

Hanford Fire Department Community Risk Reduction

350 W. Grangeville Blvd. Hanford, CA 93230
Phone (559)585-2594

Dear Property Owner and/or Manager,

The City of Hanford Fire Department

Community Risk Reduction will be conducting an annual inspection of your property. For your convenience, we have attached a checklist for you to conduct a self-inspection that will be verified by our Community Risk Reduction Inspectors. These Inspectors will only be conducting an exterior inspection therefore, no appointments are necessary. As part of the State of California's mandated requirements, a Smoke Detector/Carbon Monoxide Certification is also required for you to sign and return.

After the inspection is completed, you will be notified of any corrections needed. A re-inspection will be conducted on or after 14 days. If corrections are not made before the re-inspection date and a subsequent inspection is necessary. If no attempt is made to complete the violations a citation will be issued to the property owner on file.

Attachments:

- ✓ **Fire and Life Safety Pre-Inspection Checklist**
- ✓ **Smoke Detection & Carbon Monoxide Alarm(s) Self-Certification Signed Form**
- ✓ **Fire Extinguisher(s):**
Exterior extinguishers will be inspected on-site by Fire Prevention Personnel. If your extinguishers are located inside each unit, please forward verification by copy of a receipt for service of extinguishers dated within the last 12 months by a State Licensee.
- ✓ **Fire Sprinkler Systems:**
Provide NFPA Form 25 **Inspection, Testing & Maintenance** (by a State Licensee) showing no deficiencies dated within the last 12 months.
- ✓ **Fire Alarm Monitoring Systems:** (If applicable to your property)
Provide NFPA Form 72 **System Record of Inspection and Testing** (by a State Licensee) showing no deficiencies dated within the last 12 months.

We appreciate your assistance and support in ensuring your property meets the mandated life safety requirements for your occupants. Attached you will find answers to frequently asked questions or (FAQ).

If you should have any other questions, please contact us [\(559\) 585-2594](tel:5595852594)

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Frequently Asked Questions **Multi-Family Residential Fire and Life Safety Program**

Question 1 - Why is my apartment building being inspected?

State mandates require all Fire Departments within California to inspect and report all multiple residential occupancies units. These fire and life safety inspections will lessen the threat of fires within our community.

Question 2 - How are inspection fees calculated?

Inspection fees are calculated at a rate of \$175; complexity of facility will dictate actual amount charged.

Question 3 - If you are charging on an hourly basis, why do you need to know how many units I have?

The information allows us to coordinate inspections and update our records.

Question 4 - What forms do we need to return to the Fire Department?

The pre-inspection checklist and the Smoke Detector and Carbon Monoxide Certification form. The checklist helps you prepare for the inspection and will assist us to gather the primary safety issues about your property.

Question 5 - The pre-inspection checklist indicates that item(s) were found not in compliance that will need to be corrected. Some items appear to indicate that we will have to make the expense to install new systems. Is this the case?

The pre-inspection checklist identifies the primary safety issues on your property. Not all the questions apply to every property. At a minimum, every unit will have smoke detectors in all sleeping rooms and the hallway adjacent, a carbon monoxide device (if the property has gas appliances), and a fire extinguisher. Please answer the questions to the best of your ability. (If the question does not apply, you will not be required to make additional corrections or expenses)

Question 6 - How will the owner or agent ensure that all Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide devices are operating properly?

Each owner or agent will need to coordinate an interior inspection in all units. The attached Smoke Detector/Carbon Monoxide Detector Inspection Checklist will need to be filled out and returned to our office.

Question 7 - What if I do not know if my Smoke Detectors or Carbon Monoxide are state approved or installed correctly?

Check the owner's manual, look for the independent testing laboratory's seal and the California State Fire Marshal mark on the device. Replace devices older than ten years.

Questions 8 - Can we call to schedule the Fire and Life Safety Inspection?

Although no interior inspection is necessary, if you would like a fire and life safety inspection, please notify us via (559) 585-2594. Be advised there is an additional fee, also the inspectors will not enter without the tenant being notified in writing 48 hours before entering. Also, we will not enter without property management or the owner present.

Question 9 – Can I replace my existing Smoke Detector with a Carbon Monoxide

device? No, both Smoke Alarms/Detectors and Carbon Monoxide devices are required in all dwellings. However, a combination Smoke and Carbon Monoxide alarm/Detector will satisfy both requirements.

Question 10 - Fire extinguisher(s) are required, what do I need to do?

Contact a licensed fire extinguisher company. There is a list of fire extinguisher companies on the fire department website. Fire extinguishers must be installed at least 3 feet off the ground and no higher than 5 feet high. The fire extinguisher must be a **minimum size of 2A10BC. There shall be a fire extinguisher every 75' for larger apartment facilities.** Unless you are installing the extinguisher in a single apartment unit.

Question 11 - What about vandalism? Can I keep the fire extinguisher(s) indoors?

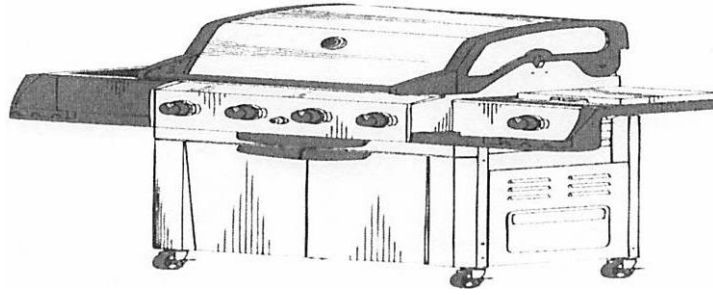
You may install a fire extinguisher cabinet or provide an extinguisher indoors. If you have an indoor extinguisher, you must provide proof of purchase, certification and **every** unit must be provided with an extinguisher.

Question 12- I have a two-story building with one unit on each floor; do I need to provide a fire extinguisher on each floor?

Yes.

Question 13 - Do we need to provide a fire extinguisher in the laundry room?

Yes, Smoke detectors are also required in laundry rooms. Also, Carbon Monoxide detectors are also required in laundry rooms that have gas appliances.



Hanford Fire Department Community Risk Reduction Information Bulletin

Use of Barbecues and Open Flame Cooking Devices in Multi-Family Residential Housing

The Fire Prevention Division of the Hanford Fire Department is notifying residents that the use of barbecues and other open-flame cooking devices in multi-family residential housing balconies, patios and decks is prohibited. Due to the number of multi-family homes fires involving these types of open flame devices, the California Fire Code Section 308.1.4 prohibits charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices.

These types of open-flame cooking devices shall not be operated on combustible balconies, patios, decks or within 10 feet of combustible construction.

It is the mission of the Hanford Fire Department Community Risk Reduction to ensure a safe environment, reasonably safeguarded against the threat of fire, for all residents. Your adherence to these regulations is the key to making this a reality for all. The Fire Department, as well as your neighbors, appreciate your efforts in making the City of Hanford a safe place for everyone.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the Hanford Fire Dept Community Risk Reduction at (559) 585-2594.