



INSPECTION, TESTING AND MAINTENANCE (ITM) OF FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS

Systems ITM Guidance—Building Owners Should Continue to Maintain Fire Safe Buildings and Equipment

Office of the Fire Marshal Inspectors will no longer be witnessing ITM activities of fire protection systems. These necessary safety items must continue to be maintained in an operational status. Fire inspectors will be confirming the necessary ITM has been done by reviewing contractor's paperwork to verify system status.

Fire and life safety systems, such as fire alarms and sprinklers, are among the most important components in any building type for preserving lives, protecting property and providing safety to first responders.

You are required to maintain these systems in good working condition and have them tested, usually on an annual basis. Additional tests and inspections are required on a less frequent basis, but it is important these tests and inspections are documented by your contractor.

There are also secondary tests and certain maintenance processes that must be performed periodically even though you do not need to submit reports. The testing company you hire should be able to provide more information about these tests.

Additional ITM Guidance

- Follow COVID-19 safety recommendations at your building suggested by the [Fairfax County Health Department](#).
- Send an email to request extension for testing in occupancies where there is a public health consideration to fire.retesting@fairfaxcounty.gov if you have received a Notice of Violation.
- Impairments of fire protection systems must be repaired.
- There is no need to coordinate sprinkler, fire alarm and other trades for the ITM activities in your building.
- See also [NFPA Guidance on Testing During Pandemic](#).



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