TEMPORARY HYDRANT USE

This card sets out key information that should assist you in safely using fire hydrants under the City of Columbus's Temporary Hydrant Use Program. The program covers hydrant permits for new construction, nurseries, filling swimming pools, water hauling, dust control and demolition. By following these steps, you will ensure that the City’s water supply remains of top quality and safe to drink.

1) Only contractors or individuals with experience using backflow prevention devices on fire hydrants may apply for temporary use permits. Training to operate the device is provided by city staff.

2) Apply and obtain a permit prior to connecting to any fire hydrant.

3) Use the two single check device assembly (photo right) provided by the city (deposit required), or provide your own device that has been inspected by the city at least once during the previous year.

4) Always maintain the approved air gap at all points of use (illustration at left).

5) Carefully connect the two single check device assembly to the fire hydrant and have a permit holding technician present at ALL TIMES while the connection is in place.

6) Keep the hydrant permit on site and follow all of its terms.

7) Once the project is completed, carefully remove the assembly from the fire hydrant and close the valve on the hydrant.

8) From September 15 to April 15, pump out the water remaining in the fire hydrant (photo right) after each use to prevent damage during freezing temperatures.

Please Note:

1) DO NOT close the fire hydrant valve too fast. Doing so can allow pressure to build-up, potentially damaging the valve assembly and taking the hydrant out-of-service.

2) NEVER leave the location while the temporary hook-up is in place.

3) NEVER connect the hose from the fire hydrant and check valve assembly to anything that does not have the required air gap.