



**CHARLOTTE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE  
Fire Prevention Bureau**

Code/Procedural Interpretation

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**CFD Interpretation:** Location of Fire Department Connections

**Date:** May 4, 2015

**Code Reference:** 2012 North Carolina Fire Code, Section 912 and Code of the City of Charlotte

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**Subject:**

What are the regulations concerning approved locations for fire department connections (FDC's)?

**Interpretation:**

The North Carolina Fire Code does not specify *exact* locations, but rather offers acceptable locations in broad terms that will enable responding emergency services personnel to quickly access and utilize the FDC in the event of a fire emergency. It is ultimately left up to the local authority to approve such locations.

The Charlotte Fire Department requires that the FDC be located on the street side of the building, and be located either directly on the building, or be a free-standing connection located in close proximity to the main entrance from the fire apparatus access road. Additionally, FDC's shall:

1. Be located no less than 18 inches nor more than 5 feet above finished grade.
2. Have a clear horizontal and vertical clearance of 10 feet in all directions.
3. Be located no more than 50 feet from an access roadway or entrance drive.
4. Be located with-in 200 feet of an approved fire hydrant.
5. Be located such that the laying of hose or parking of apparatus will not impede or obstruct access to the building.

Due to varying circumstances such as property lines, topography, etc. any modification shall be prior approved by the Fire Department.