



Office of the Fire Marshal Williamson County, Texas

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Annual Fire Inspection

The Williamson County Fire Marshal's Office conducts annual inspections of multi-family residential occupancies, daycare's, educational occupancies, and commercial businesses. The goal of these inspections is to decrease the number and severity of fires and increase fire safety awareness. Fire violations are generally given 30 days to abate but more serious life safety violations are given less time to abate depending on the seriousness of the violation.

Below is a list of some of the fire code safety violations the Williamson County Fire Marshal's Office look for during an annual inspection. You can use this list as a guide to assist you in identifying and correcting potential fire and life safety hazards in your building. If you would like to schedule an annual fire inspection please visit www.wilcopermits.com to create an account and request a fire inspection. For general information call the Williamson County Fire Marshal's Office at (512) 943-3601.

Exit & Egress Doors

1. 36" inches of clear space is required in front of every exit door. Remove obstructions from exits, aisles, corridors, and fire escapes.
2. Repair and maintain interior and exterior lighting for corridors, stairways and exits doors.
3. Maintain emergency power battery for exit lighting and exit signs.
4. Exit doors may not be equipped with any kinds of deadbolt or latch which requires the use of a key or any special knowledge or effort to open the door from the inside.
5. Exit doors in assembly occupancies are required to have panic hardware.

Electrical

1. Extension cords cannot be used permanently in any business. Only UL listed fused or circuit breaker surge suppressors may be used for non-permanent appliances like calculators, desk lamps, typewriters, and computers. Surge suppressors must be plugged directly into the wall receptacle. Large fixed appliances like refrigerators, table saws and other large equipment cannot be used with extension cords or power cords.
2. No wiring or cords may extend through walls, ceilings, and floors or under doors.
3. Replace worn or frayed wires to minimize fire hazard.
4. All electrical receptacles must have cover plates and exterior receptacles weather cover guards.
5. Repair openings in fire resistive constructions around conduit (walls, ceilings, unsealed chases).
6. Minimum clearance of 36" inches in front of electrical panels.

Extinguishers

1. Service annually and after each use. Must have valid service tag.
2. Mount where readily available with top no higher than 5 feet off the ground.
3. Minimum 2A rating (travel distance not to exceed 75').
4. Kitchen hood fire suppression system is to be serviced bi-annually (Every six months).

Exterior

1. Assigned address numbers need to be seen from the street the building is address, the numbers are required to be a minimum of 4 inches in height that contrast with its background.
2. Buildings with multi-tenants (suites) shall have the business name and assigned suite number on all entrances to the suite. The letter and numbers are required to be a minimum of 2 inches in height that contrast with its background.
3. Remove accumulations of rubbish, weeds, grass, vines, or other vegetation.
4. Remove storage of combustible materials less than 15' from property.

Storage

1. Storage 24 inches or more below ceilings in non-sprinkled areas; 18 inches within sprinklers.
2. Remove storage underneath exit stairs and combustibles from exits.
3. Remove combustible storage from mechanical or electrical equipment rooms or boiler rooms.
4. Remove storage of dumpsters within 15 feet of combustible walls, openings, or roof eave lines.
5. Keep storage orderly, secure, and located so exits from the building will not be blocked.

Fire Protection Systems

Alarm System

1. Maintain in operable condition.
2. Maintain access to all pull stations.
3. Serviced be a State licensed fire alarm contractor.

Sprinkler System

1. Maintain in operable condition.
2. Maintain access to fire riser(s).
3. Provide Fire Department Connection (FDC) Knox Caps on FDCs.
4. Maintain FDC signage over the FDC(s). The sign shall have reflective white letters upon a reflective red background. The lettering shall be a minimum of 1-inch stroke and minimum 6 inches in height.

Flammable Liquids & Hazardous Materials

1. Remove flammable liquid near exits and stairways.
2. Provide approved storage cabinet for storage of flammable liquids.
3. Compressed gas cylinders must be adequately secured to prevent them from falling or being knocked over. Each cylinder must be labeled with its contents.
4. Place hazard identification signs at entrances to locations where hazardous materials are stored. Conspicuously mark individual containers, cartons, or packages.
5. Please have Safety Data Sheet (SDS) aka Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) reliable available for review.
6. Please maintain documentation for high-plied combustible storage.

General Requirements and Housekeeping

1. Remove combustibles, trash, and other debris from around the building's exterior.
2. Do not store ANY materials in fire systems equipment rooms including mops, brooms, boxes or any other combustible or flammable material.
3. Keep storage, furnishings, and merchandise three feet ("36" inches) away from heat producing equipment to minimize fire risk.
4. Repair holes in walls; replace ceiling panels and other breaches where portions of walls or ceilings have been damaged. This maintains the fire resistive integrity of your building's original construction.
5. No obstructions, including storage are allowed around standpipes, fire hose cabinets, sprinkler valves and hydrants.
6. Keep designated fire lanes around your business clear at all times & maintain worn fire lane signs & marking.

*** This is not an all-inclusive list ***