**12.06.18 TESTING FIRE SERVICE EQUIPMENT**

**1.0 REFERENCE**

 WAC 296-305-06003

**2.0 POLICY**

**2.1** The Department shall require the following fire service equipment to be tested. The frequency and supervision of equipment testing will be the responsibility of VARIABLE identified in section 4.0.

1. Hose
2. Life belts
3. Rescue ropes
4. Pumpers
5. Safety nets
6. Other equipment identified by VARIABLE

**3.0 DEFINITIONS**

 N/A

**4.0 RESPONSIBILITY**

**4.1** VARIABLE will be responsible for the testing of fire service equipment, ensuring that related record keeping is completed, and establishing testing frequencies.

**5.0 PROCEDURES**

**5.1** All fire suppression and supply hose must be tested annually as well as when there is reason to believe the hose has been damaged. Testing shall be in accordance with the 2003 edition of NFPA 1962, Standard for the Inspection, Care, and Use of Fire Hose, Couplings, and Nozzles and the Service Testing of Fire Hose.

5.2 Safety nets shall be tested annually by dropping a weight of not less than 400 pounds from the highest point to be used above the net. The test weight object may consist of two tightly tied rolls of two and one-half inch hose, each 100 feet long, or any other object having similar weight and dimension.

(a) The net suspension system shall be designed and constructed with a safety factor of four and as a minimum, shall withstand the test loading without permitting contact between the net and any surface or object below the net.

(b) Forged steel safety hooks or shackles shall be used to fasten the net to its supports.

(c) Training requiring safety net protection shall not be undertaken until the net is in place and has been tested by the weight of three firefighters on the net.

(d) Safety nets shall extend eight feet beyond the edge of the work surface.

(e) The mesh size of nets shall not exceed six inches by six inches.

(f) All nets shall meet accepted performance standards of 17,500 foot pounds minimum impact resistance as determined and certified by the manufacturer, and shall bear a label of proof test.

(g) Edge ropes shall provide a minimum breaking strength of 5,000 pounds.

**5.3** The method of testing a life line gun shall be in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended procedure.

**6.0 ADDITIONAL REFERENCES**

2003 edition of NFPA 1962

**7.0 APPENDIX**

 N/A