standard 20. When a standpipe system is also installed, a single pump may be utilized to supply both systems if adequate volume and pressure can be provided.

10. Inspection, Testing and Maintenance

Standpipe systems, fire pumps, and related equipment shall be inspected, tested and maintained in accordance with NFPA Standard 25. Written records of inspections, testing and maintenance shall be kept on-site and made available to TCFMO personnel for review upon request.