

Ground Ladder Testing

912.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that ground ladders are periodically inspected and tested for compliance with the standards set forth by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). This is a safety measure designed to reduce or eliminate the risk of injury to district members when using ground ladders.

912.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Blue Ridge Fire District to perform testing, inspection and certification of all ground ladders for the safety of district members and to comply with applicable standards.

912.3 INSPECTION AND TESTING

All district-owned ground ladders should be tested and certified annually. The actual testing interval may exceed 12 months if that time is reasonably needed for scheduling and completion of the testing process.

Ground ladders shall also be tested after repair and before being placed back in service. Ladders will be tested in accordance with applicable NFPA standards. Load testing minimums will vary based on ladder construction and type.

All ground ladders should be inspected thoroughly after each use. Any defect noted in the inspection shall be repaired and the ground ladder tested prior to being returned to service.

Ground ladder testing and certification should be performed by a trained, qualified district member or a qualified vendor.

912.4 RECORDS

The Small Tools and Equipment Coordinator shall be responsible for maintaining comprehensive records of all ladder testing and certification for the service life of each ladder.