

Hydrant Permit Requirements

- One specific hydrant must be identified and approved by Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) prior to use. No other hydrant is to be used unless exclusively identified and approved.
- It is the responsibility of the hydrant user to use a reduced pressure backflow assembly (RPBA) or approved air gap at all times. SPU has the right to inspect customer's equipment.
- Hydrant permits and satisfactory tank inspection reports (if applicable) must be in the possession of the hydrant user.
- Fire Department access to the hydrant must be unobstructed.
- SPU hydrant equipment must be returned in same-as-issued condition. In the event of damaged or lost equipment, SPU will assess charges equal to the cost of the damaged or lost equipment, including overhead cost. If there is any evidence of hydrant meter tampering or damage to the hydrant meter prohibiting SPU to accurately determine the amount of water used, at SPU's discretion, per day charges will be assessed for the entire term of the permit.
- Approved barricades must be used to prevent hydrant hoses from coming in contact with vehicle and/or pedestrian traffic.
- This permit is effective until the expiration date. Any subsequent use is illegal and will be subject to a fine.
- Failure to comply may result in the cancellation of hydrant permit(s).

Hydrant Operations Rules

- Check all engine port caps to insure they are tightly secure before operating the hydrant.
- Using a hydrant builds pressure that can blow out loose fittings. Never bend or hunch over the hydrant when you are operating and always stand to the back of the hydrant while charging.
- Operate the hydrant with a hydrant wrench only. Never operate using a pipe wrench – it strips the operating nut.
- Never open or close a hydrant rapidly. Opening or closing a hydrant too fast can send a water hammer through the water main that can cause it to rupture and/or damage the hydrant. It disturbs the sediment in the water main affecting water quality and causing dirty water complaints.
- To control flow, use the valve on the SPU hydrant meter. If private equipment is being used, connect a 2" ball valve or gate valve to the engine port. Never throttle a hydrant from the operation nut. Operate the hydrant to the fully open or fully closed positions. Leaving partially open or closed burns the main rubber valve.
- Hydrant permit holders operate hydrants at their own risk and assume all responsibility for personal injury or damage to SPU equipment.
- If a hydrant is not operating properly, call SPU at (206) 386-1800 to report the problem.