

The [National Fire Protection Association \(NFPA\)](#) implemented a significant revision to the Fire Protection Standard (NFPA 25), which updated the uniform fire code in [New Jersey](#) statewide as of July 1, 2018. [NFPA 25](#) is the baseline for inspection, testing and maintenance of sprinkler and other water-based fire protection systems. Compliance helps maximize system integrity to prevent failure and guarantee fast, effective response in a fire emergency.

Kistler O'Brien Fire Protection is committed to maintain our customers fire protection system(s) in accordance with the national standard for their safety and protection, and as such we are required by the standards set by the NFPA. Please see below for the significant changes to the New Jersey uniform fire code that will affect the way your fire protection systems are inspected and maintained:

1. This fire code update will require additional time and potentially the installation of additional equipment.
2. Three significant changes include the implementation of the new inspection format requirements, which include:
 - The mandatory use of NFPA 72 Inspection & Testing Report Forms.
 - The mandatory use of NFPA 25 Inspection & Testing Report Forms.
 - The mandatory use of a standard Kitchen Hood Inspection Report Form.
3. Specific NFPA 25, 2014 Edition changes:
 - Annual forward flow test of backflow preventers to determine that proper water supply is being maintained for system demand. For calculated systems without fire pumps, this will require the installation of permanently mounted testing hardware.
 - Annual full trip test of deluge sprinkler systems.
 - Quarterly interior inspections of FDC for obstruction.
 - Quarterly main drain test.
 - Three-year full trip tests of pre-action systems.
 - Three-year air leak tests for dry and pre-action systems.
 - Deluge & pre-action system full trip tests shall incorporate complete functionality of the system as a unit, including automatic and manual activation.
 - Five-year FDC hydrostatic test.
 - Five-year internal inspection of backflow preventers.
 - Hydraulic Design Information Sign must be present and legible.
 - A supply of at least six spare sprinklers shall be maintained on the premises, a sprinkler wrench as specified by the sprinkler manufacturer shall be provided in the cabinet for each type of sprinkler.
 - A list of the sprinklers installed in the property shall be posted in the sprinkler cabinet.
 - Sprinklers and automatic spray nozzles used for protecting commercial-type cooking equipment and ventilating systems shall be replaced annually.
 - Information sign for antifreeze, dry & pre-action systems shall be present and legible.
2. Specific NFPA 25, 2014 Edition changes for Standpipe Systems:
 - Hydraulic Design Information Sign must be present and legible.
 - Five-year full test on all Class I and Class III standpipe systems.
 - Five-year hydrostatic test on manual standpipe systems and semiautomatic dry standpipe systems, including piping in the fire department connection.
 - Class I and Class III standpipe system hose valves shall be tested annually by fully opening and closing the valves.

- Five-year pressure reducing hose valve full flow test at each valve.
- 3. Specific NFPA 25, 2014 Edition changes for Fire Hydrant (Private):
 - Underground and exposed piping serving hydrants shall be flow tested at minimum 5-year intervals.
- 4. Specific NFPA 72, 2013 Edition changes to Fire Alarm Systems:
 - Mandatory use of NFPA 72 inspection & testing report forms.
- 5. IFC NJ 2015 Table 901.6.1 footnote C to Wet Chemical Systems (Kitchen Hood Suppression Systems):
 - Mandatory use of the Standard adopted inspection/testing report form.
 - Forwarding of the report by the contractor performing the inspection to the fire official.

For more information regarding the changes to IFC NJ 2015 fire code update, please call:

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Additional Resources:

1. [National Fire Protection Association](#)
2. [NFPA 25 Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems](#)
3. [New Jersey Fire Code Chapter 9, Fire Protection Systems](#)