

Fire Alarm or Automatic Sprinkler Systems Out of Service Policy

When the fire alarm is out of service for more than 4 hours in a 24 hour period (Life Safety Code 9.6.1.6) or the automatic sprinkler systems is out of service for more than 10 hours in a 24 hour period (NFPA 25 15.5.2) the following measures must be taken to ensure resident and patient safety.

___ Facility staff must be immediately notified as to the location of the affected area.

___ The local fire department must be notified.

___ The South Dakota Department of Health must be notified by transmitting a facsimile to 773.6667. Information required: facility name, date, time of shutdown, area affected, and anticipated time back in service.

___ A fire watch shall be provided for all parties left unprotected by the shutdown until the fire alarm system has been returned to service.

A fire watch must include but is not limited to:

- Staff must walk affected areas hourly. (This staff person should be someone other than normal staff).
- Staff person must be knowledgeable in the use of fire extinguishers, fire department notification, and fire alarm system activation.