



Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

S.O.P Number: 1000	Effective Date: October 1, 2010
Section: 1003	
Subject: Fire Service Ground Ladders	
By Order of the Fire Chief: Steven Paine	

Section 1003 - Fire Service Ground Ladders

Ground ladders are to be inspected and lubricated during the months of May and November.

Visual inspections of ground ladders will consist of:

1. Checking to see that all rungs are snug and tight.
2. Checking all bolts and rivets for tightness.
3. Checking weld for any apparent defects.
4. Inspecting side rails for cracks, breaks, gouges, or deformation.
5. Inspecting halyards (ropes and cables) for signs of fraying, unraveling, cuts, broken strands or deterioration.
6. Inspecting all components for cracks, cuts, gouges or other deformations.
7. Ladders that a suspected of having structural damage or malfunctions, must be red tagged and taken out of service immediately.

In addition to the above, ground ladders should be cleaned and visually inspected after every emergency use or ladder training session.

Movable parts such as halyard pulleys and locks should be lubricated with a thin film of waterproof grease. Avoid the application of excess grease, as it tends to collect dirt and debris.

Old caked grease and oily residue should be removed with a solvent. It is recommended that ladders not be tested unless visual inspections or condition of use (such as exposure to high heat) gives rise to suspicions of continued ladder serviceability for fire service use (NFPA 1932). Ladders having defects are to be marked and taken out of service until repaired.