

# Fire Hydrants

## A GUIDE FOR BUSINESS OWNERS



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Fire hydrants provide fire services quick and reliable access to water during a fire.

Fire hydrants are located in streets and around buildings. It is important that they can be identified quickly so that precious time isn't wasted trying to locate them in an emergency.

### Fire Hydrants Checklist

- Is the fire hydrant identifiable?
- Has the fire hydrant been maintained in an operable condition?
- Is the fire hydrant readily accessible to CFA fire fighting vehicles and firefighters?
- Does the fire hydrant provide adequate coverage to the building?
- Is the fire hydrant clear from hazards?
- Is the fire hydrant protected from damage caused by vehicles?
- If a booster assembly is installed, does it have a block plan of the building and work & test pressures displayed?

### Is the fire hydrant identifiable?

Firefighters responding to emergencies often have difficulty locating the nearest available hydrant to the fire for many reasons such as:

- Vegetation hiding or obscuring the fire hydrant.
- Hydrant marker posts and blue road reflective markers being removed or knocked over.
- Fire hydrants being obstructed by fences, stock, pallets, parked cars etc.
- Paintwork on the fire hydrant fading or peeling off.

### Has the fire hydrant been maintained in an operable condition?

Fire hydrants should be maintained as per the requirements of **AS 1851\* –Maintenance of Fire Safety Systems & Equipment**. The fire hydrant must not have sustained damage from vehicular traffic, has the correct CFA fittings and has had tests conducted to ensure there is appropriate water flow and pressure to enable CFA to effectively use the hydrant in an emergency.

### Is the fire hydrant located clear from hazards?

The fire hydrant should be clear or installed away from hazards such as electrical installations (e.g. distribution boards, transformers), dangerous goods (e.g. LPG and other flammable substances) and other quantities of combustible materials that may compromise the use of fire hydrants during a fire.

#### More information

CFA Publication - **Identification of Street Hydrants for Firefighting Purposes**

CFA Website - [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)

Standards Australia Website - [www.sai-global.com](http://www.sai-global.com)

Identifying fire hydrants - **Identification of Street Hydrants for Firefighting Purposes**.

\* current Australian Standards as amended from time to time