FPB POLICY 2016-2: Fire Department Connection Labeling
Created: April 14, 2016 Effective Date: July 11, 2016 Immediately
From the Office of the Fire Prevention Bureau – Phone (515) 283-4240

This policy is promulgated in accordance with Section 104.1 of the 2015 International Fire Code (IFC) and is an official interpretation of Section 912.5 of the 2015 International Fire Code.

The following shall apply to all fire department connection signs:
Section 912.5 of the International Fire Code reads as follows: “A metal sign with raised letters at least 1 inch (25 mm) in size shall be mounted on all fire department connections serving automatic sprinklers, standpipes or fire pump connections. Such signs shall read: AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS or STANDPIPES or TEST CONNECTION or a combination thereof as applicable. Where the fire department connection does not serve the entire building, a sign shall be provided indicating the portions of the building served.” It is the opinion of the Fire Marshal that these signs provide critical information to firefighters and it is critically important that the signs provide accurate information. The following is the Des Moines Fire Prevention Bureau’s policy on what information is required on the sign above a fire department connection (FDC):

All FDCs:
1-inch (25mm) letters on a contrasting background (preferably red letters on a white background)

FDCs supplying sprinkler systems only:
Sign shall read AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS

FDCs supplying standpipe systems only:
Sign shall read (depending on the type of system present):
1. AUTOMATIC WET STANDPIPES
2. AUTOMATIC DRY STANDPIPES
3. MANUAL WET STANDPIPES
4. MANUAL DRY STANDPIPES

FDCs supplying combined sprinkler and standpipe systems:
Sign shall read AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS AND {insert correct standpipe condition from above}

FDCs supplying standpipe and/or sprinkler systems requiring greater than 150 psi for normal working pressure:
An additional sign shall read depending on the type of system present):
1. AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS REQUIRE ### PSI FOR PROPER OPERATION
2. STANDPIPE SYSTEM REQUIRES ### PSI FOR 100 PSI AT HIGHEST OUTLET

Any comments or questions regarding the above information may be submitted to:
Office of the Fire Marshal
City of Des Moines Fire Department
Fire Prevention Bureau
2715 Dean Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50317
Office: (515) 283-4240
Fax: (515) 283-4907
Email: firedept@dmgov.org