

Fire Extinguisher Inspections Checklist

As with all other fire safety equipment, fire extinguishers must be periodically inspected and receive routine maintenance to ensure they work flawlessly in emergency scenarios. Fire extinguishers must receive an in-depth inspection by a trained technician at least once per year, and they should undergo a monthly visual inspection to remain in compliance with OSHA portable fire extinguisher standards. Visual inspections are relatively quick and straightforward checks that ensure the fire extinguisher is fully charged, in excellent operating condition, and ready for use at any time. Not only should the monthly inspections consider the fire extinguisher itself, but also the surrounding area – making sure the equipment is easily accessible in the event of a fire emergency.

A more frequent inspection schedule should be considered if the extinguisher's location is highly susceptible to dirt, dust, debris, or insects. Monthly visual inspections can be done by anyone, as long as they are trained to do so.

Before professionals come to perform a fire extinguisher inspection, there are several things property owners should do to prepare and certain best practices that help property owners minimize the risk of fires. Below are the steps to take before fire safety professionals arrive. Please ensure the following:

- All fire extinguishers are located in their designated place and have not been moved without authorization. Standard storage locations for extinguishers include wall-mounted or post-mounted brackets, fire hose or fire extinguisher cabinets, or other areas deemed safe for storage by OSHA and the NFPA.
- There is no obstruction to the access or visibility of the extinguisher.
- The operating instructions are on a legible nameplate and facing outward toward the viewer.
- Have copies of previous inspection reports readily available
- Have proof of the fire system service and inspections
- Be sure to keep up with a building's mechanical system maintenance, including heating, cooling, and electrical systems
- All hallways and passageways should be cleared

Taking these steps before fire safety professionals arrive will make the fire extinguisher servicing go as smoothly, accurately, and efficiently as possible. When fire safety professionals arrive at your property, they will inspect all fire extinguishers and perform several other tests specific to the kind of extinguishers on your property and the date of your last servicing.

Beyond investing in regular fire extinguisher maintenance services, there are a few best practices that we encourage all property owners to follow. These guidelines will minimize the risk of fires, ensure that all safety protocols and emergency responses are in place and effective when needed, help your property pass all building inspections, and extend the lifespan of all building system components. We recommend:

- Post legible signage throughout the property, including illuminated entry and exit signs
- Store any flammable or combustible materials separately
- Use extension cords appropriately
- Ensure computers are plugged into power strips
- Make sure the fire department has easy entry and access to water in the event of an emergency

CFC's Fire Extinguisher Inspections

CFC's team of experienced professionals offers simple, stress-free, and accurate fire extinguisher inspections and services to clients throughout Tampa Bay and surrounding areas. We understand how much trust is placed in us when we are charged with installing and maintaining a fire safety system, and we strive to exceed client expectations every time. As a veteran-owned business with over 40 years of service to our Floridian community, we take the responsibility of protecting people's properties, families, and livelihoods seriously.

CFC promises professionalism, efficiency, transparency, and the most reliable, dependable communication on the market. To have your fire extinguishers inspected, contact our team today.