

## IMPORTANT

**One week** before performing **underground fire main or fire pump testing**, submit the following information to the City of Bellevue Utilities – Water Quality at 425-452-7840 or [O&MSupport@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:O&MSupport@bellevuewa.gov):

- Name & number of contractor doing testing
- Address of testing location
- Date and time of testing
- Volume, flow rate, and length of time of discharge
- Discharge to sewer or storm system

To protect Chinook spawning streams, no confidence testing is allowed between September 15th and April 15th in the areas of the Central Business District and Factoria Commercial District.

**See map on website below.**

## QUESTIONS?

[www.bellevuewa.gov/utilities-confidence-testing.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/utilities-confidence-testing.htm)

or **CALL:** 425-452-7840 and ask to speak with a Water Quality Specialist



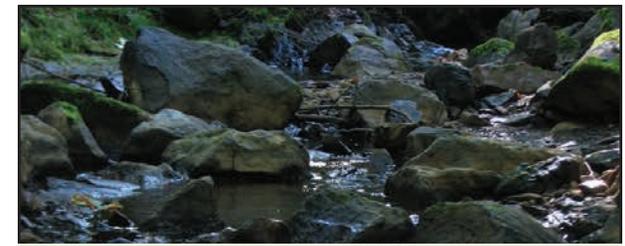
### Utilities Department

P.O. Box 90012  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012

Phone: 425-452-7840  
Fax: 425-452-7116  
[O&MSupport@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:O&MSupport@bellevuewa.gov)

