

Life and Fire Safety Inspections (Revised 10/26/09)

The Fire Official may inspect all structures and premises for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any conditions liable to cause fire, contribute to the spread of fire, interfere with firefighting operations, endanger life, or any violations of the provisions or intent of The Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC). The SFPC regulates and sets the standard requirements for an inspection.

Why Fire Safety Inspections are Conducted

The Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC) is based on the *2000 edition of the International Fire Code* as amended. All Chesapeake Fire Inspectors are certified to conduct inspections in order to ensure compliance with the SFPC and other nationally recognized standards for the use, handling and storage of hazardous materials, fire protection systems, fire alarm systems and other life or fire safety systems.

Life and fire safety inspections are conducted for several reasons;

- To ensure the safety of employees, business owners and the general public is met.
- To conduct quality fire safety inspections to identify and eliminate the hazards known to cause or contribute to unwanted fires.
- To educate businesses and property owners concerning life and fire safety issues.

Inspection Fee

Effective July 1, 2004, Chapter 34 of the Chesapeake City Code, entitled “Fire Prevention and Protection” is amended by adding Section 34-6 (b) which requires a fee for each commercial establishment inspected. A fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) shall be paid to the City for each inspection conducted to determine compliance with The Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code, as amended. An inspection shall include the initial inspection and up to 2 re-inspections. Any further re-inspections for non-compliance may be handled as another inspection. For purposes of this section, “commercial establishment” shall mean an establishment which is not used entirely for residential purposes.

Inspection Requests

Commercial businesses and occupancies who are in need of an inspection, or obtain a Fire Code Permit or Fire Code Permit renewal and license facilities that are in need of an inspection to obtain their mandated state certifications may call 382-CITY (2489) to set up an inspection. Once received, your request will be given to the Fire Inspector covering your area. The Fire Inspector will arrange the inspection.

“Inspection Request”
(757) 382-CITY (2489)