



Stafford County Fire and Rescue Department Office of the Fire Marshal

1225 Courthouse Road, PO BOX 339, Stafford, VA 22555
(540) 658-7200 · FAX (540) 658-4545 · www.staffordfirerescue.com/fm



Guidelines and Specifications for:

Fire Lanes

Applicable Codes and Standards:

VSFPC – Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (2006)

SCC – Stafford County Code

COV – Code of Virginia

Location	Code Section								
Where required by the fire official, fire lanes must be provided in accordance with Stafford County specifications to delineate all required Fire Department Access Roadways. Fire lanes are not typically required throughout new rural residential developments unless the development includes curb and gutter or has a density greater than 2 units per acre. Fire lanes are not typically required along new or existing private driveways.	VSFPC 503.3 SCC 12-22								
Where fire lanes are required, the following requirements apply to the application of fire lane pavement markings and signs: <table border="1" data-bbox="386 865 982 1003" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Fire Lane Width</th> <th>Where Required</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>20 – 28 feet</td> <td>Both sides of the street</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28 – 36 feet</td> <td>One side of the street</td> </tr> <tr> <td>> 36 feet</td> <td>No Requirements</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Fire Lane Width	Where Required	20 – 28 feet	Both sides of the street	28 – 36 feet	One side of the street	> 36 feet	No Requirements	VSFPC 503.3
Fire Lane Width	Where Required								
20 – 28 feet	Both sides of the street								
28 – 36 feet	One side of the street								
> 36 feet	No Requirements								
Where fire hydrants are provided, parking is not permitted within 15 feet of any hydrant and therefore fire lanes must provided at least 15 feet on either side of all fire hydrants.	COV 46.2 - 1239								
See “Stafford County Fire Department Access” guidelines for additional required locations for fire department access roadways and fire lane markings.	VSFPC 503.1.1								

Fire Lane Sign and Pavement Marking Detail	Code Section
See the attached detail (page 2). Site development plans should include this detail where fire lanes are required / illustrated.	VSFPC 503.3 SCC 12-22



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FIRE LANE LOCATION SPECIFICATIONS

1. All fire lanes must be a minimum of 20 feet in width.
2. Fire lanes must provide access to within 150 feet of any portion of a building.
3. Fire lanes must be constructed of an all weather surface capable of supporting fire department vehicles (35 tons)
4. Fire lanes must be provided in front of all fire hydrants or fire department connections and extend at least 15 feet on either side.
5. Fire lanes must be marked and signed in the following locations:

Fire Lane Width	Where Required
20 – 28 feet	Both sides of the street
28 – 36 feet	One side of the street
> 36 feet	No Requirements

FIRE LANE SIGN SPECIFICATIONS



1. A reflective sign mounted at least 6 feet above grade level.
2. Color: White background with red lettering.
3. The words FIRE LANE and NO PARKING must be in 2 inch letters. The words TOWING ENFORCED must be in 1 inch letters.
4. Sign border shall be 3/8 inches wide and red in color.
5. Fire lanes greater than 20 feet in length, signs shall be posted at the beginning and the end of all designated fire lanes and spaced a maximum of 100 feet apart where needed.
6. Fire lanes 20 feet in length or less, only one fire lane sign is required and it must be posted at the midpoint.

FIRE LANE PAVEMENT MARKING SPECIFICATIONS

- A. FOR PRIVATE ROADS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO STATE SYSTEM, CURB (PAINTED TOP AND FACE) OR EDGE OF PAVEMENT (STRIPING) MUST BE DONE AND THE FOLLOWING:



1. The "NO PARKING FIRE LANE" lettering shall be centered between fire lane signs.
 2. Lettering size shall be 12" in height and located 12" from the painted curb and striping.
 3. Striping shall be 4" wide striping for curb and gutter pavement located 3' from the edge of the curb along with curb face and top painted.
 4. Striping shall be 6" wide striping for pavement without curb and gutter located 3' from the edge of the pavement and along the edge of the pavement.
 5. Yellow VDOT highway grade paint shall be used on all striping and lettering.
- B. FOR STATE-MAINTAINED ROADS, CURB (PAINTED TOP AND FACE) OR EDGE OF PAVEMENT (STRIPING) ONLY.