



Kimball Township Fire Department

1970 N. Allen Rd. Kimball, MI 48074

(810) 982-9461 Fax (810) 982-5244

GENERAL FIRE INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS for EXISTING BUILDINGS

The following checklist represents some general fire inspection components, yet does not encompass all aspects of the Fire Code. **This checklist is provided to give you the opportunity to correct deficiencies in your facilities prior to a Fire Department inspection.** You may contact the Kimball Township Fire Department at (810) 982-9461 for assistance.

Exterior of Building

- The address shall be sized and located so that it is readily visible from the street. The numbers must also be in contrast to the building color.
- Exits from the building must be clear to an open area, not blocked by parking or vegetation.
- Grounds must be clear of debris.
- Gas meter must be protected (with bumpers) if in an area where it could be damaged.
- Is there a KNOX box on the building? If so, are the correct keys inside?

Interior of Building

Capacity Signs

- Capacity signs must be displayed at the main entrance to each space.
- All assemblies must have their capacity rating reviewed. If your facility no longer has a sign needs a replacement, please contact the Kimball Township Fire Department at (810) 982-9461 for a new or updated one.

Exit Doors / Door Hardware

- In places of Public Assembly, with a capacity of 100 persons or more, the doors shall have approved panic hardware on all designated exit doors. Other locking devices are not allowed.
- In places of Public Assembly, with a capacity of 51 - 99 persons, offices, factories, stores and storage buildings, there must be at least two approved exits and the doors must swing in the direction of egress. These doors shall have hardware that only one motion would be required to unlatch and open the door. Some examples of this are: panic hardware, lever handles, push pads, etc., (one motion and go).

Exception:

The main entry door (which includes the main door to a tenant space) is permitted to be equipped with a thumb turn OR a key operated locking device from the egress side provided:

ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ARE REQUIRED:

- A readily visible durable sign is posted on the egress side on or adjacent to the door stating:
THIS DOOR TO REMAIN UNLOCKED WHEN BUILDING IS OCCUPIED.
The sign shall be in letters 1 inch high on a contrasting background.
- The use of the key-operated locking device is revokable for due cause.
- All doors designated as exits must have a minimum 32" clear width when fully open.

- Loose props such as wedges cannot be used to hold open exit doors during hours of occupancy. If an exterior exit door needs to be held open, a prop attached to the door may be installed.

Aisles

- Aisles leading to an exit door shall not have less than 44" clear width.
- Aisles shall not be obstructed.
- Where tables and chairs are used, access shall be maintained to all aisles.

Exit Signage and Emergency Lighting

- All exits must be clearly indicated with an approved illuminated exit sign.
- To ensure continued illumination for a duration of not less than 90 minutes, the exit signs and emergency lights must have a primary and back up power source in case of power loss. The back up power source can be from storage batteries, an on-site generator or the like.
- The entire exit path (including immediately outside the exit door) must be lighted at all times.

Fire Extinguishers

- You must have the proper type of fire extinguishers. The size, type and location are determined by the hazards they are intended to protect.
- Insure all extinguishers are inspected, certified and tagged annually by a qualified contractor. The contractor will advise you on the required size, type and location. You may look in the yellow pages under Fire Extinguishers for a contractor.
- All fire extinguishers must be accessible and mounted **within the following range:** The bottom of the extinguisher a minimum of 4" off the floor and the maximum of 48" to the handle.

Compressed Gas Cylinders

- All compressed gas cylinders in use or storage, (full or empty) shall be adequately secured to prevent falling or being knocked over. We encourage the use of chain(s) for this purpose. Rope and bungee cords have a stretch component and are subject to degradation by fire. The cylinders can also be nested together or in rack storage.

Storage

- Storage of combustible materials must be kept at least 24" from the ceiling and at least 3 foot from gas fired or heat producing appliances, e.g. furnace/water heater.
- Combustible or flammable liquids not in retail size containers are prohibited from being in a public assembly building unless properly stored in an approved flammable storage cabinet. This includes fuels contained in weed trimmers, lawn mowers, snow throwers etc.

Electrical

- Clearance to panel is required. Minimum 2' sides and 3' foot front.
- Panel must be mounted securely on the wall.
- Panel door must close and latch.
- All openings in panel must be covered.
- The main disconnect must be labeled.
- All junction boxes, switches, etc. must have cover plates installed.
- Extension cords may not be used in lieu of permanent wiring.
- All smoke detectors must be tested and installed properly

Life Safety Systems

If applicable

Sprinkler System

- The sprinkler system (including standpipes or fire pump) must be tested, certified and tagged annually by a licensed contractor.
- The report must be on file and a copy forwarded to our office.
- All system components must have proper signage.
- All control valves must be accessible: Minimum 2' sides and 3'foot front.
- All valves must be supervised and / or chained in the open position.
- Spare sprinkler box must be provided with spare sprinklers and wrench.
- Fire department connection must have caps in place.
- Nothing may be attached to any part of the sprinkler system.
- All sprinkler heads must have a clearance of 18" from any decoration, display or storage.

Fire Alarm System

- The fire alarm system, must be tested, certified and tagged annually by a licensed contractor.
- The report must be on file and a copy forwarded to our office.
- All system components must be maintained and operate properly.

Commercial Cooking Operations

- All cooking operations must be properly protected with a certified hood and suppression system.
- Deep fat fryers must have a 16" separation (horizontal or vertical) to open flames.
- The system must be tested and certified biannually.
- The report must be on file and a copy forwarded to our office
- Hand pull must be located properly, on the way out of the hood area.
- All cooking equipment and components (hoods, ducts, filters, etc.) must be free of grease:
- Kitchens utilizing deep fat or oil fryers must have a "K" model, wet chemical extinguisher Specifically for the fryers and a 40 BC dry chemical extinguisher for all other hazards in the kitchen.

Emergency Generator

- The emergency generator must be maintained and operate properly.
- The generator test log must be on site.