UL 246

STANDARD FOR SAFETY

Hydrants for Fire-Protection Service

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UL Standard for Safety for Hydrants for Fire-Protection Service, UL 246

Eighth Edition, Dated May 25, 2011

Summary of Topics

This revision of UL 246 dated July 7, 2026 includes the following changes in requirements:

– Hydrants with Electrical Accessories; Section 18B and Section 28B.

– Clarifications to the Minimum Barrel Thickness Requirements and Hydrant Bodies Made with Corrosion Resistant Materials; 8.1, Table 8.1, 8.1A, and 8.1B.

– Clarification to Bury Depth Markings; 8.4

– Hydrant Components Provided Independently from a Hydrant; 29.2 and 30.6.

– Thrust Washers; 14.14.

– Operating Torque Test; 27.4, 27.4A, 27.7, and 27.7A.

– Updating Reference from NFPA 1963 to NFPA 1960 and Threaded Caps for Protecting Non-threaded Connections; 5.5 – 5.7

– Relocation of Metallic Materials from the INTRODUCTION section to CONSTRUCTION section; Section 4

Text that has been changed in any manner or impacted by ULSE's electronic publishing system is marked with a vertical line in the margin.

The new and revised requirements are substantially in accordance with Proposal(s) on this subject dated October 17, 2025 and May 15, 2026.

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UL 246

Standard for Hydrants for Fire-Protection Service

Previous numbered and unnumbered editions of standards covering Hydrants for Fire-Protection Service have been published predating 1912. Editions published prior to 1938 were not identified by edition number.

The First, Second and third editions were titled "Hydrants, Private and Municipal Fire Department Service".

First Edition – January, 1939
Second Edition – April, 1947
Third Edition – January, 1958
Fourth Edition – September, 1967
Fifth Edition – May, 1973
Sixth Edition – July, 1979
Seventh Edition – June, 1973

Eighth Edition

May 25, 2011

This UL Standard for Safety consists of the Eighth Edition including revisions through July 7, 2026.

The Department of Defense (DoD) has adopted UL 246 on June 1, 1982. The publication of revised pages or a new edition of this Standard will not invalidate the DoD adoption.

Comments or proposals for revisions on any part of the Standard may be submitted to ULSE at any time. Proposals should be submitted via a Proposal Request in the Collaborative Standards Development System (CSDS) at https://csds.ul.com.

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INTRODUCTION

1 Scope

1.1 These requirements cover the performance of and methods for testing hydrants intended for use in piping systems supplying water for fire-protection service.

1.2 Hydrant types covered by this standard include:

a) Base valve design and

b) Wet barrel design.

1.2A Traffic model hydrants of both the base valve and wet barrel design may be covered by this Standard. However, these requirements are not intended to cover the performance of and methods for testing break features of traffic model hydrants.

1.3 Requirements for the installation and use of hydrants covered by these requirements include, among others, the Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains, NFPA 24.

1.4 A product that contains features, characteristics, materials, or systems new or different from those in use when the standard was developed, and that involves a risk of fire, electric shock, or injury to persons shall be evaluated using the appropriate additional component and end-product requirements as determined by the intent of this standard.

2 General

2.1 Components

2.1.1 Except as indicated in 2.1.2, a component of a product covered by this standard shall comply with the requirements for that component.

2.1.2 A component is not required to comply with a specific requirement that:

a) Involves a feature or characteristic not required in the application of the component in the product covered by this standard, or

b) Is superseded by a requirement in this standard.

2.1.3 A component shall be used in accordance with its rating established for the intended conditions of use.

2.1.4 Specific components are incomplete in construction features or restricted in performance capabilities. Such components are intended for use only under limited conditions, such as certain temperatures not exceeding specified limits, and shall be used only under those specific conditions.

2.2 Units of measurement

2.2.1 If a value for measurement is followed by a value in other units in parentheses, the second value may be only approximate.

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