

Spokane Fire Department

Examples of Repair/Emergency/Maintenance Work Permits

These 3 examples (REPAIR, EMERGENCY, MAINTENANCE) are provided as a guide to assist contractors, owners, and Fire Prevention Bureau Staff to determine if a permit is required from the Fire Department for work on fire protection systems in the City of Spokane. Note: This is not a comprehensive list.

If you are not sure if a particular project needs a permit, call the Spokane Fire Department Fire Protection Engineer, Dave Kokot, P.E. at 625-7056.

Repair work:

- Pre-planned impairments – planned changes, recalls, modifications, replacement or update minor equipment. Work that is required to return a system to a fully operable/more serviceable condition.
- **All repair work defined below is required to have a permit**

Examples Replace riser valves, PIVs, backflow preventer, etc.
 Replace 6 or more sprinkler heads or fire alarm devices
 Relocate devices changing spacing or coverage
 Replace fire alarm panel
 Replace/repair wiring
 Replace piping (6 or more fittings)

Emergency work:

- Emergency impairments – work needed to correct unplanned impairments and to restore the fire protection system to proper working order as soon as possible.
- **All emergency work is required to have a Fire Protection System Emergency Repair Notification form (EMGCY) submitted to the Fire Department.**
- Permits will be required for emergency work that complies with the scope of repair. Not all emergency work will require a permit.

Examples Emergency impairments (See IFC 901.7)
 Fire sprinkler system leakage
 Interruption of water supply
 Frozen or ruptured piping
 Unplanned equipment failure
 Damage to structure
 Broken pipes
 Replace non-working fire alarm panel components (i.e.: lightning strike)
 Repair wiring
 Return system to operation following a fire or other incident

Maintenance work:

- Work that is required to keep a system maintained in an acceptable operating condition such as: Required or scheduled periodic testing, inspection, corrections of minor defective components, or component malfunctions repaired within 24 hours that do not affect the operation of the system.
- **A Permit is not required for the following:**

Examples: Replace less than 6 sprinkler heads or fire alarm devices (device locations and types must be the same as the original)
 Replace fire alarm panel batteries
 Replace components of a fire alarm panel (DACT, zone card, etc.)
 Replace piping 1" or smaller – less than 6 fittings
 Upgrade the fire alarm panel processor
 Cleaning or flushing of piping
 Annual inspections
 Five year inspections