

Builder Tip

INSPECTION OF FIRE PROTECTION (LIFE SAFETY) SYSTEMS

Issue No: 45 Issued Feb. 2004 Revised April 2015 Updated to 2012 Building Code

ONTARIO BUILDING CODE

- 3.2.4. Fire Alarm and Detection Systems
- 3.2.5.13. Automatic Sprinkler Systems
- 3.2.6. Additional Requirements for High Buildings
- 3.2.7. Lighting and Emergency Power Systems
- 3.2.9. Standpipe Systems

BUILDING STANDARDS DEPARTMENT

Life Safety Systems Testing Standard Practice 93-001

OBJECTIVE

To ensure all life safety systems installed in a building are in compliance with the Ontario Building Code and are operational, the Building Standards Department will conduct testing of all systems prior to occupancy of the building.

The building inspector (the building inspector will notify the Fire Department) will conduct the witness testing; the building contractor must arrange for the electrician/fire alarm technician and or a fire protection plumber to be present, according to the system to be tested. The following can be used as a guide for arranging personnel for testing life safety systems.

- For fire alarm, emergency power, smoke control, and smoke venting systems, an electrician is required to activate devices, ie. Pull stations, fire detectors, etc. If a fire fighter elevator is installed, an elevator technician is required.
- For sprinkler systems, a sprinkler installer is required to activate valves, conduct flow test, etc.
- For standpipe systems, a sprinkler installer is required and must supply a hose, nozzle and pressure gauge and pitot tube for conducting a flow test at the most remote location of the building.

• Fire alarm verification and sprinkler installation certifications are required to be submitted 3 days prior to testing.

Please note that due to the complexity involved in conducting fire protection (life safety) system testing, at least 3 days notice is recommended in order to schedule an inspection/test.

COMPONENTS OF SPRINKLER SYSTEM



The Building Standards Department issues BUILDER TIPS as part of our customer service program. They are designed to provide an improved understanding of the Building Code and to reduce the costs associated with correcting infractions. Please contact your area building inspector for further information or call the Building Standards Department at (905) 475-4850