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Fire Safety and Emergency Equipment Inspection Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is a Fire Safety and Emergency Equipment Inspection?

A: A Fire Safety and Emergency Equipment Inspection is an inspection of your business completed by a certified Fire Inspector to ensure that your business has a minimum level of fire safety.

Q: Why do I need to have this inspection done?

A: The Fire Safety and Emergency Equipment Ordinance (2021-01) mandates that commercial occupancies receive an inspection to assure that a minimal level of safety is in place for the building occupants, as well as to protect adjacent properties that may be affected by an incident on your property.

Q: What is the benefit of a Fire Safety & Emergency Equipment Inspection?

A: Most business owners do not have the specialized knowledge necessary to conduct a fire safety & emergency equipment inspection. Nor do they realize the devastating effects that a fire or hazardous materials incident can have on their business. Our certified fire inspectors will work with you to make your business safer.

Q: What happens if I refuse to have the inspection done?

A: If you refuse to allow Fire Rescue to complete this inspection, you may be fined up to \$1,000 per day until the inspection is completed.

Q: How often am I required to have an inspection completed?

A: According to the Fire Safety and Emergency Equipment Ordinance, all commercial occupancies with a fire protection system (i.e., sprinklers or fire alarm) will be inspected annually. The remaining commercial occupancies will be inspected every three years. Consult MTFR to see how often your business will be inspected.

Q: Will I be charged for the inspection?

A: Yes. You are charged a fee that is based on the square footage of your business. This charge will help offset the cost of the program. You will be able to view the approved fee schedule at:

<https://pa-manheimtownship2.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/Home/Index/149>

Q: If a code violation is found, what will happen?

A: When a violation is found, you will be allowed to correct the violation, and the property will be re-inspected. The first re-inspection is included in your fee; additional re-inspections would incur additional costs.

Q: How long do I have to make the necessary corrections?

A: The amount of time you will need to make corrections depends on the severity of the problem. Some violations are so severe that they must be corrected immediately. Others may take weeks or even months to repair.

Q: Can I save money on my insurance from having this inspection?

A: This program will help reduce the ISO (Insurance Services Office) rating of our community, which directly affects insurance costs for home and business owners.

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