



El Toro Water District

"A District of Distinction"

Serving the Public – Respecting the Environment

FIRE HYDRANT FLOW TESTING

A fire hydrant flow test provides pressure and flow data at specific fire hydrants within the District's distribution system. The data can be used to assess the pressure and flow available for fire protection, sprinkler system design, mainline design, and proper sizing of domestic and/or fire service lines.

The District conducts fire hydrant flow tests either in the field or via a hydraulic model. If conducted in the field, the fire hydrant flow test requires testing three fire hydrants: (1) Flowing & (2) Residual. The first hydrant is the flow hydrant, which is located closest to the property being tested. The second and third are the test (residual) hydrants and are located directly upstream or downstream from the flow hydrant. If conducted in the hydraulic model, the District will simulate conditions on the desktop to produce the same results.

FLOW CHART

Submission

- Fill out the **OCFA Water Availability Form**
- Provide the **\$150 Fire Flow Test Fee**.
- Submit to the Engineering Dept by mail or to Engineering@etwd.com

Review and Scheduling

- ETWD Engineering Department will review your request.
- Processing may take 5-10 business days from receipt of payment.

Completion

- ETWD will fill out the OCFA Water Availability Form to the email stated in the original email/letter

El Toro Water District

SUBMISSION

The OCFA Water Availability form is located [here](#). When completed submit to the Engineering Dept by mail or to Engineering@etwd.com. Email is preferred. Instructions on how to pay the \$150 fee can be found [here](#).

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1. How is a fire flow test performed?**
 - a. A fire flow test is performed on three public hydrants – two hydrants act as residuals, and the third acts as the flow hydrant.
 - b. A fire flow test can also be performed via hydraulic model.

- 2. Who needs to apply for flow test information?**
 - a. Engineering firms that design water systems for new development.
 - b. Firms that design fire protection systems for buildings, both internal and external.
 - c. Firms that design landscape irrigation systems.

- 3. Can we run the test ourselves?**
 - a. No, public tests are tests which are conducted using hydrants located within the public right-of-way. Only ETWD personnel may conduct public tests.

- 4. Can a private hydrant have a fire flow test?**
 - a. No, only public hydrants will have fire flow tests performed by ETWD staff.

- 5. How can I choose the correct hydrants for my project?**
 - a. ETWD selects the public fire hydrants near you based on your address.

- 6. How long is the turnaround time to get results back?**
 - a. Five to ten (5-10) business days is the standard time frame if using the hydraulic model. However, field performing the tests can take fifteen to twenty (15-20) business days. ETWD Engineering will fill out the bottom portion of the OCFA Water Availability form and email it to email address provided.

- 7. The flow is not sufficient for my project, is there any way to increase/alter the flow rate?**
 - a. No, the rate of flow is determined by numerous water distribution variables, which cannot be changed.

If you should have any questions please feel free to contact the Engineering Department at Engineering@etwd.com or (949) 837-7050.