

## **Fire Services**

**Summary/Purpose:** To provide guidance to the University Community on issues regarding fire safety.

### **GENERAL**

The Facilities Management Department manages University Fire Services. University Fire Services will inspect all buildings, conduct fire drills at dormitories and Greek houses, conduct training as requested, assist in determining fire origination and cause involving University owned property and advise on issues regarding fire safety.

*Enforcement of any policies, standards or fire codes will be conducted by University Administration and/or the State Fire Marshal's Office.*

### **FIRE FIGHTING SERVICES**

On the University of Mississippi campus, fire fighting services are contracted with the City of Oxford.

### **RESPONSIBILITY OF BUILDING OCCUPANTS IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE ALARM**

All occupants are required to leave the building when a fire alarm sounds or during a fire drill. Occupants evacuating a building should not use elevators. Occupants should use the stairwells. No one should re-enter the building until authorized to do so by fire officials. Once out of the building, report the fire location by dialing 911 or by notifying University Police by dialing 662-915-7234 on a cell phone or by using a phone in another building. Malicious tampering with building fire alarms, fire protection systems or fire extinguishers is prohibited. Violators are subject to disciplinary action, monetary fine or both.

### **FIRE SAFETY INSPECTIONS**

University Fire Inspectors will conduct fire safety inspections on Academic, Auxiliary and Athletic buildings once each year. Inspections at UM Housing Facilities and Greek houses are conducted once in the fall semester by the State Fire Marshal's Office. Any violations of the University Policy on Fire Safety, International Fire Code or of the National Fire Protection Association Codes and Standards, found at the time of inspection, will be documented and reported to the appropriate individual(s) for correction.

Greek House Corporations are responsible for correcting deficiencies within their respective houses and maintaining current certification of fire alarm and sprinkler systems to meet existing state laws, university policies and fire codes.

*If the Fire Inspectors find any violation that they believe represents a danger to life and limb, they may advise that the building be vacated and closed until the violation is corrected. In some cases, the Fire Inspectors may determine that posting a "Fire Watch" may be an acceptable alternative to closing a building.*

## **FIRE DRILLS**

Fire Drills will be conducted once in the fall semester and once in the spring semester for all dormitories and Greek houses.

Fire Drills will be conducted at any other building upon written request by the respective deans/chairs/directors/building mayors.

## **FIRE ALARMS AT GREEK HOUSES**

State law requires each Greek House on University property to have an NFPA 72 operational and monitored fire alarm system. It is the Greek organizations' responsibility to be in compliance with the National Fire Code (NFPA) Standard 72 as published by the National Fire Protection Association. Greek organizations are required by the University of Mississippi, to have their fire alarm systems inspected and tested annually to ensure the systems are operating properly. Greek Houses are responsible for any maintenance, repairs, phone line expenses, and testing that is related to their systems. University Fire Services and Facilities Management Department are unable to provide maintenance on Greek fire alarm systems. Greeks are required to contact their alarm monitoring and maintenance companies for periodic testing of systems as required by University policy. Greeks are encouraged to purchase maintenance contracts on fire alarm systems from certified service providers.

*Greek Houses assume full responsibility for any circumstances resulting from the fire alarm systems' failure to meet University Policy, State Laws or fire codes as established.*

## **FIRE ALARM MONITORING SERVICE**

The Facilities Management Department has a 24 hour, 7 day per week Dispatch Office that monitors automated fire alarms in academic, auxiliary and athletic buildings. Not all campus buildings have automated fire alarm systems.

The Facilities Management Department does not monitor Greek fire alarm systems.