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Red fire hydrants crucial to first responders

Painting has started to make all hydrants code compliant

(BIG SPRING, TEXAS)- The City of Big Spring Fire Department announced that it has started the process of painting the city fire hydrants that are not color compliant.

Different colors of hydrants can mean different things in different municipalities, and these colors can provide life-saving information about the water pressure flow and water source availability to firefighters.

Red is the standard color in Big Spring with either a green, yellow or red top. This makes all hydrants uniform and easier for first responders to quickly see when responding to an emergency.

Big Spring has had some very creative public-painted hydrants over the years, however public safety needs must outweigh artistic expression when it comes to hydrants.

“We want the public to understand that we are painting them red because it is a bright, easily noticeable color that stands out in most environments, especially during emergencies or at night,” said Big Spring Fire Chief Jay Holt. “It’s all about improving response time and safety.”

Holt said that quick identification of hydrants can save valuable seconds during emergency response, helping firefighters connect hoses faster and start water operations without delay.

“The painted hydrants have brought many of our citizens a smile over the years, but safety always comes first,” Holt said.

Now is the time to walk around downtown- and other areas you may have noticed these hydrants- and snap a photo or two of your nostalgic favorites before they turn red again.

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