
FIRE UNDERGROUND INSPECTIONS GUIDE FOR CONTRACTORS

This informal document is meant to assist contractors in understanding the items inspected on an underground inspection by the Fire Inspector.

Note: all items are taken from the current Florida adopted edition of NFPA 24

The licensed contractor (or their representative) for the underground fire lines will be present for the inspection.

1. The installation in the field will be verified that it matches the site and utility plan that was approved during plans review. Any significant deviations will require approval from the engineer of record.
2. Hard-copy specification sheets for piping, restraint systems and any other installed equipment will be on site for inspection.
3. All installed rods, nuts, bolts, washers, clamps and other restraining devices will be inspected to verify they are coated with corrosion retarding material (like asphalt) or already coated from manufacturer.
4. The torque of bolted joints will be inspected.
5. Other restraint systems will be inspected if present.
6. Depth of trench will be inspected to verify depth of cover requirements per code.
7. Trench will be inspected to ensure it is clear of debris and rocks.
8. Trench will be backfilled between joints prior to hydro and flush test.
9. Proper installation and orientation of valves and equipment will be verified.
10. Height of, and clearance around hydrants, PIVs and FDCs will be verified.
11. Collar or sign for FDC will be inspected if present.
12. Observe a hydro test at 200 PSI for 2 hours or per code for lower pressure pipe.
13. Observe a flush test, conducted until water is clear.
14. A Contractor's Material and Test Certificate for Underground Piping Form will be completed, signed and a copy turned into the inspector (preferably by email) before the final underground inspection is approved.