

Knox Box:

Some buildings are equipped with a Knox lock box to provide after hours emergency access to the building by the fire department. If your building has a Knox box, be sure to check the following:

___ Have there been personnel or key changes at your building since the last inspection? If so, please have updated keys and emergency response personnel list available for the inspector to place in your Knox box.

Wet Chemical Extinguishing Systems:

Some buildings such as restaurants, bars, etc., are equipped with wet chemical extinguishing systems installed in their commercial cooking hoods. If your building has a wet chemical extinguishing system please check the following:

___ Has the system been serviced and tested by a qualified contractor within the last 6 months? Please have the last 2 inspection reports available for the inspector.

___ Has the hood been cleaned within the last 6 months by a qualified contractor? More frequent cleaning may be required depending on your business operation.

___ Have any new appliances been added or old appliances removed that would necessitate relocation of wet chemical nozzles?

___ Are all grease caps for the wet chemical nozzles in place? Are nozzles free of obstructions such as grease or dust? Are nozzles being blocked by pots and pans or shelf units on cooking appliances?

___ Is there 3' of clear space in the area around the emergency activation pull station being maintained? Is the pull station clearly visible and identified as to the system it operates?

___ Is there 3' of clear space around the Class K fire extinguisher being maintained? Is the extinguisher clearly visible from within the kitchen area?

The City of York has adopted the International Fire Code. In an effort to prevent fires, members of the Department of Fire/Rescue Services conduct annual inspections of restaurants, bars, theaters, retail, commercial, and industrial properties to insure compliance with code provisions.

Inspections during business hours may be unannounced. While the inspection is being conducted, a representative of the business is invited and encouraged to accompany the inspector. Many violations can be corrected immediately and others explained during the visit.

The goal of the Fire Safety Inspection Program is to assist you in making your business a safe place for your customers and employees.

Practicing fire prevention and addressing fire hazards is a great investment.

A City of York, Department of Fire/Rescue Firefighter/Inspector will be stopping to inspect your business in the near future. If you have any questions about this checklist or the inspection process, please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 717/854-3921.



August 24, 2016

Preparing for your Fire Safety Inspection



City of York Department of Fire/Rescue Services

Fire Prevention Bureau

43 S. Duke St.

York, PA 17401

We've 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 questions or concerns with your inspector.

Interior Hazards:

___ Do you have at least a 36" wide path to all of your exit doors?

___ Do your exit doors open freely, with little effort? Are they unlocked?

___ If equipped, are all fire doors able to close freely, and are free of hold open devices? Have all overhead or horizontal fire doors been inspected and tagged by a qualified contractor within the last year? Please have most recent inspection documents available for the inspector.

___ Is storage contained so that nothing combustible is within 2' of the ceiling?

___ Do you have at least 36" of space around your furnace, water heater and other heat producing appliances?

___ Is the area underneath exposed interior stairwalls free of storage?

___ Are your walls & ceilings free of holes and missing acoustical tiles?

___ Do you have compressed gas cylinders secured or chained to prevent them from falling over?

___ Are flammable liquids identified and in their original containers?

___ Are flammable liquids stored in an approved flammable storage cabinet when not in use? Are flammable soaked materials disposed of in an airtight metal waste receptacle or disposed of outside the building daily?

___ Are utility shutoffs, fire alarm panels and sprinkler controls easily accessible to firefighters in case of emergency? Are they clearly labeled?

___ Is your maximum occupancy posted?

Electrical Hazards:

___ Is your business free of electrical overloads, extension cords & multi-plug adaptors?

___ Are all electrical outlets & switch contacts covered with a safety cover?

___ Is your business free of any open electric boxes, exposed wiring or open spaces in your panel box(es)?

___ Do you have at least 36" clearance around any fuse/breaker panel?

___ Is your fuse/breaker panel clearly labeled so it can be disconnected quickly in the event of an emergency?

Exterior Hazards:

___ Are you storing anything that could burn close to your building or overhangs?

___ If your building has designated fire lanes, are the signs and/or paint markings in good condition?

___ Is your address marker clearly visible from the street with at least 4" contrasting numbers?

___ Is there at least 3' of clear space around any fire hydrants on the property?

___ Are smoking areas identified and proper cigarette receptacles provided?

Fire Extinguishers:

___ Do you have a fire extinguisher installed so that an individual would have to travel no more than 75' to access one?

___ Are all fire extinguishers within clear view and easily accessible?

___ Have all fire extinguishers been annually inspected by a qualified inspection company or individual and appropriately tagged?

Fire Sprinkler Systems:

Some buildings require a sprinkler system due to the size of the building or the type of business operation. If your building has a sprinkler system installed, be sure to check the following:

___ Has the fire sprinkler system been inspected and tagged by a qualified contractor within the last year? Please have the most recent inspection documents available for the inspector.

___ Is there at least 3' of clear space around sprinkler connections & valves?

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

___ Are sprinkler control valves chained & locked in the open position or monitored by a fire alarm system?

___ Is the fire department connection on the outside of the building free of obstructions and are the Knox plugs in place?

___ Is 18" of clear space maintained between the sprinkler heads and stored products/merchandise. Are all sprinkler heads clear & not obstructed with dust, corrosion or paint?

Fire Alarms:

Some buildings require a fire alarm system because of the number of occupants or the type of business operation. If you have a fire alarm system installed, be sure to check the following:

___ 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 alarm system been inspected by a qualified contractor within the last year? Please have the most recent inspection documents available for the inspector.