



City of Fostoria

Fire Division

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Fire Safety Inspection

Common Hazards Check list

Buildings are inspected depending on the type of business operating in the building. We have compiled a list of the most common hazards to assist you in preparing your business for a fire safety inspection. Feel free to discuss any concerns you may have with a fire safety inspector.

Interior Hazards:

- _____ Do you have at least a thirty-six-inch-wide path to all of your exit doors?
- _____ Do your exit doors open freely, with little effort, and are they unlocked?
- _____ If equipped, are all fire doors able to close freely and free of hold open devices?
- _____ If equipped are all exits and emergency lights operating, including back up power?
- _____ Is storage contained so that nothing capable of burning is within two feet of the ceiling?
- _____ Do you have at least thirty-six inches of clear space around your furnace, water heater, and other heat-producing appliances?
- _____ Do you keep the area underneath exposed stairwells free of storage?
- _____ Are your walls and ceiling free of holes and missing acoustical tiles?
- _____ Do you have all compressed gas cylinders secured or chained so they can't fall over?
- _____ Are flammable liquids identified and stored in original container?
- _____ Are utilities shutoffs, fire alarm panels, and sprinkler controls clearly labeled?
- _____ Are utilities shutoffs, fire alarm panels, and sprinkler controls easily accessible to firefighters in the case of an emergency?
- _____ Is your maximum occupancy posted?

Electrical Hazards:

- _____ Is your business free of electrical overload, extension cords and multi-plug adapters?
- _____ Are all electric outlet and switch contacts covered with a safety plate?
- _____ Is your business free of any open electrical boxes, exposed wiring, or open spaces in your fuse/breaker panel?
- _____ Do you have at least thirty-six inch clearance around any fuse/breaker panel?
- _____ Is your fuse/breaker panel clearly labeled so power can be disconnected quickly in the event of an emergency?
- _____ If an apartment complex, is your electrical meters identified for the apartment they serve?

Exterior Hazards:

- _____ Are you storing anything that could burn close to your building or under overhangs?
- _____ If your business has a designated fire lane, are the signs and/or paint markings in good condition?
- _____ Is your address clearly visible from the street with at least four inch contrasting numbers?
- _____ Is there at least three feet of clear space around any fire hydrant on the property?
- _____ Are smoking areas clearly identified and proper cigarette receptacles provided?
- _____ Are all exit free from obstructions including snow and ice?
- _____ If equipped, is your fire department connection clearly marked and accessible with an approved sign?
- _____ Is your gas meter accessible and protected from being struck by a vehicle?

Fire Extinguishers:

- _____ Do you have a fire extinguisher installed so that an individual would not have to travel more than 75 feet to access one?
- _____ Are all fire extinguishers within clear view and easily accessible?
- _____ Have all fire extinguishers been inspected and tested and tagged annually?
- _____ Are fire extinguishers properly mounted and hung on the wall? Is the bottom of the extinguisher greater than four inches above the floor?

Fire Sprinkler Systems:

_____ Has the fire sprinkler system been inspected and tagged by a qualified contractor within the past year?

_____ Is there at least three feet of clear space around sprinkler connections and valves?

_____ Are spare sprinkler heads and an appropriate wrench installed in a cabinet near the sprinkler riser?

_____ Are sprinkler control valves chained open and/or maintained by a fire alarm system?

_____ Is there a fire department connection on the outside of the building free of obstructions and are caps in place?

_____ Has the fire department connection and pipes been tested within the past five years?

Fire Alarm Systems:

_____ Does the fire alarm system show "Trouble" or "Alarm" on the keypad or alarm panel? If so, contact a qualified alarm contractor to restore your system.

_____ Has the fire alarm been tested annually?