

Fire Service Inspections

Plumbing Solutions – edition 12

This is part of a series of information sheets designed to assist plumbers.

SA Water is the Regulatory Authority for fire service installations in South Australia. This information sheet is designed to help you go about your everyday business.

Inspections are conducted to ensure fire service installations are performed in a competent manner and comply with AS/NZS 3500 Standards and SA Water requirements.

Inspection booking procedure

All new and alterations to existing unmetered fire service installations must be inspected by SA Water. An inspection by SA Water is not required for metered fire service installations.

How to make a booking

To organise an inspection please contact the SA Water Customer Contact Centre on 1300 884 055 between 8.30am and 3.00pm Monday to Friday or on-line via our website at plumbooking.sawater.com.au

Requirements

At the time of booking the inspection you will need to provide:

- Property name
- Property address
- Contractor name and plumbing license
- Contact telephone number
- Onsite contact name and telephone number
- Date and time of requested test
- Certificate number

During the test (or shortly after) you will need to provide:

- Details of lengths and materials used
- Completed Certificate of Compliance
- A plan of the internal fire service layout
- Fire service installation report signed and completed by a licensed plumbing contractor

The fire service test

All work to be tested must be under test at 1700kpa for a period of 20 minutes. After this time has elapsed the inspector will request that the pressure in the internal system be released through a hydrant or fire hose reel. The gauge must return to zero once all the pressure within the system has been released. If the gauge does not return to zero the test will be considered to have failed and the test will need to be rebooked for another time.

Upon receipt of a signed Fire Service Installation Report including lengths and materials and an appropriately completed Certificate of Compliance the inspector will issue a Fire Service Certificate.

Please note

The internal fire system must be under test pressure at the time agreed by the inspector and contractor. If the internal fire system is not up to test pressure at the agreed time the test will be considered to have failed and the test will need to be rebooked for another time.

Backflow prevention

Fire services must have a single spring-loaded check valve installed on the internal pipework within 3.0 metres of the property boundary in accordance with AS/NZS 3500 (SA Variations).

Fire hose reels may also require backflow protection dependent upon the risk rating as assessed by the plumbing contractor or qualified person.

Water storage tanks must comply with AS/NZS 3500.

Turning off a fire service

To turn off a fire service valve call United Water on 8381 0300.

Activating/Recharging a fire service

To activate or recharge a fire service (turning on a fire service street valve) contact SA Water on 1300 884 055 between 8.30am and 4.30pm and quote the United Water job reference number (recharges only).

Please note: The Plumbing Contractor or representative must be on site when the fire service street valve is activated/recharged.

For further information

If you have any questions about inspections or require further information about the Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 3500 please contact:

Water Investigations Coordinator on 7424 1298
8.30am – 4.30pm

Alternatively, if you would like additional copies of this or other issues of Plumbing Solutions, please contact Brenton Jenner on (08) 7424 1360 or email plumbooking@sawater.com.au

We welcome your feedback. If you have any comments about Plumbing Solutions or would like to suggest a topic for a future edition please send an email to plumbooking@sawater.com.au