

# ARE YOU READY FOR A FIRE INSPECTION?

## COMMON FIRE CODE VIOLATIONS

During your annual fire inspection with the Northstar Fire Department, we will evaluate your property for compliance with important fire and life safety regulations such as exiting, fire alarms, fire extinguishers, storage of combustibles, electrical hazards and more.

To help you prepare for your inspection, use this checklist of our most frequently cited deficiencies. Make sure these violations do not exist on your property. This will help you pass your fire inspection and keep your property safe year-round.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Captain Jim Conlin, Fire Prevention Officer, 530-562-1212, X1.

1. **Aisles, Walkways, Stairways and Paths** leading to exits must be clear of storage and obstructions.
2. **Fire Sprinkler Systems** shall be serviced and tested annually by a licensed Fire Sprinkler (C-16) contractor. Quarterly inspections are also required.
3. **Fire Extinguishers** must be visible, readily accessible and serviced or purchased new within the past 12 months.
4. **Fire Suppression Systems for commercial cooking operations** (hood systems and grease ducts) must be serviced and tested every six months by a licensed fire protection contractor, with current inspection tags attached.
5. **Exit Doors** must open easily from the inside. Locking mechanisms on doors shall not require special knowledge or keys. The only exception is a main storefront door with a sign above that reads, "This door to remain unlocked when building is occupied."
6. **Street Address & Suite Numbers:** Street addresses must be clearly marked and visible (in contrasting color) from the street fronting the property. Suite numbers must be similarly indicated on entry doors.
7. **Emergency Lighting & Exit Signs** (that are lighted from within) must work properly and function in both normal and emergency power mode. Lighted exit signs must be lit at all times.
8. **Electrical Outlets, Junction Boxes and Circuit Breaker Panels** must be covered with an appropriate cover plate. Circuit breaker panels require 30 inches of clearance from each panel.
9. **Electrical Extension Cords** cannot be used as a substitute for permanent wiring. Extension cords are only approved for "temporary use" (operating a vacuum cleaner, powering a tool while making a repair, etc.). Multi-outlet power strips with a built-in circuit breaker may be used to protect computers and related equipment.



**Northstar Fire Department**  
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