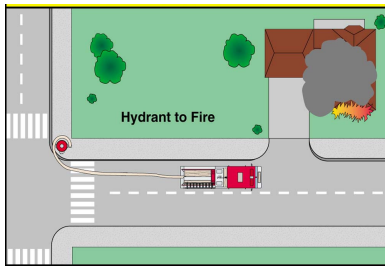




Water Supply

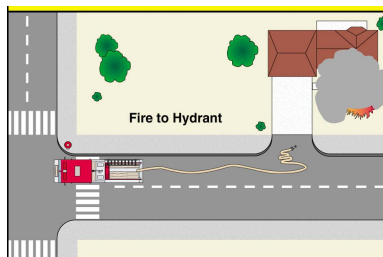
Discussion

There are many variations in how a water supply for a fire operation can be established. Each of them has pros and cons that require the officer to make judgment calls on which is appropriate for each fire. Department SOG's may also dictate which method is used. Members must be knowledgeable in the methods of performing lead-outs, fast water attack using tank water, relay operations and drafting operations. The key in water supply decision making is to attempt to maximize available water flow with minimum interruptions in flow providing sufficient back-up flow capacity for emergency and changed in water supply needs. **Discuss the following water supply methods and the capabilities and limitations of each.** Review the equipment necessary to complete these operations. *Static source operations will be covered under a separate edition.*



Forward Lead-Out

1. Water source to fire
2. Wrap hydrant or source area with supply line
3. Drop hydrant bag
4. Determine if hyd. ff stays and completes supply or 2nd arriving company completes supply



Reverse Lead-Out

1. Drop attack line from engine, pull enough working lines
2. Eng goes to hydrant
3. May send tank water while hooking up
4. Open hyd. while hooking up



Tank Water

1. Fast attack method for certain operations
2. Engage pump and tank-to-pump valve
3. Must establish a positive source when crews are operating in IDLH
4. Refill tank once supply is established

Water Supply Safety

1. A secure positive water supply must be established when ff are operating in a IDLH atmosphere.
2. Plan for additional lines or flow to be used from your source.
3. Try to lead-out out of vehicle travel areas so water supply is not cut by apparatus.
4. Maintain a full tank on your apparatus as a safety valve in case your source fails.
5. Maintain at least +20psi intake static pressure.
6. Recirculate to prevent cavitation and pump damage

Discussion Questions

1. What role do fire/smoke conditions upon arrival have in your decisions regarding water supply?
2. What combinations of these water supply methods are used in your operations?
3. What are the capabilities of these water supply operations?
4. What are the limitations of these operations?
5. What are the contents of the hydrant bag?
6. If completing reverse lead-out, what tools or equipment are pulled from engine before lead-out
7. When would an engine pump from a hydrant source vs. making connection directly to hydrant?
8. How do you calculate available water supply?