



High Point Market Fire Safety Guidelines

Following proper fire code procedures ensures your safety and the safety of every Market guest. In fact, inspectors from the fire department routinely tour Market to verify showrooms are following code. Please see below showroom fire safety guidelines that often get overlooked.

General Requirements (Chapter 3 NC Fire Code)

1. Open flame decorative devices must comply with 308.3.1 of the fire code.
2. Storage must be a minimum of 18" below the ceiling in sprinklered buildings and 2' in non-sprinklered.
3. Combustibles materials shall not be stored in exits or exit enclosures.
4. No combustible materials can be stored in mechanical, boiler or electrical rooms.

Emergency Planning and Preparedness (Chapter 4 NC Fire Code)

1. Need to have emergency plans posted throughout the building showing how to properly exit in the event of a fire.
2. When you have large gatherings a public safety plan is required.
3. If the gatherings will have more than 1000 in attendance, you will need to have trained crowd managers. The ratio is one crowd manager for every 250 people.
4. You must be capable of distributing the evacuation plans to all tenants so they can share with their staff.

Fire Service Features (Chapter 5 NC Fire Code)

1. Rooms containing sprinkler risers, valves or fire detection equipment shall be identified.
2. Must have access to all fire protection equipment for firefighters. There can be no storage or trash obstructing the equipment.

Building Services (Chapter 6 NC Fire Code)

1. Electrical panels cannot be obstructed.
2. Doors into electrical rooms must be labeled as such.
3. Do not use multiplug adaptors.
4. You can use surge protectors, but they must be plugged directly into the wall, and can't be run under doors, through or over walls.
5. Extension cords cannot be used as a means of permanent wiring. You can use extension cords if they are the correct type and are in use no longer than 90 days.
6. Do not run appliances on extension cords.
7. Junction boxes must have covers on them once the wiring work is completed.
8. If spaces have a commercial stove, the hood must be serviced in accordance with the code.
9. Commercial hoods must be cleaned.
10. No flying splices in the wiring, even for temporary fixtures.



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Fire & Smoke Protection Chapter 7 (NC Fire Code)

1. Ceilings tiles must be put back in place in areas that have sprinkler coverage.
2. Fire Doors are not allowed to be blocked open and must operate correctly.
3. Signage needs to be placed on the fire doors telling people not to block them.
4. Fire doors must be tested yearly.

Interior Finish (Chapter 8 NC Fire Code)

1. Your interior finish must meet the following to be allowed to remain. For exit stairs and exit passageways it must be a minimum of a B rating. For corridors and rooms or spaces it must be a minimum of a C rating. This information can be found or obtained from the manufacturer.
2. When a natural tree dries up it must be removed from the building.
3. Combustible decorative material must not exceed 10% of a specific wall where they are attached.

Fire Protection (Chapter 9 NC Fire Code)

1. All fire protection systems must be maintained yearly, and paperwork provided to the inspector.
2. Any permanent object greater than 4' and that obstructs the sprinklers must have a head under it. If they use umbrellas in the displays close them at the end of the day.
3. Fire extinguishers must be inspected yearly by a qualified company. They also must be mounted in a visible location so that no one must travel more than 75' to have access to one.
4. Do not place items that will obstruct any pull station in the building.

Exits (Chapter 10 NC Fire Code)

1. Marked Exits must remain unlocked and unlocked.
2. Egress corridors must remain unblocked. The following was agreed upon with other inspectors to try and accommodate issues at time of the market. Storage can be in the egress corridors for no more than 3 days and a minimum width of 44" must be maintained at all times. Anything longer than 3 days will be considered an obstruction and must be moved.
3. Exit signs must be operational. You must be able to see an exit sign within 100' and it should take you to the closest marked exit.
4. Stairwells must always be illuminated.
5. All means of egress shall always be illuminated to a minimum of 1 foot candle.
6. There can be no storage or vendors set up in stairwells.
7. Floor surfaces shall be slip resistant and securely attached.
8. If the building has 2-way communication, it must be operational and tested yearly.
9. Exit doors must operate without the use of a key or special knowledge.
10. No manual operated bolt locks are allowed on marked exit doors.
11. Handrails need to be attached to the wall.



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12. Occupants must be able to get to an exit within 250' in a sprinklered building. Non sprinklered is 200'.
13. Exit discharges shall be unobstructed to a public way.
14. No decorations can obstruct exit signs.
15. Stair landings must be labeled.

This document was provided by the High Point Fire Department. If you have additional needs, questions or concerns outside of what is provided, you can reach out to the current High Point Fire Marshall.



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