

Fire Safety Inspections Information

Tequesta Fire Rescue's conducts fire safety inspections annually in accordance with state law to help property owners maintain a fire safe business. Inspections are performed in accordance with the Florida Fire Prevention Code. Our main focus when performing these inspections is safety. This includes safety of the owner, employees, customers, and firefighters in the case of a fire or emergency in the facility.

If during our fire inspections we note any code violations, the business or building owner will be given written notice and an adequate correction period. If compliance has not been achieved in the time frame allowed, the issue may be referred to code enforcement for further actions and possible monetary fine.

For your convenience, we have attached an informative reminder page to help you maintain a fire safe business. Please use the following page titled Fire Safety Check Reminders as a guide throughout the year to help maintain compliance with the Fire Codes. Feel free to post this guide somewhere in your business where owners or employees can see it and reference it when needed.

If you have any questions, please contact us at (561) 768-0550.

Fire Safety Check Reminders

Some things we look for during an inspection may include (but are not limited to):

1. Are your **exits unlocked and free of obstructions?**

Exits should be unlocked and free of obstructions at all times while the building is occupied.

2. Are your **exit stairwells free of obstructions and storage materials?**

Exit stairs shall be continuously maintained free of all obstructions or impediments to full instant use in the case of fire or other emergency.

3. Has your **Fire Alarm system, **Fire Sprinkler** system and **Commercial Cooking Hood** System been inspected by a licensed contractor?**

Your Fire Alarm system, Fire Sprinkler system and Cooking Hood systems are required to be inspected and certified by a licensed contractor at least once a year.

4. Have your **fire extinguishers been inspected by a licensed contractor this year?**

Fire extinguishers are required to be tested and tagged annually by a licensed contractor.

5. Are your **emergency lights and **exit signs** visible and in proper working order?**

Exit signs should be illuminated at all times.

Emergency lights should be tested periodically by pushing the test button.

6. Are you using **extension cords instead of having additional electrical outlets installed?**

Extension cords are not a replacement for permanent wiring. Eliminate unsafe extension cord and/or multi-plug adapter use.

7. Do you have any **electrical wiring that is exposed or electrical boxes that are not covered properly?**

All electrical boxes are required to be covered properly and access to the electrical panel should remain clear.

8. Are there any **flammable liquids** used in your facility? Are they in an approved container and/or cabinet?

All flammable liquids should be stored in approved containers and in an approved flammable locker or designated outside storage area.

9. Do you have **combustibles** stored too close to gas appliances or an electrical water heater?

No combustible or flammable items should be stored next to or near gas appliances or electrical water heaters.

10. Do you have a Knox brand **key vault** for your business or building?

Knox brand key vaults are to be installed when required by the fire department for access to fire sprinkler system controls, fire alarm controls or access through locked main entrances into multiple tenant occupancies. You are required to notify the department when you change keys or codes for your building. Call the fire department at 561-744-4051 to place the new keys in the key vault.

11. Do you have an **address clearly marked** in daylight and at night? Do your numbers face the road?

Address numbers should be clearly marked and facing the road. The numbers should contrast with the background.