

## Rental Inspection Checklist

Dear Landlord,

To get a Head Start on the City's Rental Inspection Program, use this checklist to evaluate the condition of your rental property prior to a routine inspection. By using this guide, you may avoid a lengthy inspection and potentially costly re-inspection fees.

*Note:* While it is impossible to list every violation of the housing code that may occur, this list contains violations that are commonly found during routine inspections. If a question is answered with a NO response, a code violation is likely to be present.

### Helpful Definitions:

Egress: The free and unobstructed access to the exterior of a habitable space.

Habitable Space: Space in the structure used for living, sleeping, eating or cooking. (Bathrooms, toilet rooms, closets, halls, storage or utility spaces, and similar areas are not considered habitable spaces.)

Infestation: The presence, within or contiguous to, a structure or premises of insects, rats, vermin or other pests.

### Exterior of Home

### What the Inspector will examine

YES   NO

- |                          |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are the street numbers visible from the road? (3-inches high & ½-in stroke)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Is the siding and paint in good condition?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are the garage/outbuildings structurally sound and in safe condition?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are the steps, decks, and landings safe to use?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Handrails present for all steps with four (4) or more risers? (Not less than 30-inches or more than 42-inches high above the nosing of the treads) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are there guardrails present for all open porches, decks, and landings higher than 30-inches above grade?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Is garbage properly stored?  |

YES   NO

- Is the yard free from rubbish, or junk?
- Is the yard free from noxious weeds? Is yard vegetation (grass) under 10-inches in height?
- Is the house foundation free from holes, large cracks and openings?
- Is the house siding free of excessive peeling paint or rot and decay?
- Is the house roof weather tight?
- Are rain gutters, downspouts, and laterals in good condition?

**Throughout the House**

*Windows*

- Are all windows free from cracked or broken panes?
- All windows have latching hardware?
- All window glazing in good condition?
- All operable windows have screens? (nor rips, tears, or holes)
- All window frames, sashes and sills in good condition and weatherproof?
- All operable windows operate freely and capable of being held in position by hardware?

*Doors*

- All exterior doors have locks?
- Screen and storm doors in safe condition, with adequate hardware?
- In a multi-family unit, do the fire doors (if required) self-close to latching?

*Surface Coverings*

YES    NO

- Are *all* the walls and ceilings free from peeling paint and / or loose plaster?
- Are *all* the interior surfaces maintained in a safe sanitary condition?
- Are the floor coverings free of tripping hazards and capable of being cleaned?

*Electrical System*

- Are *all* the electrical equipment, wiring and appliances installed properly and maintained in a safe and approved manner?
- Are all cover plates for outlet, switches, and junction boxes in place?
- Does every habitable space in the home have at least two separate and remote receptacle outlets?
- Is the dwelling served by a main service that is not less than 60 amperes, three wires?
- Is the electrical system free of hazards?
- Does the laundry area contain at least one grounded-type receptacle or GFCI-outlet?
- Are all receptacles (within 3' of a water sources) of the GFCI-Type?
- Does the bathroom contain at least on receptacle?
- Is there a light fixture present for every public hall, interior stairway, toilet room, kitchen, bathroom, laundry room, and heat-plant room?
- Are drop cords being used properly by the tenants?

*Heating System*

YES    NO

- Is the heating system capable of maintaining a room temperature of 65 degrees F. in *all* habitable rooms, bathrooms and toilet rooms, based on a winter outdoor design temperature of minus 3 degrees F.?
- Are all mechanical equipment, fireplaces and solid field-burning appliances installed properly and maintained in a safe working condition?
- Are all fuel-burning heating equipment connected to an approved chimney or vent?
- Does the fuel-burning equipment have a reliable source of combustion air?
- Fuel-burning equipment has been inspected and Heat Source Form has been filled out by a recognized heating contractor?

*Plumbing System*

- Does the dwelling contain a bathtub or shower, lavatory, water closet and kitchen sink that is maintained in a safe working condition and free of leaks?
- Are all the plumbing fixtures maintain in a safe and functional condition and free of leaks?
- Are the plumbing fixtures connected to a public water system or an approved private water system?
- Is the water heating equipment properly installed and equipped with a temperature and pressure relief valve and relief valve discharge pipe?
- Are all the plumbing fixtures properly connected to an approved public or private sewer system?
- Does all the plumbing stacks, vents, waste and sewer lines function properly and are free of obstructions, leaks and defects?

*Light, Ventilation, and Occupancy Limitations*

YES    NO

- Does the dwelling have an operable carbon monoxide detector?
- Does every habitable space have at least one operable window that faces directly to the outdoors?
- Does the bathroom or toilet room have either an operable window or a mechanical means of ventilation?
- Is the clothes dryer properly vented?
- Does every habitable room, except the kitchen, have a plan dimension of not less than seven (7) feet?
- Is the kitchen or non-habitable spaces used for their intended purposes?
- Does the dwelling meet the space needs of the occupants?

*Fire Safety*

- Are smoke detectors located on each floor of the dwelling, including the basement?
- Are smoke detectors located within or immediately adjacent to all bedrooms?
- Do all smoke alarms function properly?
- If you have a fire extinguisher present, is it accessible and in working condition?
- Does every sleeping room/bedroom have at least one operable window that meets emergency egress/rescue standards?
- Are hallways, exit doors, egress windows, and stairways unobstructed and clear of rubbish or stored materials?

\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Is there a 3-foot clearance around any heating appliance or other source of ignition within the home? (Not including cooking stoves)

*Other General Requirements*

YES   NO

\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Handrails present for all steps within four (4) or more risers? (Not less than 30-inches or more than 42-inches high above the nosing of the treads)

\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Is the residence free from insect and rodent infestation? (Note: the landlord *will* be responsible for extermination prior to renting or leasing the structure. In one-family residences or non residential structures, the occupant will be responsible for the extermination. In multiple occupancies, the owner will be responsible for extermination in public or shared areas of the structure. If the occupant is responsible for the infestation, they will be responsible for the extermination in the occupied space.