

Caroline County Department of Fire-Rescue & Emergency Management

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DRY HYDRANTS

Dry hydrants are fire hydrants that are located on a static water source such as a pond, lake or stream. "Dry" refers to the fact that the hydrant does not have a pressurized water source like your standard fire hydrant does. In order to get water out of a dry hydrant a fire truck using a hard suction hose and pump system would be used. These dry hydrants are used during emergencies to refill fire apparatus in order to continuously carry and supply large amounts of water to a fire scene that has no other source of water.

There are several dry hydrants in the County which are on private ponds. The Lake Land'or Community and also the Lake Caroline Community have dry hydrants on their lakes that the Fire Department can use for controlling fires in their communities.

Dry hydrants are an important tool in fire fighting in a rural community. Not all of the County has access to the County water system, therefore dry hydrants, the water carried on the trucks and "drafting" (sucking water out of a pond, lake or stream without the use of a hydrant) are the only water sources for fighting structure, forest, field and other types of fires. Dry hydrants make access to the water in ponds, lakes and streams quicker and safer than drafting.

Installing a dry hydrant in Caroline County is a cooperative project between the property owner and the Caroline County Department of Fire-Rescue. If you have a static water source that we may be able to put a dry hydrant on for the protection of your property and those around you please contact our office at 804-633-9831.

For more information on the installation of dry hydrants please click on this link to the Virginia Department of Forestry Dry Hydrant program. [Dry Hydrants.mht](#)