Common Code Violations

Address or Suite Number Not Posted

- International Fire Code
  - New and Existing building shall have approved address numbers, building numbers or approved building identification placed in a position that is plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall be Arabic numeral or alphabet letter. Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches high with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch.

Exposed Wiring

- International Fire Code
  - Open Junction boxes and open-wiring splices shall be prohibited. Approved covers shall be provided for all switch and electrical outlet.

Hydrant Obstructed

- County Ordinance Chapter 3-4; subchapter 2 Fire Prevention and Safety
  - Obstructing fire hydrants. It shall be unlawful for any person to place building materials within fifteen (15) feet of a cistern or fire hydrant, or do any other act which would obstruct approaches to fire hydrants or cisterns by any member of the fire department. No person shall put any post or installations or structure nearer than twenty-four (36) inches to any fire hydrant.
  - International Fire Code
  - A 3 Foot clear space shall be maintained around the circumference of fire hydrants except as otherwise required or approved

Fire Department Connection Not Visible To Apparatus or Obstructed

- International Fire Code
  - Wherever the fire department connection is not visible to approaching fire apparatus, the fire department connection shall be indicated by and approved sign mounted on the street front or on the side of the building. Such sign shall have the letters “FDC” at least 6 inches high and words in letters at least 2 inches high or an arrow to indicate the location. All such signs shall be subject to the approval of the fire code official.
  - International Fire Code
  - Immediate access to fire department connections shall be maintained at all times without obstruction by fences, bushes, trees, walls, or any other object for a minimum of 3 feet.
Compressed Gas Cylinder Not Secured

- International Fire Code
  - Compressed gas containers, cylinders, and tanks shall be secured to prevent falling caused by contact, vibration, or seismic activity.

Storage within 30 Inches of Electrical Panels

- International Fire Code
  - A working space of not less than 30 inches width, 36 inches depth, and 78 inches in height shall be provided in front of electrical service equipment. No storage of any materials shall be located within the designated working space.

Extension Cords Used As Permanent Wiring

- International Fire Code
  - Extension Cords and flexible cords shall not be a substitute for permanent wiring. Extension cords and flexible cords shall not be affixed to structures, extended through walls, ceilings, floors, or under doors or floor covering, nor shall such cords be subject to environmental damage or physical impact. Extension cords shall be used only with portable appliances.

Knox Box or Knox Switch Needed

- International Fire Code
  - Where access to or within a structure or an area is restricted because of secured openings or where immediate access is necessary for life-saving or fire-fighting purposes, the fire code official is authorized to require a key box to be access as required by the fire code official.
- International Fire Code
  - An approved lock shall be on gates or similar barriers when required by the fire code official.
  - 1 year apart, as outlined in section 7.3.

No Supply of Spare Sprinkler Heads

- NFPA 25
  - A supply of spare sprinklers (never fewer than six) shall be maintained on the premises so that any sprinklers that have operated or been damaged in any way can be promptly replaced.
• NFPA 25
  o The Sprinklers shall correspond to the types and temperature ratings of the sprinklers in the property. A minimum of two sprinklers of each type and temperature rating installed shall be provided.

• NFPA 25
  o The sprinklers shall be kept in a cabinet located where the temperature in which they are subject will at no time exceed 100 F.

No Special Wrench Available

• NFPA 25
  o A special sprinkler wrench shall be provided and kept in the cabinet to be used in the removal and installation of sprinklers. One sprinkler wrench shall be provided for each type of sprinkler installed.

Sprinklers Blocked By Storage

• NFPA 25
  o Unacceptable obstructions to spray patterns shall be corrected

• NFA 25
  o Obstructions to spray patterns include continuous or non-continuous obstruction less than or equal to 18 inches below the sprinkler deflector that prevent the pattern from fully developing.

Exit Blocked

• Life Safety Code
  o Means of egress shall be continuously maintained free of all obstructions or impediments to full instant use in the case of fire or other emergency.

Fire Alarm System Shutdown

• Life Safety Code
  o Where a required fire alarm system is out of service for more than 4 hours in a 24-hr period, the authority having jurisdiction shall be notified, and the building shall be evacuated or an approved fire watch shall be provided for all parties left unprotected by the shutdown until the fire alarm system has been returned to service.
Extinguishers Out Of Date

- NFPA 10
  - The procedure for inspection and maintenance of fire extinguishers varies considerably. Minimal knowledge is necessary to perform a monthly “quick check” or inspection in order to follow the inspection procedure as outlined in Section 7.2. A trained person who has undergone the instructions necessary to reliably perform maintenance and has the manufacture’s service manual shall service the fire extinguishers not more than 34 inches (86 cm) above the finished floor.

Multiple Locks on Exit Doors

- Life Safety Code
  - A latch or other fastening device on a door shall be provided with a releasing device having an obvious method of operation under all conditions. The releasing mechanism for any latch shall be located no less than 34 inches (86 cm) and not more than 48 inches (122 cm) above the finished floor. Doors shall be openable with not more than one releasing operation.

Sprinkler System Shutdown

- Life Safety Code
  - Where a required automatic sprinkler system is out of service for 4 hours in a 24-hr period, the authority having jurisdiction shall be notified, and the building shall be evacuated or an approved fire watch shall be provided for all parties left unprotected by the shutdown until the fire alarm system has been returned to service. Sprinkler impairment procedure shall comply with NFPA 25, standard for the inspection, testing, and maintenance of Water-Base Fire Protection Systems.

*This is not an all-inclusive list. This is to help you in your Annual or new business License inspection. If you have any further question please contact the Henry County Fire Prevention Bureau at (770)288-6637.*