Dear Business Owner/Manager:

The City of Independence Fire Department values your business. As a vital part of our community, your business is essential to the community’s well-being. Most businesses that suffer a fire never recover from the devastating effects. In an effort to keep you and your customers safe, the City of Independence has adopted and enforces fire and life safety codes.

Your local Fire Station will conduct an annual inspection of your business. This provides firefighters the opportunity of building familiarization in the event of an emergency as well as assisting your business in identifying life safety hazards. We request your cooperation when a fire inspection of your property is being conducted.

The City of Independence Fire Department requires the correction of all hazards found during the inspection process. Your assistance, by immediately completing the required corrections noted, will prevent further disruption of your business operations. We know your time is valuable, so we will do our best to minimize the inspection time. You can help us minimize that time by correcting all fire and life safety hazards within 10 working days.

How Does the Process Work?

Other Fire Safety Programs

- Public Education Talks
- Fire Extinguisher Classes
- Fire Evacuation Planning
- Fire Safety at Special Events
- Safety Brochures for your Business
- Smoke Detector Program
- Fire Station Tours

Help Us Keep Your Inspection Free!

Independence Fire Department
950 N. Spring St.
Independence, MO 64056
Phone: 816-325-7121
firionline@indepmo.org
What you can do before your inspection

The following list identifies most commonly found hazards that are minor, easily identified and most are quick to fix before your inspection. This is not a comprehensive list; other violations may exist that are unique to your business or building.

**EXITS**
- Exit passageways are clear and free of obstruction.
- Stairways and fire escapes are not used for storage and are easily navigated.
- Exit doors remain unlocked while the building is occupied.
- Exit doors open easily without much force.
- Exit lights are illuminated and visible.

**ELECTRICAL**
- Extension cords are not used as permanent wiring.
- Power strips and surge protectors are plugged directly into wall outlet, not into an extension cord or another power strip.
- Circuits are not overloaded.
- Portable space heaters need to be directly plugged into a wall outlet.
- All electrical outlets, junction boxes and switches have covers on them.
- Electrical circuit breaker panel has 36" clearance and is accessible.

**MISCELLANEOUS**
- Address and suite numbers are visible from the street and are at least 6" tall.
- Address and suite numbers are contrasting with their background.
- Storage shall be maintained 24" or more below the ceiling in a non-sprinklered building and 18" or below the sprinkler head in a sprinklered building.
- Combustible storage is not allowed in boiler, electrical and mechanical rooms.
- All combustible storage needs to be kept a sufficient distance from heating appliances.
- Fire doors need to be kept closed and not propped open unless by an approved hold open device.
- All compressed cylinders need to be secured to prevent them from tipping over.
- Garbage dumpsters need to be outside and located a minimum of 5' from openings such as doors and windows, combustible walls and not under overhangs or canopies.

**FIRE EXTINGUISHERS**
- At least one extinguisher for every 3,000 square feet and located not further than 75' walking distance, rated at 2A10BC minimum.
- Extinguishers are properly installed and mounted, visible and accessible.
- Extinguishers are serviced yearly and have a service tag. (Note: if you purchased a new extinguisher within the last year, make sure you have the receipt readily available for review).

**FIRE ALARMS AND FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS**
- Fire alarm system does not have trouble, supervisory or alarm lights on.
- Alarm pull stations are not blocked and are accessible at all times.
- Fire alarm and sprinkler system have been serviced within the last year and a service report is available on site for review. If any deficiencies are noted on the report, have they been fixed?
- Sprinkler heads should be unobstructed and in all areas of the building.
- Access to the sprinkler control valves should be clear.