

COUNTY OF KENOSHA  
REQUEST FOR BID (RFB) #2202  
COUNTYWIDE FIRE INSPECTION –  
**2202A – FIRE EXTINGUISHERS & HOSES**

**FIRE EXTINGUISHER INSPECTION**

Vendor shall be required to provide fire extinguisher services for all types of extinguishers in County facilities, including extinguishers used in structures, vehicles and buildings. The services, which include annual inspection, required recharges, six- and 12-year maintenance check, hydrostatic testing, repair, or replacement at the County's discretion, are to be provided in strict conformance to the latest NFPA code.

**Vendor Requirements**

Vendor shall be required to:

- Document and identify all fire extinguishers. This shall include facility, location within the facility, fire extinguisher type, and advising the County of any needed additions.
- Provide a replacement, suitable for the type of hazard being protected and of equal or better rating, for any fire extinguisher removed from service for maintenance and/or recharge. Extinguisher(s) must be replaced within 24 hours.

**Annual Inspection/Testing**

- All extinguishers shall be subject to a maintenance inspection not more than one year apart or when specifically indicated in accordance with the latest NFPA Standard #10. All extinguishers shall be maintained in strict accordance with the name plate instructions.
- The annual maintenance inspection is intended to give maximum assurance that an extinguisher will operate effectively and safely.
- Each extinguisher shall have a tag securely attached that indicates the month and year that the maintenance inspection was performed and shall identify the company name, phone number and the name of the person performing the service. The County shall notify the vendor if weatherproof tags are required.
- Fire Extinguishers may be located in vehicles. Inspection of these extinguishers must be scheduled in advance with the County designee.

**Inspections must verify**

- Fire extinguisher information and location against records and develop a map of extinguishers if not available.
- Equipment is in the designated location and properly marked.
- Access to or visibility of fire extinguisher is not obstructed.
- Seals or tamper indicators are not broken. Fire extinguishers without seals or indicators should be lifted or weighted to determine if full.
- Fire extinguisher has not been physically damaged.
- Fire extinguisher does not have other obvious defects.
- The maintenance record tag is up to date.

**Vendor shall:**

- Examine for physical damage.
- Check to assure pressure gauge is in proper range.
- Check wall hood or bracket for proper type, fit and that is secure.
- Brush and lubricate hose threads.
- Remove and inspect pull pin.
- Check for most recent hydrostatic test and maintenance dates.
- Check agent container for dents, abrasions and corrosion.
- Check weight and inspect expellant gas.
- Replace tamper seal in pull pin.
- Attach new maintenance tag.
- Check for proper DOT and HMIS labeling.
- Clean and wipe down equipment.

#### **Six Year Maintenance Inspection**

- Every six (6) years, stored pressure dry chemical extinguishers shall be emptied and subjected to the applicable maintenance procedures. At the time of this maintenance inspection, a NFPA approved identification collar that indicates the inspector, month and year the maintenance check was performed shall be securely attached to the extinguisher. The vendor shall pick-up and deliver all extinguishers at no additional charge or services shall be conducted on site.

#### **Recharging**

- All extinguishers shall only be recharged after use or as indicated by an inspection. The recharging instructions on the name plate shall always be followed. The vendor shall pick-up and deliver all extinguishers at no additional charge or services shall be conducted on site.
- Only the materials specified on the nameplate or materials to have equal chemical composition and physical characteristics shall be used. No extinguisher shall be converted from one type to another, nor shall any extinguisher be converted to use a different type of extinguishing agent.

