



Oberlin Fire Department

430 South Main Street, Oberlin Ohio 44074
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Mission Statement

"As members of the community, the Oberlin Fire Department is committed to protecting lives, property, and the environment by providing public education, fire suppression and life safety services to those we serve."

Notice of Fire Inspection Program Changes and Fees

Dear Owner/Occupant:

The Oberlin Fire Department is committed to the safety and security of our local businesses and their customers, guests and employees. Therefore, effective May 15, 2014, the Oberlin Fire Department will implement a program of periodic inspections of all business locations and collect fees for inspections. These periodic inspections may take the form of a self-inspection or a full inspection by fire department personnel.

Full Inspections: Will be conducted for businesses with relatively higher risks or hazards and are performed during the business day. These inspections are performed quickly and efficiently with the assistance of I-Pad technology, resulting in minimal disruption of business operations. Any deficiencies noted during the inspection process are communicated to the owner and will result in a re-inspection once all violations have been corrected.

Self-inspections: Are suitable for low risk/low occupancy locations and are usually performed by the business owner or occupant by following a fire safety inspection checklist. Once the checklist is completed, the results are provided to the fire department through an Internet based portal or, alternatively, by fax or return mail.

Annually, the Fire Prevention Bureau will designate business occupancies as self or full inspections, based upon their knowledge of and experience with each location. However, a business assigned to self-inspection status may opt out and request a regular inspection. Alternately, if your self-inspection form is not properly and timely completed, you may be removed from the self-inspection program and automatically scheduled for a full inspection, subject to standard inspection fees

Under the new program, business owners or tenants will be charged a minimal fee for either type of inspection to help defray the costs of the program. Full inspection fees are based on the square footage of the actual tenant occupancy and range from \$75 -\$300. If you are eligible to participate in the self-inspection program, there will be a \$25 annual fee. To facilitate cooperation in mitigation of identified code violations, the full inspection fee will include one (1) reinspection of the occupancy to confirm compliance. We are appreciative that most owners do address identified hazards promptly. However, should those violations remain unresolved, an additional fee of \$80 plus 20% of the original fee may be charged per required visit.

Oberlin Fire has contracted with Fire Recovery USA, LLC to assist with the inspection programs. This company specializes in working with fire departments across the country by providing technology and billing expertise that enables departments, like Oberlin Fire, to operate more efficiently and effectively there by reducing their administrative burden.

For questions about the inspection program, please contact us at 440-774-3211.

Dennis Kirin
Fire Chief