STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

FIRE HYDRANT OPERATION

WORK STEPS:

Check area to assure no damage will result from flooding.

Using a **hydrant wrench (no pipe wrenches)**, remove the desired nozzle cap. Note: Only use a wrench specifically designed for fire hydrants. Any other type of wrench may cause damage to the nozzle cap and bronze-operating nut.

Check the remaining nozzle caps to assure they are snug on the nozzles and will not blow off under pressure.

Attach the hydrant wrench to the operating nut on top of the hydrant bonnet and tighten the wrench to prevent any slippage.

Following the direction of the arrow stamped on the bonnet or bonnet flange, turn the operating nut until the hydrant is fully open. **Partial opening** of a hydrant **will result in** the bleeder valves remaining open and **washing out** the area around the hydrant boot.

Always open a hydrant completely, approximately 8 to 10 turns. Do not force a hydrant to a complete stop. If it is necessary to control the output flow, attach a nozzle valve between the nozzle and attached apparatus and throttle the flow from the valve.

Continuously monitor the hydrant flow output to assure no damage or safety hazard will result from excessive flooding. Obtain water as necessary. **Slowly close the hydrant** (approx. 5 revolutions per minute). **Never close down a hydrant fast,** this could result in water hammer and possible damage to the distribution system.

Replace nozzle cap and tighten with hydrant wrench to assure it is snug on the nozzle.