**Common Fire Code Violations Noted During Inspection**

**Common Electrical Violations:**

* Electrical outlets/switches missing cover plates
* Use of extension cords as permanent wiring
* Electrical panel access blocked
* Missing circuit breakers with no “Blank” covers filling the open spaces
* Surge protectors used to supply power to other surge protectors (Daisy Chain)
* Use of unfused multiple outlet plugs

**Common Means of Egress Violations:**

* Door locked/blocked
* Exit discharge obstructed/blocked
* Aisles/corridors obstructed
* Exit sign not illuminated
* Emergency lighting inoperable
* Storage in exit stairway

**Common Fire Extinguisher Violations:**

* Needs recharging/inspection
* Not properly mounted
* Access blocked

**Common Fire Protection System Violations:**

* Access to FDC not maintained (in houses with a sprinkler system to which the Fire Department is unable to connect.)
* Must be a sign indicating the location of the Fire Department Connection (FDC)
  + Sign must be visible from the street, on a white background with red lettering
* 5 feet of clearance must be maintained around Fire Department Connection(s)
* Inadequate sprinkler head clearance (<18”)
* Damage, painted, or obstructed sprinkler heads
* Items attached/hanging on sprinkler heads or sprinkler piping
* Sprinkler valves not properly identified
* Spare sprinkler heads or sprinkler wrench missing
* Control valves not secured in the “Open” position
* Missing or non-working smoke detectors (There should be a smoke detector in every bedroom and all common areas)
* Out-dated sprinkler system inspection
* Out-dated fire alarm inspection

**Common Hood System Violations:**

* Hood system needs cleaning (cleanings must be documented)
* Out-dated hood suppression system inspection
* Hood system is not operational

**Common Building Violations:**

* Fire door does not latch properly
* Fire door blocked or wedged open
* Fire door self-closing device disconnected
* Missing ceiling tiles/holes in drywall

**Common Heating Equipment Violations:**

* Combustibles too close
* Boiler permit expired

**Common Special Hazards Violations:**

* Improper flammable liquid storage/use
* Improper storage of compressed gas cylinder
* Disorderly outside storage
* Excess or disorderly accumulation of boxes

**IMPORTANT NOTES**

* If the chapter facility is cited for a violation(s) of the fire code, the violation(s) must typically be corrected **within thirty (30) days**. **Violations related to life safety hazards must be immediately corrected.** A reinspection will need to take place verifying all other violations have been corrected.
* **Boiler inspections**: Must be completed by a certified company. The Virginia Department of Labor and Industry provides a list of certified personnel at: <https://www.doli.virginia.gov/boiler-safety/inspection-insurance-companies/>
* **Sprinkler Inspection/Fire Alarm Inspection**. If your sprinkler system and/or fire alarm system is due for an inspection, you can find a list of available companies by completing an online search.