

FPB POLICY 2010-5: INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING KITCHEN HOOD SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS

Created: November 12, 2010 Revised: February 29, 2024 Effective Date: Immediately
From the Office of the Fire Prevention Bureau – Phone (515) 283-4240



This policy is promulgated in accordance with Section 104.1 of the 2021 International Fire Code; it is intended for clarification of the 2021 International Fire Code (IFC) and is an official interpretation of Sections 606 and Chapter 9 of the 2021 IFC. This document is the Des Moines Fire Prevention Bureau's policy to clarify the IFC language on when either a hood cleaning inspection is needed or a suppression system maintenance inspection is needed.

The following shall apply to the inspection and maintenance of all existing Type I hoods and kitchen hood suppression systems:

Hood Cleaning Inspections IFC 606.3.3

- 1.) Inspections shall occur in accordance with Table 606.3.3.1 of the 2021 IFC (shown below):

Type of Cooking Operation	Frequency of Inspection
High volume cooking such as: 24 hr cooking, char-broiling or wok cooking	3 months
Low volume cooking such as places of religious worship, seasonal businesses, and senior centers	12 months
Cooking operations utilizing solid fuel burning cooking appliances	1 month
All other cooking operations	6 months

- 2.) Inspections shall include verification that hoods, ducts, fans and other appurtenances are free from grease accumulation, and any other defect that may render the system incapable of operating appropriately.

Suppression System Maintenance Inspections IFC 901.6 & 904.5

- Maintenance inspections must be completed in accordance with the appropriate NFPA standard (i.e. NFPA 17A) and manufacture's requirements at least every 6 months. In accordance with city ordinance Section 46-7 all kitchen hood fire extinguishing systems shall have an approved tag affixed to them showing the date of the inspection and the identity of the person inspecting them. The DMFD tag can typically be placed on the manual pull station.
- Maintenance inspections must at least include items specified in IFC 904.5:
 - 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.

Per the IFC, inspections shall be completed by qualified individuals. It is the opinion of the Fire Marshal that a qualified individual is an individual who has passed the inspection permit process with the City of Des Moines Fire Department to perform maintenance inspections. Cleaning inspections can be done by a trained and qualified individual without a city permit.

Should any kitchen hoods be found with an excessive buildup of grease, appliance changes, or other non-compliant condition, a DMFD tag shall NOT be placed on the system until necessary repairs/cleaning have been completed. Please refer to Policy 2011-1 for the required reporting of deficiencies that are discovered and not immediately corrected.

Any comments or questions regarding the above information may be submitted to:

Office of the Fire Protection Engineer
City of Des Moines Fire Department
Fire Prevention Bureau
2715 Dean Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50317
Office: (515) 283-4240
Email: firedept@dmgov.org