#### **Vendor shall be responsible to:**

- Return fire extinguishers being recharged within twenty-four (24) hours after removal or the vendor must provide loaded fire extinguisher coverage and return the original extinguisher within 24 hours.
- Allow the County to keep no less than 75% of fire extinguishers on the premises of each facility at all times or vendor must provide coverage of equal rating.
- Return fire extinguishers to the same location after completion of recharge or inspection/testing.
- When requested by the County it is recommended that the vendor provide on-site recharging services otherwise the vendor must provide a replacement extinguisher. The original extinguisher must be returned within 24 hours of being taken out of service.
- Advise the County if replacement parts are needed, and if so, what parts and cost.
- Record the date of inspection check and/or recharge and initial tag or label affixed to the fire extinguisher. Metal stamping will not be accepted.
- Repair and obtaining parts shall be at the County's discretion. If the County authorizes the vendor to repair, all replaced defective parts will be returned to the County for inspection.

### **Recharge Checklist**

- Vendors shall be required to follow the following checklist when completing recharges:
  - Discharge remaining dry chemical from canister.
  - Remove valve from canister.
  - Remove valve stem, siphon tube and spring from valve body.
  - Clean all parts along with valve body thoroughly removing all packed dry chemicals from vital areas.
  - Refill canister with correct dry chemical.
  - Examine "O" rings for wear and replace when necessary.
  - Lubricate "O" rings, sealing surfaces and moving parts.
  - Reassemble valve.
  - Replace valve into canister and pressurize to correct operating pressure using moisture trap with nitrogen.
  - Submerge entire canister into water to check for leaks.
  - Replace nozzle or hose assembly, seal valve and tag fire extinguisher indicating date and type of fire extinguisher with durable plastic tag.

### **Hydrostatic Testing**

- All hydrostatic testing shall be performed in accordance with the latest NFPA Standards. This test will be performed every 12 years for dry chemical fire extinguishers and every five for CO2 extinguishers. The contractor shall pick-up and deliver all extinguishers at no additional charge or conduct services on site.
- Extinguishers shall be hydro-statically tested at intervals recommended by the current version of NFPA 10.

### **FIRE HOSE INSPECTION**

- The vendor shall perform periodic inspections, tests, and maintenance to ensure fire hoses are in proper operating condition and shall correct any defects or impairments revealed. Inspection, testing, and maintenance shall be at frequencies and in accordance with procedures meeting or exceeding those established in the latest NFPA standard for the inspection, testing, and maintenance for fire hoses and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

### **Inspection Services**

- Record location of fire hose stations.
- Check date, location and length of hose at each station.
- Visually check hose for damage and make sure it is properly racked in cabinet and that the nozzle is attached.
- Rerack fire hose to prevent creases.
- Check condition of hose muzzle and make sure is it in the closed position.
- Exercise each hose.
- Inspect hose cabinet signs.
- Clean hose and cabinet of cobwebs, dust and debris.
- Inspect locks for functionally.
- Tag all inspected units and install new sated tamper seal.
- Report any problems and missing or damaged units to the County's designee to the facility.

- Perform hydrotest service when applicable.

#### **Maintenance and Hydrotest Services**

- Hydrotest of all fire hoses in the facilities must be performed as per NFPA 1962 2-5, Standard for the Care, Use, Inspection, Service Testing, and Replacement of Fire Hose, Couplings, Nozzles, and Fire Hose Appliances. Pricing for the three and five year hydrotest and after usage test shall include:
  - Physical inspection shall determine that the hose, couplings and any nozzles have not been vandalized; are free of debris and exhibit no evidence of mildew, rot or damage by chemicals, burns, cuts, abrasion and vermin. If the hose fails the physical inspection, it shall be removed from service, repaired as necessary and service tested or condemned.
  - Pressure test fire hose to check for structural weakness or flaws.
  - Coupling Inspection, after each use and during each service test, visually inspect for the following: damaged threads, corrosion, slippage in the hose, out-of-round, swivel not rotating freely, missing lugs, loose external collar, internal gasket and other defects that impair operation.
  - Nozzle Inspection, after each use and during each service test shall include verification of the following, nozzle valves attached to in-service hose is in the closed position, waterway clear of obstructions, no damage to tip, full operation of adjustments such as pattern selection and so forth, proper operation of shutoff valve if so equipped, no missing parts, thread gasket in good condition.