



NORTH WHATCOM FIRE AND RESCUE

SEMPER PARATUS

FIRE SAFETY SELF-INSPECTION CHECKLIST

Business Name:		Business Phone:	
Address:		E-mail:	
After-Hours Emergency Contact #1:		Contact #1 Phone:	
After-Hours Emergency Contact #2:		Contact #2 Phone:	
After-Hours Emergency Contact #3:		Contact #3 Phone:	

Access & Premises	Yes	No	N/A
Are address numbers for the building clearly visible from the street?			
Is the exterior fire department access unobstructed?			
Is combustible vegetation removed so as to not create a fire hazard?			
Is there maintained a minimum 3' clearance around fire hydrants?			
Egress (Exiting)			
Are the exitways and doors easily recognizable, unobstructed, and maintained functional?			
If the main exit door is provided with key-locking hardware as allowed by code, is there a sign above the door that states, "THIS DOOR MUST REMAIN UNLOCKED WHEN BUILDING IS OCCUPIED" and are the other exit doors openable from the inside w/o the use of a key, special knowledge or effort?			
Are the exits and exit enclosures free from the storage of combustible materials?			
Are doors with self-closing hinges maintained in the closed position (not blocked open)?			
Electrical			
Are all electrical outlets, switches and junction boxes properly covered with cover plates and is the electrical system safe from any apparent shock and/or other electrical hazards?			
Are circuit breakers/fuses labeled so as to identify the area protected?			
Is the area maintained clear at least 30" in front of electrical panel(s)?			
Are extension cords used only for temporary use?			
Are extension cord(s) of heavy duty construction, maintained in good condition, and only used as temporary wiring, or to service small portable appliances?			
Are extension cord(s) grounded when serving grounded appliances?			
Are extension cord(s) plugged directly into an approved receptacle, power tap or multi-plug adapter and, except for approved multi-plug extension cord(s), serve only 1 portable appliance?			
Is the ampacity of extension cord(s) greater than the rated capacity of the portable appliance being supplied?			
If multiple items need to be plugged in, is a power tap utilized with a built-in circuit breaker and is the power tap plugged directly into a permanently installed receptacle?			
Emergency Lighting/Egress Illumination			
If emergency lighting is provided, is it maintained in operable condition?			
Is the means of egress illuminated when the building or structure is occupied?			
Exit Signs			
If exit signs are required, are they maintained illuminated or self-luminous?			
Does the back-up battery work? (Push the test button, the exit sign should illuminate under battery power)			
Fire Alarm System			
If the building is equipped with a fire alarm system, has the required annual service of the fire alarm system been performed by a qualified alarm company?			
Fire Safety & Evacuation Plans			
If fire drills are required, are they conducted successfully at varying times and under varying conditions and are records maintained on the premises?			
If required, are evacuation plans posted?			
If required, do you have Fire Safety Plans?			

A "No" response to any of these questions indicates the presence of a possible fire code violation.



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Fire Extinguishers			
Is there access to fire extinguisher(s) rated at a minimum 2A-10BC?			
Is the travel distance from all portions of the building less than 75' to a fire extinguisher?			
Are all fire extinguishers visible and accessible (not blocked)?			
Have the fire extinguisher(s) been serviced/tagged by a fire extinguisher company in the last 12 months?			
Are the fire extinguisher(s) properly mounted? (Proper locations: Near exit doors where possible, not exceeding maximum travel distance, properly mounted (maximum 5' high if <40 lbs and maximum 3½' high if >40 lbs. In all cases, minimum 4" above the ground).			
Fire/Smoke Separations			
Are the fire/smoke separations (smoke doors, fire doors, walls, etc.) maintained and in working condition?			
Fire Suppression Systems			
Is the top of storage maintained a minimum of 18" below head deflectors in fire sprinklered areas?			
If the building is equipped with a fire sprinkler system, has the required annual service of the fire sprinkler system been performed in the last year by a qualified sprinkler company?			
In commercial cooking applications, has the hood suppression system been serviced in the last six months and is the hood cleaned at intervals to prevent the accumulation of grease?			
Heat Producing Appliances			
Are portable electric heaters used safely, plugged directly into wall outlets and kept a minimum of 3' away from combustibles? Open flame unvented heaters are prohibited for use in commercial occupancy.			
Is the clearance between ignition sources, such as light fixtures, heaters, and flame producing devices, and combustible storage maintained in an approved manner?			
Housekeeping & Decorations			
Is combustible rubbish that is stored in containers outside of vaults or rooms removed from the building a minimum of once each working day?			
Are oily rags or similar materials stored in metal, metal-lined or approved containers with tight-fitting lids?			
Are combustible decorations flame retardant?			
Mechanical Hazards			
Is the venting for exhaust products of combustion intact for gas appliances (ie: water heaters, furnaces)?			
Are safe clearances maintained between gas fired appliances (such as water heaters, furnaces, etc.) and combustible materials?			
Smoke Detectors			
If smoke detection is required in common areas such as corridors or part of the fire alarm system, have they been tested in the last year by a qualified service company?			
Storage of Combustibles			
Is the storage of combustibles orderly?			
Are combustible materials not stored beneath the building or structure?			
Are the boiler rooms, mechanical rooms and electrical panel rooms maintained without the storage of any combustible materials within?			
Are rubbish containers over 5 1/3 cubic feet (40 gallons) provided with lids and made of noncombustible construction?			
Are dumpsters that are 1.5 cubic yards or more not stored inside the building and placed more than 5' from combustible walls, openings or combustible roof eave lines?			
Storage of Compressed Gas Cylinders			
If you have compressed gas containers (such as CO2, helium, etc.) are they chained to prevent falling?			
Storage of Combustible and Flammable Liquids			
Are quantities in excess of 10 gallons of flammable liquids used for maintenance purposes and the operation of equipment stored in liquid storage cabinets?			

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