

Fire Marshal/Emergency Management

NC Fire Code Enforcement

Fire Code Inspections are required for all places of business. Periodic inspections will be conducted based on your type of business. An example below illustrates the minimum frequency rate of inspections:

1. **1 Year Inspections** - Assembly - (Restaurants, clubs and places of entertainment); Hazardous - (Hazardous-materials, flammable liquids facilities); Institutional - (Hospital, nursing homes, licensed care facilities, jails); High-Rise Buildings and residential except one and two family dwellings.

2. **2 Year Inspections** - Industrial facilities; Educational facilities (Except public schools).

3. **3 Year Inspections** - Business; Mercantile, Storage facilities; Churches and synagogues.

Fire Inspection Goals

- To raise the public's awareness of fire safety considerations.
- To identify fire hazards that must be eliminated for a safer environment.
- To develop records and reports of inspection information that will serve in public record.
- To verify proper functioning and maintenance of installed fire protection systems and other building fire protection equipment and features.

Common Fire Safety

A fire inspection should include checking for the following:

- The means of egress as pertaining to life safety considerations.
- Fire protection systems - fire alarms that give early warning to occupants and fire suppression systems that control fire in the early stages.
- Heating systems as they affect the furnace, the fuel-supply and ignition systems, vents and chimney.
- Electrical systems - including electrical distribution, motors, extension cords, lamps, lighting fixtures, grounding and other related areas.
- Mechanical systems, such as heating and air conditioning systems.
- Storage - where materials are being stored and how they are arranged in occupancies, recycling programs have had an impact on buildings not designed to house these used products until they are scheduled for pickup.