

Fire Hydrant Repairs

February 2008

When a fire hydrant is damaged or out of service, what is your agency's policy for the number of days for getting it repaired and back in service?

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We do not have a specific number of days – our policy is to repair as quickly as possible. We keep a few new hydrants in stock, but our system has significant variability in hydrant manufacturers, hydrant age, and burial depths, that we rarely can use our in-stock hydrants and usually must order a replacement hydrant to fit the specific installation.

Victor Anderson
Don MacDonald [dmacdonald@cityofcheney.org]

We don't have a written policy but the short answer would be that we make repairs as soon as possible. If there is going to be any sort of delay in terms of days while we wait for parts or for a new hydrant (assuming we don't have any hydrants in our inventory) then we coordinate with the Fire Department on alternate locations for providing fire flow.

If the hydrant is too old we would replace and if parts are available for the repair it usually only takes a couple of weeks to receive parts. The older hydrants, say before the 1950s would be replaced due to age or no breakaway repair parts. We have too many brands to try to stock breakaway parts. We do coordinate with Fire Dept. on the out of service for the hydrant and mark the hydrant also. When the hydrant is hit and damaged we also try to collect for damages with a billing type work order

Steve Reynolds
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It is our policy to get an out of service fire hydrant back in service within 48 hours; however, this is not always possible due to the availability of parts. The older hydrants often take more time because we have to order the parts and have them shipped in. If it is going to be more than one month to get the parts we will often just replace the older hydrant with a new one.

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When a fire hydrant has been damaged and we have been notified or become aware of it, we'll contact

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the fire dept. to give them the location of the hydrant that will be out of service. Then the crew will assess the damages and what repairs may need to be done, then check inventory to see what parts we have on hand or if we need to go and get the parts. We try to fix with in 24 hours, unless we have to replace the whole hydrant; do to broken parts on the foot or the bottom of the hydrant. Usually there will be a police report, or the fire dept. will respond to the accident so we are able to get information to bill the person or persons for time and materials.

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Our standard is to notify the fire department that it is out of service and repair within 48 hours.

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North Bend, a small city, has no specific policy regarding repair of fire hydrants. The time frame for repair is dependent on the nature of the damage, the availability of parts, the priorities for the rest of the water system, staffing levels, and other issues. The desire is to get them back in service in a reasonable amount of time.

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The quick answer is ASAP. Depending on parts availability and crew schedule we try to get it back within a week. If parts are not available it may take longer.

Troy Oestreich [TOestrei@ci.lacey.wa.us]

City of Lacey has no specific timeframe in days. It is categorized as a priority.

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As we get to it.