



BULLETIN » Attack Fire Hoses



▲ Attack Fire Hoses

In 2016, the Fire Protection Research Foundation conducted a [Workshop on Fire Hose in Support of the Technical Committee](#), and recommendations were shared for consideration in the [next edition](#) of the code to be released in 2019. In addition, [the Fire Protection Research Foundation is evaluating thermal conditions](#) and exposure to firefighter equipment including fire hose.

NFPA 1961 and NFPA 1962 are currently in their respective review processes, and can be viewed online for free. All NFPA codes are revised every three to five years.

QUESTIONS?
Contact the NFPA Public Fire Division
at publicfire@nfpa.org

TODAY'S FIRES BURN faster, hotter and with more [intensity](#). Attack fire hose, used to protect firefighters in rescue efforts and extinguish the fire, is important equipment. [NFPA 1961](#) provides the fire service with a minimum standard of fire hose manufacturing requirements and [NFPA 1962](#) identifies minimum fire hose maintenance regimen requirements.

[Thermal degradation has been identified as a factor of attack fire hose failure during fire incidents.](#)

As we await additional scientific research on attack fire hose capabilities, fire departments/organizations should:

- ▶ Inspect hose and couplings for vandalization, and ensure that hose are free of debris, mildew, rot, and damage from chemicals, burns, cuts, abrasion, and vermin—in accordance with NFPA 1962
- ▶ Remove attack fire hose from service if it fails inspection; and repair as necessary or condemn it
- ▶ Refer to NFPA 1962 Annex B for a helpful checklist when purchasing new attack fire hose
- ▶ Keep abreast of latest developments with attack fire hose codes and incidents via www.nfpa.org

[The Fire Protection Research Foundation, NFPA's Technical Committee on Fire Hose](#) and others are considering attack fire hose characteristics including, but not limited to: thermal impact, mechanical failure resistance, radiative exposure, flow properties, usability, selection, care and maintenance.

The Technical Committee on Fire Hose is working to help ensure that firefighters, using attack fire hose compliant with NFPA standards, can do their job safely and effectively. The Committee is looking at the following objectives:

- ▶ What are the firefighter expectations for attack fire hose capabilities and characteristics?
- ▶ What are the research gaps?
- ▶ What are the research priorities?
- ▶ What are the recommendations for the future, including advanced materials for attack fire hose construction?



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This bulletin contains some basic information about attack fire hose and its maintenance. It identifies NFPA documents and some requirements regarding attack fire hose as of the date of publication. This material is not the complete and official position of the NFPA on the referenced topics which is represented solely by the NFPA documents in their entirety. For free access to the complete and most current version of these and all NFPA documents, please go to nfpa.org/standards. The NFPA makes no warranty or guaranty of the completeness of the information in this bulletin.