

Wisconsin Fire Chiefs and Fire Inspectors-

This notice provides an update on the status of an emergency rule allowing required fire and electrical inspections to be delayed in the interest of slowing the spread of COVID-19. Emergency Rule EmR2015 was passed to prevent fire prevention and electrical inspectors from having to unnecessarily encounter individuals on multiple job sites. Specifically, the emergency rules temporarily revised s. SPS 314.01 to allow required fire prevention inspections to be postponed and s. SPS 316.013 to temporarily allow a master electrician to issue an affidavit to the utility company in lieu of an inspection. The rule was extended the maximum number of times as allowed by law. The expiration date of the rule is March 19, 2021. **There will be no further extensions of this emergency rule.**

Fire departments that have delayed inspections during this period should make plans to resume normal inspections after this date.

The department understands that we are in a period of transition where access may not be welcome or even possible due to owner/occupant policies either limiting or restricting access to buildings housing sensitive populations from a health standpoint or other buildings for reasons related to the pandemic. Fire departments that document why an inspection is not possible for a reason related to the pandemic will not be penalized with respect to fire dues audits or grants. However, the remainder of required inspections will be expected in proportion to the remaining months (9 out of 12 or ~75% of the normal inspections of inspectable properties/buildings).

Any questions you may have please consult your Fire Prevention Coordinator.

Thank you-

DSPS Fire Prevention Program