



Department of Environmental Health & Safety

Fire Protection Systems Impairment Procedure

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FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM IMPAIRMENT PROCEDURES

A Fire Protection System Impairment occurs when a portion of the Fire Protection System is rendered inoperative due to planned or unplanned outages. Whether impairment is planned or occurs accidentally, precautionary measures are needed to minimize risk.

These impairments include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Fire Alarm systems
- Detection systems
- Special Suppression systems
- Automatic Sprinkler systems or portions of Standpipe and Hose systems
- Fire Pumps and Water Storage Tanks
- Underground Piping and Control Valves

For all outside contractor impairments, the following must be notified:

Environmental Health and Safety	740-593-1661
Ohio University Police	740-593-1911
Life Safety Shop	740-593-4763
Ohio University Risk Manager	740-597-1298
Athens Fire Department	740-592-3301
Front Desk	740-593-2911

The OU Life Safety shop will be allowed up to 8 hours for routine system maintenance before needing to notify the above agencies that impairment has occurred. The system shall not be left unattended during this 8 hour period, if it is then impairment must be declared and the proper notification made.

Once the above have all been notified, discontinue all hazardous operations within the building such as, hot work, handling of flammable liquids, and the use of other outside contractors. Establish increased protection within the building such as, a fire watch as needed, additional fire extinguishers also make certain to establish which portion of the Fire System is Out of Service and use the balance of the systems to its full advantage.

Fasten an “Out of Service” (GREEN) tag to the base of the fire system that it is out of service and follow the instructions on the tag. Expedite work, in order to restore the impaired system, so as not to leave the protection system out of service any longer than necessary.

Upon completion of work, return the system back to service. Notify each entity listed above that the system is back in service. Remove the “Out of Service” tag and return it to EHS.

For impairments after hours or on weekends, OUPD will be notified at 740.593.1911.