### Fire Department

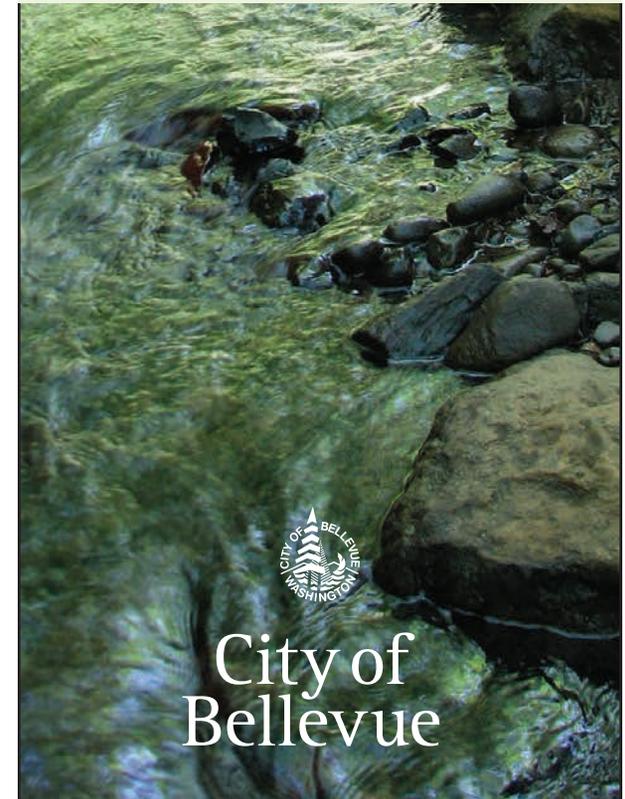
Fire Prevention Division  
425-452-6872



# FIRE PREVENTION CONFIDENCE TESTING Water Based Systems



*What you should know to protect  
Bellevue's water quality*



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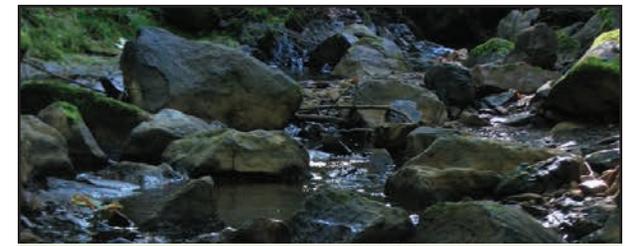
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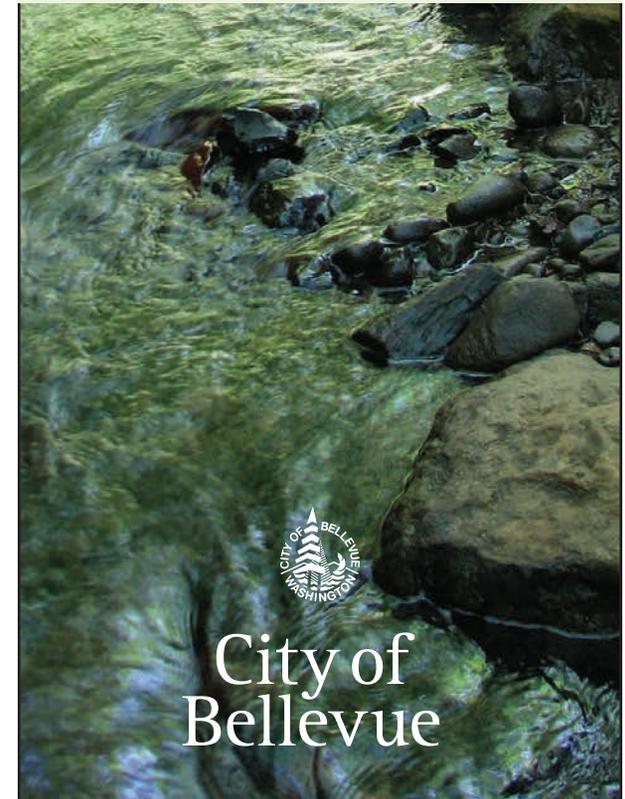
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# FIRE PREVENTION CONFIDENCE TESTING Water Based Systems



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City of  
Bellevue

**The International Fire Code** requires testing and inspection of new fire sprinkler systems, fire pumps, and underground fire mains which are essential to life safety. In addition, annual confidence testing of all water based life safety systems is also required.

## Before testing

it is important to ensure:

- **Drinking water quality** and pressure will not be compromised.
- **Sewer pipes are large enough** to hold the sudden flow of discharge water.
- If used, **roof aspiration occurs** during appropriate times of the day and not into roof drains.
- **Discharge water** will not transport contaminants or re-suspend sediment in streams, which can smother fish.

## Maintaining Water Quality

**Bellevue City Code 24.06** states that **fire confidence testing water is a Conditionally Permissible Discharge** and is allowed into the storm system if the following conditions are met:

- **De-chlorinate** water to a concentration of 0.1 ppm or less,
- **Adjust pH**, if necessary, State surface water quality standards are 6.5-8.5 (WAC173-201A-200), and
- **Prevent re-suspension** of sediment in storm system by controlling volume and velocity.

A competent Fire Sprinkler Contractor should be able to achieve the above requirements.

## Recommendations

It is recommended that fire confidence testing water be discharged first into an:

- On-site storage tank or vault,
- Stormwater detention pond, or
- Sanitary system (*this discharge needs prior approval from City of Bellevue Utilities Department*)

## Tips on how to properly handle discharge water

**De-chlorinate** – You will need:

- Diffusing Dechlorinator
- Dechlorination Tablets
- Nylon bags
- Chlorine Field Test Kit

**Adjust pH** – You will need:

- Field pH Testing Kit (pH strips)

**Prevent re-suspension of sediment**

- Slow flow:
  - ~ Distance flow of water
  - ~ Place sand bags in flow path
  - ~ Direct flow in several directions
- Clean downstream storm structures of all sediment.



## For more information concerning

- How to properly dechlor, adjust pH, or control volume and velocity,
- Storm & Surface Water Codes and Regulations, or
- Restricted times and locations (map) of confidence testing

**call 425-452-7840** and ask to speak with a Water Quality Specialist

or go **online:**

[www.bellevuewa.gov/storm\\_and\\_surface\\_water.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/storm_and_surface_water.htm)



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