

# Northshore Utility District's Hydrant Maintenance Programs

Northshore Utility District maintains nearly 2,715 fire hydrants, thoroughly checking each one on a two-year cycle. Local Fire Departments also perform fire hydrant checks and report deficiencies to the District for repair.

The District's fire hydrant maintenance checks are organized into routes and consist of the following:

- Operate the hydrant, check for ease of operation, leaks, drain down, and;
- Exercise the hydrant supply/auxiliary valve, and;
- Log water pressure at the hydrant, and;
- Lubricate upper stem section, and;
- Check accessible of the hydrant trim shrubbery as needed, and;
- Clean and paint the fire hydrant, apply ID tag if needed, and;
- Note all other deficiencies.

All hydrant service reports/records are turned into the District's dispatch center at the end of each workday. A high priority work order is created and immediately scheduled for all unresolved deficiencies identified during the maintenance check.

- If a hydrant is found to be inoperable, the hydrant is marked "out of service" and immediately reported to local Fire Departments. A high priority work order is created and the hydrant is repaired ASAP – **whenever possible the hydrant is repaired and service is restored within 24 hours.**
- If the hydrant is difficult to access due to landscaping within private property, the property owner is notified and the condition is reported to the local Fire Department. If the property owner fails to comply with clearance requirement within a reasonable amount of time, the District follows up with the property owner to resolve the issue.

Occasionally, Fire hydrants are purposely taken out of service due to construction related activities. When this occurs, the Fire Department is notified and out-of-service log is maintained and routinely checked to monitor the status.

District Statistics on Hydrants as of August, 2011:

- During the past two years, we have serviced 2,715 hydrants in the District -100% of our target goal.
- The Hydrant Replacement Program – This consist of replacing sub-standard undersized fire hydrants with hydrants that meet current standards.

