

<http://englewoodgov.org/inside-city-hall/city-departments/fire-marshall-s-office>

FIRE WATCH GUIDELINES

2/2017

Fire watch is a temporary measure designed to ensure continuous and systematic surveillance of large crowds of people in a tent, air-supported structure, or building/area, or portion thereof, by one or more qualified individuals for the following purposes: to identify and control fire hazards, to detect early signs of fire, to raise an alarm of fire when unwanted fires are detected, to call 911 and inform Fire Dispatch of the need for emergency response, to take prompt measures for extinguishing fires, and/or to assist in the evacuation of occupants from a building/area when necessary.

Fire watch is used to allow continued occupancy of a site that is temporarily without full fire protection. City of Englewood Ordinance requires that a building's fire protection, fire alarm, and fire detection systems remain fully functional at all times. When any required system(s) is out of service or rendered nonfunctional in part or in full for a period greater than 10 hours in one 24-hour period, a fire watch must be initiated. Qualified personnel, whose only function shall be to conduct continuous fire watch duties, shall perform the fire watch. The ensuing fire watch must remain in effect continuously until the system(s) is restored to a fully functional condition.

When a situation (as described above) requires the initiation of a fire watch, the officer in charge of the incident or that officer's representative will notify the duty officer, and the Englewood Fire Marshal's Office. The responsible party will be issued an "Order to Comply". This will officially inform the responsible party of the action being taken along with informing them that a fire watch is required. The fire watch shall have the following basic requirements and conditions: additional specific conditions will be determined based on the type of occupancy and an actual on-site survey, as determined by the Englewood Fire Marshal's Office:

- ♦ An adequate number of qualified personnel shall be on site continuously to conduct fire watch throughout the entire structure or building/area at 30-minute intervals, unless otherwise determined by the Fire Marshal's Office.
- ♦ A fire watch log and subsequent record of all actions taken during the fire watch shall be maintained and/or submitted to the Fire Marshal's Office.
- ♦ The number of fire watch personnel required and their qualifications shall be determined by the Fire Marshal's Office based on life safety factors that include, but are not limited to occupancy classification, occupancy use, construction type, functionality of fire and life safety systems present, hours of occupancy, and occupancy management staffing.
- ♦ If it is determined by the Fire Marshal's Office or the Denver Fire Department that fire watch personnel must consist of Fire Prevention Division members due to significant life safety concerns, the property owner or manager shall be responsible for payment of the services of that Fire Prevention member(s) at rates established by the City and County of Denver.
- ♦ Fire watch personnel must have access to a cellular telephone or portable radio for undelayed wireless access to the fire dispatcher (911).

- Fire watch personnel must have access to portable fire extinguishers at locations required by the International Fire Code with a minimum rating of 2-A 10-B: C and be trained in their use.
- ♦ Fire watch personnel must abide by and follow all instructions and conditions as set forth in the fire watch order.

This policy is not intended to replace or contradict any portions of fire watch as it pertains to “hotworks” operations requiring welding, grinding, cutting, or other uses of torches. Hotworks fire watch conditions are defined on each hotworks permit.