

Inspection Requirements for Construction

Construction Documents

1. Approved plans (fire alarm shop drawings, fire sprinkler shop drawings, and/or fire suppression shop drawings) must be on site at all times during installation until a permanent Certificate of Occupancy is issued. These plans need to be given to the building owner/representative.
2. Revised plans must be submitted for review and approval prior to changes being conducted.

Fire Safety During Construction and Demolition

1. Fire Department access roads and lanes must be provided. Fire hydrants must be provided before combustible materials are on site;
2. Buildings four or more stories in height shall be provided with at least one standpipe. Standpipes shall be operational when the building is 40 feet above the lowest level of fire department access. Fire department hose connections must be at accessible locations adjacent to usable stairs. Standpipes shall be extended as construction progresses to within one floor of the highest point of construction having secured decking or flooring;
3. Stairways are required where the building is constructed to 50 feet or 4 stories;
4. Required means of egress for existing buildings must be maintained during construction.
5. Portable fire extinguishers must be provided at each stairway on all floor levels where combustibles have accumulated and in every storage/construction shed.

Inspections

Please contact the Oak Ridge Fire Marshal's Office at **least 72 hours prior to an inspection**. Failure to schedule an inspection may result in costly repairs from exposing covered construction, or a non-recommendation for a Certificate of Occupancy.

Note: The Oak Ridge Fire Marshal's Office is only a part of the Temporary or Permanent Certificate of Occupancy process. The Building Official issues the Certificate of Occupancy.

1. Fire sprinkler underground inspection is performed by the public works department. They can be contacted at (865) 425-1875. Sprinkler underground must be performed by a TN Licensed Sprinkler Contractor.
2. Above ceiling inspection: Fire sprinkler aboveground inspection must be conducted by ORFMO, which includes but not limited to, hydrostatic test witnessed, hanger placement, sprinkler head placement, piping per approved plans, etc.

3. Knox box must be installed with keys and/or access cards. A Knox Box can be ordered online at www.knoxbox.com.
4. Final inspection after all work is completed. All trades must be available in order to test their part of the building systems. A TN licensed Fire Alarm Technician must be present in order to conduct a fire alarm test. A TN licensed Fire Sprinkler Contractor must be present in order to conduct testing on sprinkler system. A TN licensed Fire Suppression Technician must be on site to test fire suppression systems, such as kitchen hood suppression. **All systems must be operational and the subcontractors must test all systems prior to the final inspection;**
 - a. Documentation needed for final inspection
 - i. Fire alarm Record of Completion, acceptance test reports and documentation;
 - ii. Fire sprinkler acceptance test reports and documentation for underground and aboveground systems;
 - iii. Fire pumps and standpipes acceptance test reports and documentation;
 - iv. Commercial kitchen hood and duct inspection and acceptance test reports and documentation
 - v. Acceptance test reports and documentation for smoke control systems;
 - b. Functional testing to be observed by inspector:
 - i. Exit signs and emergency lighting to include all means of egress areas and exit discharge to public way;
 - ii. Exit and egress doors and emergency escape windows;
 - iii. Fire alarm system including all components;
 - iv. Sprinkler system to ensure proper activation of the fire alarm system;
 - v. Fire pump and or standpipe testing;
 - vi. Commercial kitchen hood and duct and suppression systems test to include: light test, “puff” test, energy shut-down test, and capture and containment test;
 - v. Access controlled or delayed egress door hardware;
 - vi. Observe testing of smoke evacuation or control systems where installed;
 - vii. Shut-down test for HVAC units where applicable;
 - viii. Generator testing when required by code, or for life safety systems;
 - ix. For gated communities/facilities, security gate or barrier test showing they are capable of receiving signals from emergency responders and allowing access.
 - x. Fire extinguishers must be installed and tagged.