



San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District
Fire & Life Safety Division
1500 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, CA 94583
925.838.6600 www.firedepartment.org

FIRE PREVENTION STANDARD

FIRE WATCH

The San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District developed this standard pursuant to Chapter 1 section 104 of the California Fire Code as adopted and amended by ordinance. It is intended that this standard be used as a guide for establishing a reasonable degree of fire and life safety relative to fire protection systems.

PURPOSE

1. To provide fire watch requirements for an owner or responsible party when adequate egress is not available, when demolition of a building with hazardous conditions exists, or when a fire alarm or sprinkler system are in disrepair or nonfunctional.

DEFINITION

2. A temporary measure intended to ensure continuous and systematic surveillance of a building or portion thereof by one or more qualified individuals for the purposes of identifying and controlling fire hazards, detecting early signs of unwanted fire, raising an alarm of fire and notifying the fire department.

GENERAL

3. The duration and times per day for a fire watch shall be assigned by the Fire Code Official. Fire Watch Personnel shall conduct periodic patrols of the entire facility. Patrol shall be conducted every 15 minutes if the facility has people sleeping, is an institutional facility or an occupied assembly facility. Facilities not meeting the previous conditions shall be patrolled every 30 minutes.
4. Fire watch personnel shall be pre-approved by the Fire Code Official.
5. Fire watch personnel shall have access to one approved means of communication; know the exact address of the property, and how to report a fire or other emergency condition by **calling 911 from a land line or by calling 925-838-6691 from a cell phone.**
6. Fire watch personnel shall be familiar with the building and property and have accepted the written plan for patrolling the property by the Fire District.
7. The Fire Watch Company shall provide the Fire Code Official with a detailed map/plan showing the route the fire watch personnel will take.
8. Fire watch personnel shall be trained in the use of fire extinguishers, shall have access to all facility fire extinguishers, and know the fire extinguisher locations.
9. Fire watch personnel shall have knowledge of and be trained in the facility's evacuation plan in the event of a fire. They shall be able to communicate with occupants well enough to give an evacuation order.
10. Fire watch personnel shall not be permitted, while on duty, to perform any other duties.
11. Fire watch personnel shall not be impaired and shall remain awake and alert at all times.

12. Personnel shall remain on duty until properly relieved and shall relay any special orders or pertinent information to relief personnel and/or management.
13. Fire watch personnel shall keep a log of fire watch related activities. This log shall include; address of the facility, time of each patrol, name of the fire watch person, notes and other related activities performed, findings (i.e. all clear, checked hallways, kitchen clear, and exits operational). The log shall be faxed to 925-838-6696 or delivered daily to the Fire Official.
14. Fire watch is to be in place until released in writing by the Fire Code Official.
15. When system repairs or alterations are being conducted, the responsible parties need to notify the Fire District when plans are being submitted for review. This will allow the Fire District to better track the plans and provide a timely review process.