

# City of Rockford Rockford Fire & Rescue Department

## Adopt-a-Hydrant Painting Instructions and Helpful Hints

As explained in the “introduction” of the program. The Fire Department as made arrangements with Lamperts for the purchase of the Valspar Industrial Enamel Paint, which is required to paint the hydrants. Lamperts can assist the adoptive family not only with obtaining the paint but with the products needed to help make your painting experience easy and successful. You will need to present your adoption papers at Lamperts so the adoption fund can be billed accordingly.

When you begin the planning stage of how you want to paint your adopted hydrant keep in mind that these are the following colors available at Lamperts:

**Red**    **White**    **Blue**    **Orange**    **Black**    **Brown**    **Yellow**

Each adoptive family will need to follow the guidelines that Freddy Hydrant explained in his introduction.

1. So as not to offend anyone, please paint your hydrant in good taste. No profanity, religious or political symbols and no advertisements.
2. The hydrant must be visible at night, do not “camouflage” and remember grass is green and snow is white.
3. Please do not paint inside of the thread around the cap. This area needs to be kept clean so the cap won’t stick. The gasket material listed below will help you to accomplish protecting the thread.
4. Do not alter any of the hydrants mechanical operations or add any special devices.
5. The chain around the cap can be painted, but please make sure it remains loose.
6. On the back side of the hydrant you will see a name and date please paint this area so it will remain legible/visible.

### Getting Started:

1. Put a drop cloth around the hydrant to protect the grass or sidewalk.
1. Clean hydrant with mild soap.
2. Use wire brush to remove loose paint, rust and any other debris.
3. Wrap the gasket material around the thread of the cap.

Now you’re ready! Have fun and thank you for participating in this program.

*Don’t forget to remove the gasket material from the thread of the cap*

Volunteers are asked to provide the following which you can also purchase at Lamperts:

- Wire or stiff bristle brush
- mild detergent, to clean dirt, rust, and loose paint from the hydrant
- Pencil to sketch basic design onto hydrant
- Paint brushes
- Gasket material – known as “Screen Spline”
- Newspaper or drop cloth to protect sidewalk or lawn
- Mineral spirits to clean brushes, hands, and splashed or dribbled paint

*Please remember to return any un-used paints to Lamperts for the next adoptive family to use.*