

# Common Violations and Associated Codes – MSFC 2020

## CENTENNIAL FIRE DISTRICT

Station 1 – 2 East Road, Circle Pines, MN 55014 | Station 3 – 1880 Main Street, Centerville, MN 55038  
Main: 651-792-7900 | Inspections: 651-792-7905 | Public Education: 651-792-7903

- **Knox Box Present – MSFC 506**
  - **MSFC 506.1** - Where access to or within a structure or an area is unduly difficult because of secured openings or where immediate access is necessary for life-saving or fire-fighting purposes, the fire code official is authorized to require a key box to be installed in an approved location.
- **Emergency Lighting**
  - **MSFC 1008.3** - Emergency power for illumination. The power supply for means of egress illumination shall normally be provided by the premises' electrical supply.
  - **MSFC 1008.3.1** - General. In the event of power supply failure in rooms and spaces that require two or more means of egress an emergency electrical system shall automatically illuminate all of the following areas:
    - 1. Aisles.
    - 2. Corridors.
    - 3. Exit access stairways and ramps.
  - **MSFC 1104.3.1** – The means of egress shall be illuminated at all times that the building space served by the means of egress is occupied
- **FDC (Fire Department Connection) – MSFC 912**
  - **MSFC 912.2.2** – On existing buildings, where the fire department connection is not visible to the approaching fire apparatus, the fire department connections shall be indicated by an approved sign mounted on the street front or on the side of the building. Such sign shall have the letters “FDC” not less than 6” high and words in letters not less than 2” high or an arrow to indicate the location.
- **Gas Meter Protected from Impact – MSFC 312, 603.9**
- **General Storage – MSFC 315**
  - **MSFC 315.3.1** – Storage shall be maintained 24” or more below the ceiling in non-sprinklered areas of the buildings or a minimum of 18” below sprinkler head deflectors in sprinklered areas of buildings.
- **General Storage – MSFC 315**
  - **MSFC 315.3.3.1** – Storage in mechanical equipment rooms shall be neat and orderly and arranged to provide immediate access to equipment. Clearance between equipment and storage shall be at least 36” or as required by the manufacturer, whichever is greater.
- **Fire Extinguisher – MSFC 906**
  - **MSFC 906.2.1** - Portable fire extinguisher(s) shall be serviced annually by an approved extinguisher service company. A tag indicating such service must be affixed to the extinguisher
- **Fire Extinguisher – MSFC 906**
  - **MSFC 906.7** – Hand-held portable fire extinguishers, not housed in cabinets, shall be installed on the hangers or brackets supplied
  - **MSFC 906.9.1** – Portable fire extinguishers having a gross weight not exceeding 40lbs, shall be installed so that their tops are not more than 5ft above the floor.
  - **MSFC 906.9.3** – The clearance between the floor and the bottom of the installed hand-held portable fire extinguisher shall not be less than 4 inches
- **Sprinkler System – MSFC 509**
  - **MSFC 509.1** – Fire protection equipment shall be identified in an approved manner. Rooms containing controls for air-conditioning systems, sprinkler risers and valves, or other fire detection, suppression or control elements shall be identified for the use of the fire department. Approved signs required to

identify fire protection equipment and equipment location shall be constructed of durable materials, permanently installed and readily visible.

- **Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems – MSFC 901**

- **MSFC 901.4.6.2** – Access doors for automatic sprinkler system riser rooms and fire pump rooms shall be labeled with an approved sign. The lettering shall be contrasting color to the background. Letters shall have a minimum height of 2 inches and a minimum stroke width of 3/8”
- **MSFC 901.6** – Fire detection and alarm systems, emergency alarm systems, gas detection systems, fire-extinguishing systems, mechanical smoke exhaust systems and smoke and heat vents shall be maintained in an operative condition at all times and shall be replaced or repairs where defective. Fire Alarm and water based automatic fire-extinguishing systems shall be tested and inspected annually.
- **MSFC 901.4.6.4** – Lighting – Permanently installed artificial illumination shall be provided in the automatic sprinkler system riser rooms and fire pump rooms

- **Fire Alarm System – MSFC 901**

- **MSFC 901.6** – Fire detection and alarm systems, emergency alarm systems, gas detection systems, fire-extinguishing systems, mechanical smoke exhaust systems and smoke and heat vents shall be maintained in an operative condition at all times and shall be replaced or repairs where defective. Fire Alarm and water based automatic fire-extinguishing systems shall be tested and inspected annually.

- **Electrical Room – MSFC 604**

- **MSFC 604.3.1** – Doors into electrical control panel rooms shall be marked with a plainly visible and legible sign stating ELECTRICAL ROOM or similar approved wording.

- **Exit Signs – MSFC 1013**

- **MSFC 1013.1** – Exits and exit access doors shall be marked by an approved exit sign readily visible from any direction of egress travel. Exception to the matter is that rooms or areas requiring only one exit or exit access do not require an exit sign

- **Ceiling Tiles – MSFC 803**

- **MSFC 803.1** – The provisions of this section shall limit the allowable fire performance and smoke development on interior wall and ceiling finishes in existing buildings base on location and occupancy classification.

- **Premises Identification – MSFC 506**

- **MSFC 505.1** – New and existing buildings shall be provided with approved address identification. The address identification shall be legible and placed in a position that is visible from the street or road fronting the property. Each number shall not be less than 4” high with a minimum stroke width of ½”

- **Access to Building Openings and Roofs – MSFC 504**

- **MSFC 504.2** - Maintenance of exterior doors and openings - Exterior doors and their function shall not be eliminated without prior approval. Exterior doors that have been rendered nonfunctional and that retain a functional door exterior appearance shall have a sign affixed to the exterior side of the door with the words THIS DOOR BLOCKED. The sign shall consist of letters having a principal stroke of not less than 3/4 inch (19.1 mm) wide and not less than 6 inches (152 mm) high on a contrasting background. Required fire department access doors shall not be obstructed or eliminated. Exit and exit access doors shall comply with Chapter 10. Access doors for high-piled combustible storage shall comply with Section 3206.7.

- **Storage - MSFC 5704**

- **MSFC 5704.2.13.1.4** – Tanks abandoned in place
- Tanks abandoned in place shall be as follows:
  - Flammable and combustible liquids shall be removed from the tank and connected piping
  - The suction, inlet, gauge, vapor return and vapor lines shall be disconnected
  - The tank shall be filled completely with an approved inert solid material
  - Remaining underground piping shall be capped or plugged

- A record of tank size, location and date of abandonment shall be retained
- All exterior above-grade fill piping shall be permanently removed when tanks are abandoned or removed
- **Alternative Automatic Fire-Extinguishing Systems – MSFC 904**
  - ***MSFC 904.5.1*** – System Test – Wet Chemical System - Systems shall be inspected and tested for proper operation at six-month intervals. Tests shall include a check of the detection system, alarms and releasing devices, including manual stations and other associated equipment. Extinguishing system units shall be weighed and the required amount of agent verified. Stored pressure-type units shall be checked for the required pressure. The cartridge of cartridge-operated units shall be weighed and replaced at intervals indicated by the manufacturer.
  - ***MSFC 904.6.1*** – System Test – Dry Chemical System - Systems shall be inspected and tested for proper operation at six-month intervals. Tests shall include a check of the detection system, alarms and releasing devices, including manual stations and other associated equipment. Extinguishing system units shall be weighed and the required amount of agent verified. Stored pressure-type units shall be checked for the required pressure. The cartridge of cartridge-operated units shall be weighed and replaced at intervals indicated by the manufacturer.