



PORTALES FIRE DEPARTMENT COULD USE YOUR HELP TO CLEAN AROUND THE FIRE HDYRANTS. A CLEAN HYDRANT IS A HAPPY HYDRANT. IT ALSO MAKES IT SAFER AND QUICKER FOR FIRE RESPONSE.

- What do fire hydrant colors mean? Certain colors are meant for different types of fires. Each color represents a different GPM or Gallons Per Minute. Higher GPMs are meant for larger fires.
- Here are the 4 most popular colors, and the biggest fires they can extinguish. To calculate the GPM necessary for the size of a fire, you can take the volume of the fire and divide it by 100. So, if you have a two-story house that is 20 feet tall, 50 feet long, and 50 feet wide, then you're going to need  $([20*50*50]/100=500)$  500 GPM.
- Red: 500 GPM or less, for a 2-story house that's 50 ft by 50 ft and 20 ft tall.  
Orange: 500-1,000 GPM, for a 4-story house that's 50 ft by 50 ft and 40 ft tall.  
Green: 1000-1500 GPM, for a 4-story house that's 61 by 61 and 40 ft tall.  
Blue: 1500 GPM or more, for a 4-story house that's 70 by 70 feet and 40 ft tall.
- Some colors don't always refer to GPM. Yellow indicates that the water comes from a public supply system. Violet means the water comes from a lake or pond.

References:

Ludacer, R. & Orwig, J. (Nov. 30, 2017) *Not all fire hydrants are red — here's what each different color means.* Retrieved from: <https://www.businessinsider.com/meaning-of-different-fire-hydrant-colors-2017-11>

YOU CAN ALSO GET CREATIVE AND PAINT THEM!!

**RULES:**

- ✓ PLEASE SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
- ✓ PLEASE DO NOT PAINT ANY OF THE PURPLE FIRE HDYRANTS THEY ARE USED FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES
- ✓ ALL TAPE ON FIRE HYDRANTS CANNOT BE PAINTED OVER. YOU WILL HAVE TO PAINT AROUND THEM PLEASE (This reflects the rated water-flow capacity) THAT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR FIRE SUPPRESSION
- ✓ YOU CANNOT PAINT AN ENTIRE HYDRANT BLACK (It represents a damaged hydrant)

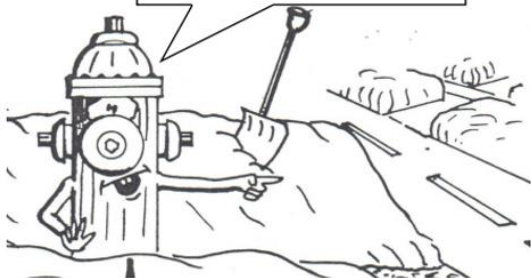


**ADOPT-A-HYDRANT  
WE CAN ALWAYS USE YOUR HELP!**

HELP! I need someone to clear all this snow off! There may be a fire nearby, and the firemen will never find me!



In the winter I need a clear path through the snow to the street. In case of a fire on your block, the firemen will have to get to me quick!



How do you take care of me? Well for one thing, high weeds and bushes can really crowd me! I need plenty of elbow room!



BRRR..I don't really mind the cold, but if I'm leaking anywhere, I can freeze up like an ice cube. Then I'll be no good for anything or anybody!



HEY! HERE I AM!! BEHIND ALL THIS TRASH! How could the firemen find me in a hurry? Besides, you won't be able to keep an eye on me this way.



EMAIL YOUR APPLICATION TO:  
jcontreras@portalesnm.gov



Dear Firefighters,

I would like to help the Fire Department protect lives and property by adopting the fire hydrant located at:

\_\_\_\_\_ (nearest street)

My name is:

\_\_\_\_\_ (first, last name)

I live at:

\_\_\_\_\_ (street address)

\_\_\_\_\_ (city, state, zip)

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number:

