



Fire Protection System Out of Service

What do I do if a fire protection system is out of service?

Section 901.7 of the 2018 International Fire Code states: ***“Systems out of service.*** *Where a required fire protection system is out of service, the fire department and the fire code official shall be notified immediately and, where required by the fire code official, the building shall be either evacuated or an approved fire watch shall be provided for all occupants left unprotected by the shut down until the fire protection system has been returned to service.”*

What is a fire watch?

A fire watch is defined as a temporary measure intended to ensure continuous and systematic surveillance of a building or portion thereof by one or more qualified individuals for the purposes of identifying and controlling fire hazards, detecting early signs of unwanted fire, raising an alarm of fire and notifying the fire department.

How do I set up a fire watch?

Section 3304.5.3 of the 2018 International Fire Code states: ***“Fire watch location and records.*** *The fire watch shall include areas specified by the prefire plan established with Section 3308.3. The fire watch personnel shall keep a record of all time periods of duty, including a log entry each time the site was patrolled and each time a structure under construction was entered and inspected. The records and log entries shall be made available for review by the fire code official upon request.”*

A patrol of the structure must occur every 15 minutes and be logged.

How do I notify Thurston County?

You can easily notify Thurston County by sending an email to our building department at Building@co.thurston.wa.us and our Certified Fire Marshall at Bobby.may@co.thurston.wa.us

Please be sure to include a point of contact, phone number, and site address or parcel number in your email.

There may be additional requirements which will be determined by our Certified Fire Marshall Bobby May.

