



**Elburn & Countryside
Fire Protection District**

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Saving Lives And
Property

**Maintenance of Fire
Protection Equipment**

**Commonly asked
Questions ?**



**Elburn & Countryside
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630-365-6855 Station # 1
630-262-9911 Station # 2

Commonly asked Questions ?

Is there anything I have to do for my fire alarm and fire sprinkler systems now that it is installed?

■ **New Equipment** All fire protection systems that were installed in compliance with any law, ordinance or order, shall be maintained in an operative condition at all times.

- An owner or occupant shall not reduce the effectiveness of the protection so required.
- This requirement shall not prohibit the owner or occupant from temporarily reducing or discontinuing the protection where necessary to make tests, repairs, alterations or additions.

How often are the systems tested?

■ **Testing** All automatic fire protection systems shall be maintained, periodically inspected and tested in accordance with Chapter 9 IFC:

- NFPA 72 fire alarm =annual
- NFPA 13 fire sprinkler =annual
- NFPA 10 fire extinguisher =annual
- NFPA 17a fire hood system=6months

What must I do with the test records?

■ **Records** State of Illinois law requires that a copy of your inspection report be forwarded by the company to the local fire department or fire district the system is located. (225 ILCS 317/30 Sec.30-22) *eff. Jan 1, 2010*

I want to redecorate and have to take the ceiling tiles down. Is there any-

thing special I have to do?

■ **Redecorating** Replace the missing ceiling tiles when sprinkler heads are mounted below in an area recently remodeled. Your ceiling tiles are part of the fire protection.

I want to redecorate and paint the walls and ceiling. Is there anything special I have to do?

■ **Painting** Special attention must be made to ensure that sprinklers are not painted either at the time of installation or during subsequent redecoration.

- When sprinkler piping or areas next to sprinklers are being painted, the sprinklers should be protected by covering them with a bag, which should be removed immediately after painting is finished. (NFPA 13, A-2-7(h))

If the tenant moves out can I shut off the electricity and fire alarm systems?

■ **Fire protection:** Fire alarm, sprinkler and standpipe systems shall be maintained in an operable condition at all times. (IFC 311.2.2) Tampering with a security, fire, or life safety system. Class 4 felony. (720 ILCS 5/16-22. Sec.16-22)

I have changed the building Keys what does the Fire Dept. need to know?

■ **Building Keys** To facilitate Fire Department entry to a building,

- Key Box (Lockboxes) shall be installed on any building that has a fire alarm system or any type of fire suppression system.
- Call the fire Station and an engine company shall exchange the keys for you. (Elburn & Countryside F.P.D. Ord. 2005-100 Sec.1.1)J.1 , IFC 506)

Its spring and my flowers and bushes have overgrown the fire department connection. What must I do?

■ **Immediate access** to all fire depart-

ment connections shall be maintained at all times and without obstruction by fences, bushes, trees, walls or any other object. A clearance of 5 foot is required on both sides of the connection.

What must I do now to take my fire alarm and fire sprinkler systems out of service?

■ **Out of Service** Where a required fire protection system is out of service.

- the fire department and fire code official shall be notified immediately.
- The fire code official shall either have the building evacuated or an approved fire watch provided for occupants during shut down.
- Notify the other occupants of the situation.
- Notify your insurance company for long term shutdowns. (IFC, 901.7)

Do the Exit and Emergency lights have to work?

■ **Maintenance of safeguards:**

Whenever or wherever any device, equipment, system, condition, arrangement, level of protection, or any other feature is required for compliance with the provisions of this code, or otherwise installed, such device, equipment, system, condition, arrangement, level of protection, or other feature shall thereafter be continuously maintained in accordance with this code and applicable referenced standards. (IFC 107.1, NFPA 101.4.6.13)