

Designation and Marking of Fire Lanes

This standard shall provide the method by which fire lanes are designated and marked. Fire lanes shall be marked at any location designated as a fire lane by the Rockingham County Fire Marshal's Office.

Fire lanes shall not be utilized for any purpose that will obstruct the fire lane in any manner. Requests for deviation from this standard must be submitted in writing to the Fire Marshal's Office. Written request must state the deviation requested and why it is necessary to deviate from the standard.

Existing fire lanes shall be brought into compliance with this standard when it becomes necessary to remark the lane.

Final approval shall be obtained from the Fire Marshal's Office prior to placement of any signs or pavement markings designating a fire lane.

Marking of Designated Fire Lanes

Designated fire lanes shall be marked in accordance with the following standard. Curb and pavement markings shall be used as the primary marking of designated fire lanes where curb or pavement is present for the markings. If the lane is gravel and with a curb then signs will be required.

The following specifications shall be used to mark fire lanes:

Curb/Pavement Markings

- All markings shall be made with red, traffic grade paint, appropriate for the surface to which it will be applied.
- All curbs located in designated fire lanes shall be indicated by red paint.
- In areas where there is no curb on the outside edge of the fire lane the outside edge shall be indicated by a six-inch wide red strip.
- In areas where these markings can be used in place of signs, curb markings shall be substituted for signs. Curb markings shall read:



(4 inch white letters on 6 inch red painted curb or pavement line marking)



- Spacing of pavement markings shall not exceed 70 feet or 35 feet diagonally when placed on both sides of the access road.

Sign Specifications

- Metal construction.
- 12 inch by 18 inch.
- Red reflective letters on a white background.
- 3/8 inch red trim strip around the outer edge of the sign.
- Sign to read: NO PARKING OR STANDING FIRE LANE.
- Letter size and layout to be:

FIRE LANE	2 1/2 inch letters
NO PARKING	2 inch letters
OR	1 inch letters
STANDING	2 inch letters
- Signs are to be mounted 7 feet from bottom of the sign to the ground.
- Arrows (when required) shall be on a separate 12"x6" metal sign with a white background and a solid red reflective arrow.
- Signs shall be securely mounted to the post.
- Posts shall be of metal construction, and mounted securely in the ground.
- Spacing between signs shall not exceed 70 feet.
- Signs shall be mounted perpendicular to the flow of traffic. If fire lane is in an area of two-way traffic signs shall be provided facing both directions.



Minimum Design Criteria

The following shall be the minimum design criteria for any fire lane:

Fire lanes shall be provided to within 150 feet of all portions of the facility or any portion of the exterior wall of the first story of the building as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the building or facility.

The minimum width shall be 20 feet and shall be an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 13 feet 6 inches.

Fire lanes shall be designed and maintained to support the imposed loads of fire apparatus and shall be surfaced so as to provide all weather driving capabilities.

Turns in fire lanes shall be constructed with a minimum radius of 25 feet at the inside curb line and a minimum radius of 50 feet at the outside curb line.

Buildings or portions of buildings or facilities exceeding 30 feet in height above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access shall be provided with approved fire lanes capable of accommodating fire department aerial apparatus. Overhead utility and power lines shall not be located within this fire lane. This fire lane shall have a minimum unobstructed width of 26 feet in the immediate vicinity of any building or portion of building more than 30 feet in height.

Dead-end fire lanes in excess of 150 feet in length shall be provided with an approved area for turning around emergency vehicles

At least one of the required fire lanes meeting the conditions set forth in item 5 shall be located so that the inside edge of the fire lane is a minimum of 15 feet and a maximum of 30 feet from the building, and shall be positioned parallel to one entire side of the building. Landscaping located between the aerial, access apparatus fire lane and the building shall not interfere with the operation of the aerial apparatus.

Gates located within the path of any fire lane shall be located a minimum of 30 feet away from the public right-of-way and shall open inward. The clear opening provided through gates shall be at least 2 feet wider than the travel way. Electronic delayed access gates will be required to have a Click2Enter system installed and a Knox key switch as a means to keep the gate in the open position.



Rockingham County Department of Fire and Rescue
20 East Gay Street
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22802
(P) 540-564-3175 (F) 540-564-1823

Fire and Emergency Service Access Lanes



**Rockingham County
Department of Fire
& Rescue
(540) 564-3175**