



Fayetteville Fire Marshal's Office General Construction Site Guidelines

This guide is written to assist general contractors and developers with Fire Department construction site requirements. This guide does not replace, nor supersede any codes and/or ordinances adopted by the City or determinations and/or positions of the Fire Department.

Please note that the below information is intended as a guideline; additional requirements may be required based upon each individual site. These requirements are established from the 2021 Arkansas Fire Prevention Code, City of Fayetteville, Fayetteville Fire Marshal's Office and applicable NFPA codes.

Address Requirements

Temporary site address shall be displayed plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Numbers shall be a minimum of 12 inches (304.8 mm) high with a minimum stroke width of 1 inch (25.4 mm) facing addressed street.

Water Supply for Fire Protection

An approved water supply for fire protection, either temporary or permanent, shall be made available as soon as combustible materials arrive on site, prior to vertical combustible construction and on installation of a standpipe system in buildings under construction.

Construction Approval

1. A pre-construction meeting with the Fire Marshal's Office must be scheduled through the Engineering Department.
2. Fire hydrants and fire access roadways will be evaluated at that time to determine what shall be installed and approved prior to vertical construction of any building or structure.

Access for Fire Fighting Operations

Fire apparatus access for fire fighting operations shall be provided to all construction and demolition sites. Access shall be provided to within 100 feet of a temporary or permanent fire department connection. Access shall be provided by either temporary or permanent roads, capable of supporting fire apparatus loading under all weather conditions. Access shall not be impeded by dumpsters, construction traffic or trucks and must be maintained and remain clear in the event of an emergency.

Temporary Heating Devices

1. Temporary heating devices shall be listed and labeled. Installation, maintenance, and use of temporary heating devices shall be in accordance with the terms of the listing.
2. Refueling operations shall be conducted only when the appliance shall be allowed to cool prior to refueling.



3. Clearance to combustibles from temporary heating devices shall be maintained in accordance with the labeled equipment. When in operation, temporary heating devices shall be protected from damage, dislodgement, or overturning in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
4. The use of temporary heating devices shall be supervised and maintained only by competent personnel.

Precautions against Fire

1. Smoking shall be prohibited except in approved areas. Signs shall be posted in conspicuous locations. In approved areas where smoking is permitted, approved noncombustible ashtrays shall be provided
2. Combustible debris shall not be accumulated within buildings. Combustible debris, rubbish, and waste material shall be removed from buildings at the end of each shift of work. Combustible debris, rubbish, and waste material shall not be disposed of by burning on the site.
3. Materials susceptible to spontaneous ignition, such as oily rags, shall be stored in a listed disposal container.
4. For building demolition that is hazardous in nature, qualified personnel shall be provided to serve as an on-site fire watch. The sole duty of fire-watch personnel shall be to watch for the occurrence of fire.
5. Temporary wiring for electrical power and lighting installations used in connection with the construction, alteration, or demolition of buildings, structures, equipment, or similar activities shall comply with the Electrical Code.

Flammable and Combustible Liquids

1. Ventilation shall be provided for operations involving the application of materials containing flammable solvents.
2. Sources of ignition and smoking shall be prohibited in flammable and combustible liquid storage areas. Signs shall be posted.
3. Flammable and combustible liquids shall be kept in approved safety containers. Leaking vessels shall be immediately repaired or taken out of service and spills shall be cleaned up and disposed of properly.

Means of Egress

1. Where a new or existing building has been constructed to a height greater than 40 feet (12,192 mm) at least one temporary or permanent lighted stairway shall be provided to extend to within one floor of the highest point of construction having secured decking or flooring.
2. Required means of egress components shall be maintained and clear of debris during construction and demolition.



Standpipes

Buildings four or more stories in height shall be provided with not less than one standpipe for use during construction. Such standpipes shall be installed when the progress of construction is not more than 40 feet (12,192 mm) in height above the lowest level of fire department access. Such standpipe shall be provided with fire department hose connections at accessible locations adjacent to usable stairs. Such standpipes shall be extended as construction progresses to within one floor of the highest point of construction having secured decking or flooring.

Automatic Sprinkler System

1. In buildings where an automatic sprinkler system is required by the Arkansas Fire Prevention Code, it shall be unlawful to occupy any portion of a building or structure until the automatic sprinkler system installation has been tested and approved
2. Operation of sprinkler control valves shall be allowed only by properly authorized personnel and shall be accompanied by notification of duly designated parties. When the sprinkler protection is being regularly turned off and on to facilitate connection of newly completed segments, the sprinkler control valves shall be checked at the end of each work period to ascertain that protection is in service.
3. Where a fire sprinkler system is required it shall be monitored. Alarm, supervisory, and trouble signals shall be automatically transmitted to an approved supervising station.

Fire Lines and Back flow Prevention

1. Fire lines must be approved by the City of Fayetteville's Water Engineering Division to insure that required building fire flow and the sprinkler demand can be met by proposed fire lines. The City of Fayetteville's minimum water standards must be met.
2. Backflows on all domestic and fire lines must be approved and inspected by the City of Fayetteville's Backflow Prevention Division.

Portable Fire Extinguishers

Structures under construction, alteration, or demolition shall be provided with not less than one approved portable fire extinguisher at each stairway on all floor levels where combustible materials have accumulated. An approved portable fire extinguisher shall be provided in every storage and construction shed. The code official is authorized to require additional approved portable fire extinguishers where special hazards exist, such as flammable or combustible liquid storage hazards.



Furniture, Fixture and Equipment (FFE) Permit

1. All wall and ceiling coverings shall be in place
2. All required fire suppression systems must be installed and approved prior to any stock, furniture and/or any non-construction combustibles or equipment being installed within a building (the minimum requirement is that the suppression system is fully installed and that a flow switch is installed and will call out in the event of an alarm)
 - Failed devices will result in a rescheduled test and denial of the FFE permit.
3. An inspection must be scheduled through the Fire Marshal's Office by calling 479-444-3448
4. Written approval must be given prior to any stock, furniture and/or any non-construction combustibles or equipment being placed within the building

Occupancy of the structure

It shall be unlawful to occupy any portion of a building or structure until all life safety requirements have been met according to the 2021 Arkansas Fire Prevention Code and a Certificate of Occupancy has been issued.

Fire Watch During Construction

Where required by the Fire Marshal or when new construction exceeds 40 feet in height above the lowest adjacent grade at any point along the building perimeter a fire watch will be provided. Fire watch shall be provided during nonworking hours. **Fire watch will not be allowed as an alternative to acceptance testing of life safety systems for the purposes of occupancy of the building or structure.

Requesting Inspections and Acceptance Testing

A request for an inspection can be made by calling the Fire Marshal's Office at 479-444-3448. Inspections for the Fire Marshal's Office are not scheduled through the Citizens Self Service Portal (CSS). Inspection requests should be made by the General Contractor or Superintendent. All Fire Protection Systems shall be 100% pre-tested prior to scheduling an inspection with the Fire Marshal's Office.