



MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Marc Elrich  
County Executive

Scott E. Goldstein  
Fire Chief

MEMORANDUM

August 29, 2019

To: MCFRS Personnel  
From: Assistant Chief Pete Friedman  
Logistics Section Chief  
Subject: 2019 Fire Hose Testing Process

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Friedman".

This memorandum provides guidance on how MCFRS will test hose in 2019, as outlined in FCGO 14-09, *Fire Hose Testing*.

**The priority for hose testing is to ensure that your equipment keeps you safe and allows you to do your job.**

**Safety:**

In order to perform hose testing safely, the pressure gauges on hose testing machines must be accurate. Starting this year, MCFRS personnel must only use hose testing machines that have had the pressure gauge calibrated in the current calendar year. All County-owned testing machines have already been calibrated. Hose testing machines will be affixed with a brass tag stamped "2019" when they have been calibrated.



Because hose testing is generally performed only once a year, it is easy to become unfamiliar with the procedures and best practices. A hose testing module has been added to the MCFRS Tech Training website <https://www.mcfrsit.com/TrackingLogistics/>

The module contains the "cheat sheet" and will log when personnel have downloaded and viewed the cheat sheet. The tracking feature works similarly to other MCFRSIT training. Station Officers must ensure that all personnel review the "cheat sheet" and get credit for it before starting hose testing for the first time each year. All personnel must review the "cheat sheet" before participating in hose testing each year.

**Division of Support Services – Logistics Section**

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**Scope:**

There will be a lot of movement of engines in the next 6 months: New Pierce engines will go in service, some front-line engines will become reserves, and 23 engines will move to disposal.

**The hose on new Pierce engines and Rosenbauer brush engines does not need to be tested this year.**

**Every section of hose that will be on apparatus next year must be tested this year.**

**Every section of spare hose in stations must be tested this year.**

We do not want to spend energy testing hose that will be going to disposal by the end of this year. To support those goals, the following plan has been developed:

As soon as the resumption of hose testing has been authorized by the Operations Chief, stations should begin testing hose on units that will not be impacted by new engine deliveries:

- Hose on LFRD and Bravo engines: E705, E703B, E710, RE709, E713B, etc.
- Hose on Crimson's that will remain frontline: E703, E707, E713, etc.
- Hose on brush trucks, aerials, and tankers
- Spare hose in stations

If your station is receiving a new Pierce engine, you are still responsible for testing the hose on the Crimson that was assigned to your station as of August 2019. Example: FS19 is receiving a new Pierce. They are still responsible for testing hose on Crimson 1-08-7625 even when it moves into the reserve fleet.

To manage the changes in engine assignments, Stock Numbers should be the method for tracking the completion of hose testing because a lot of Unit ID's will change.

The following units will be reserves next year and will need to be tested this year:

Battalion	Unit (in August 2019)	Stock Number	Station Responsible for Testing	Notes
1	E701	1-08-7623	01	
4	E704	1-08-7607	04	
2	E706	1-08-7618	06	
3	E708	1-14-8307	08	
1	E715	1-08-7594	15	
	<del>E716</del>	<del>1-08-7624</del>	Disposal	
5	E717	1-08-7599	17	
	<del>E718</del>	<del>1-08-7610</del>	Disposal	
1	E719	1-08-7625	19	
2	E720	1-08-7617	20	
4	E721	1-08-7611	21	
	<del>E722</del>	<del>1-08-7592</del>	Disposal	
	<del>E723</del>	<del>1-08-7604</del>	Disposal	
1	E724	1-09-0497	24	
	<del>E726</del>	<del>1-08-7616</del>	Disposal	
	E727	1-07-7591	PSTA	
	<del>E728</del>	<del>1-08-7601</del>	Disposal	
5	E729	1-08-7597	29	
	<del>E731</del>	<del>1-08-7602</del>	Disposal	
3	E732	1-14-8309	32	
	<del>E733</del>	<del>1-08-7603</del>	Disposal	
5	E734	1-08-7622	34	
4	E740	1-08-7608	40	
2	RE1	1-08-7626	Battalion 2A	
2	RE17	1-08-7593	Battalion 2B	
2	RE18	1-08-7613	Battalion 2C	
	<del>RE2</del>	<del>1-08-7605</del>	Disposal	
	<del>RE20</del>	<del>1-08-7600</del>	Disposal	
3	RE21	1-08-7612	Battalion 3A	
3	RE3	1-08-7606	Battalion 3B	
4	RE30	1-08-7609	Battalion 4C	
4	RE4	1-09-0498	Battalion 4A	
5	RE5	1-08-7621	Battalion 5B	
3	RE6	1-08-7619	Battalion 3C	
1	RE7	1-08-7627	Battalion 1A	

Distribution of Testing	
Battalion	Reserves
1	5
2	5
3	5
4	5
5	4

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MCFRS Logistics will load new hose serial numbers into FireApp and all existing hose should have been entered last year. If newly tested hose isn't recognized in FireApp, it must be added by the station performing the test.

### **Record keeping:**

FireApp will continue to be used for record keeping. All County PCs with FireApp should now have the hose testing module included. If the first page of a FireApp screen doesn't show a button for "Apparatus Test" then one action must be taken one time to add the module to FireApp:

On the desktop, double click the icon labeled "Apparatus Testing":

The module will then be added to FireApp.

### **Resources:**

The "Fleet Operations and Fleet Support" page on quicklinks has been updated with support documents:

- A "cheat sheet" with the basics of hose testing
- A guide to marking serial numbers
- A blank hose testing log that is printable

If personnel want to review [NFPA 1962](https://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/all-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards/detail?code=1962), it can be viewed without subscription at <https://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/all-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards/detail?code=1962>, but it is a little clumsy and the pages are not printable. If there is a conflict between the "cheat sheet" and 1962, defer to the NFPA standard.

### **Hose testing reminders**

- **Only Hose Testing Machines (calibrated in 2019) can be used for hose testing: Do NOT use fire apparatus.**
- Each battalion has one hose testing machine assigned to it and there is one reserve machine available at CMF.
- Battalion Chiefs can contact CMF Small Tools to obtain the reserve.
- If an LFRD hose testing machine is to be used, have it delivered to Small Tools. The Pump Testing personnel will calibrate it and notify the LFRD or Station Commander and add a brass ring to it.

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- Small Tools will collect MCFRS-owned host testing machines in December for servicing and winter storage.
- Station Commanders are responsible for ensuring that all hose at the station is tested.
- When all hose at a station has been tested, the Station Commander should notify his or her Battalion Chief. The Battalion Chief should then update the 2019 Hose Testing Matrix which is stored at <S:\DTC\Hose Test Completion Matrix\Hose Testing Completion Matrix 2016-2019.xls>
- The goal is to have all available hose tested before October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019.
- All hose *must* be tested by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019
- Station Commanders must keep the hardcopy records for previous years (2017 and prior) but do not need to enter them into FireApp.
- In part because of the large amount of supply line that moved in the previous years, many sections of hose will no longer have ID numbers that match the unit/station where it is located.
- Especially with older hose, there may be duplicate serial numbers. They will eventually be worked out of the system by attrition.
- Testing of Reserve Engines will be managed by the Operations Battalion Chiefs. Each of the 15 Battalion Chiefs will have 1 or 2 Reserve Engines assigned to them. When the hose on a Reserve Engine is complete, the Battalion Chief should update the Hose Test Completion Matrix.
- We know this system isn't perfect and we are working on improvements to the process and to FireApp.

Please direct all questions and recommendations to the Operations – Fleet Liaison, Battalion Chief Frank Doyle. (Battalion 4-A)

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