



BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP BUREAU OF FIRE SAFETY

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What to Expect During a Fire Prevention Inspection

- The fire marshal will introduce him or herself, present identification and inform you of the purpose of the inspection, i.e. annual fire inspection, quarterly fire inspection or a complaint investigation.
- The fire marshal will ask you for any required paperwork such as a sprinkler and/or fire alarm inspection report other reports such as a fire pump with flow graph, cooking suppression system, clean agent fire suppression system, fire hydrant flow testing, smoke control system, exit sign & emergency lighting monthly log, and other fire protection system reports.
- The fire marshal will then proceed to inspect the entire occupancy. A representative of the occupant is requested to accompany the fire marshal. The representative shall have all keys or other methods to access all areas to facilitate the inspection. During the inspection the fire marshal will point out violations and corrective requirements, finally review the required abatement re-inspection date.

The most common violations found are:

- Illuminated Exit Signs and or Emergency lighting are not illuminating
- Exits and exit ways blocked, locked, inaccessible
- Fire Extinguisher annual inspection overdue, pin & tamper ring missing, or even obstructed
- Fire Alarm Panels or sprinkler system valves blocked or not identified
- Fire Department Connection obstructed, caps or signage missing/faded
- Poor housekeeping, excess rubbish, storage inhibits egress or sprinkler coverage
- Merchandise stacked too high, unstable piles and/or too close to heating appliance/electrical panels/improper aisle widths
- Improper use of extension cords or multi plugs
- Fire Doors held open, fire assemblies not maintained missing door closers rating labels, penetrations
- Missing ceiling tiles easily spread smoke & heat throughout, penetrations in walls
- Improper storage of propane, compress gas cylinders, or flammable liquids/hazardous materials
- Utility access blocked (gas meters, electrical panels)
- Cooking Range hoods, ductwork and cooking appliances have accumulations of grease, suppression nozzles not properly covering cooking appliances
- Heating/Air Conditioning, motors, other mechanical equipment having accumulations of dust, lint or dirt
- After the fire prevention inspection you will receive a written report of all violations found and an “Order to Correct” notice. Normally you will have 30 days to correct all violations, depending on the severity the Chief Fire Marshal may be consulted and 15 days OR less could be ordered for corrective actions.

****Disclaimer**** This shall be used for public education and is not binding as the New Jersey Uniform Fire Safety Code identifies additional hazards/violations not listed above.