 ***Clarkston Fire Department***

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 PREVENTION • SUPPRESSION • EMERGENCY • MEDICAL RESCUE

**FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY FIRE INSPECTION FOR CHILD DAY CARES**

**1. General Fire Prevention & Building Maintenance**

* **Storage of Combustible Materials**
  + IFC 304.1: Combustible materials must not be stored in or near exit corridors or stairways.
  + **Violation:** Combustible materials (e.g., paper, cleaning supplies) stored improperly.
* **Electrical Systems**
  + IFC 605.1: Electrical systems must be properly maintained, with no exposed or frayed wiring.
  + **Violation:** Exposed or faulty electrical wiring found in daycare areas.
* **Heating Systems**
  + IFC 603.1: Heating equipment must be maintained in safe condition and inspected regularly.
  + **Violation:** Space heaters or heating equipment improperly used in daycare rooms or near children.
* **Fire Hazards in Kitchens**
  + IFC 603.2: Commercial kitchen hoods and fire suppression systems must be maintained in operational condition.
  + **Violation:** Lack of fire suppression systems in daycare kitchen or failure to maintain them.

**2. Fire Detection & Alarm Systems**

* **Smoke Detectors & Fire Alarms**
  + IFC 907.2.1: Smoke detectors required in every room, hallway, and common area of the daycare.
  + **Violation:** Smoke detectors missing or inoperable.
* **Audible Alarm Notification**
  + IFC 907.5.2.1: Fire alarms must be audible throughout the daycare.
  + **Violation:** Alarm system not loud enough to be heard in all rooms or areas, particularly in large daycare facilities.
* **Carbon Monoxide Detectors**
  + IFC 915.1: Carbon monoxide detectors are required if the building has fuel-burning appliances.
  + **Violation:** Absence of carbon monoxide detectors in facilities with heating systems or gas-powered appliances.

**3. Exits & Evacuation Routes**

* **Exit Access and Exit Doors**
  + IFC 1010.1.1: Exit doors must not be locked or blocked and must open easily.
  + **Violation:** Exit doors are locked, blocked, or difficult to open.
* **Exit Signs & Emergency Lighting**
  + IFC 1013.1: Exit signs must be illuminated and clearly visible, and emergency lighting must function during power loss.
  + **Violation:** Non-functional or missing exit signs and emergency lighting.
* **Clear Evacuation Routes**
  + IFC 1003.6: Evacuation routes (hallways, corridors) must remain clear of obstructions.
  + **Violation:** Hallways or exit routes are blocked by toys, furniture, or other items.

**4. Fire Protection Equipment**

* **Fire Extinguishers**
  + IFC 906.1: Portable fire extinguishers must be provided in accessible locations, and staff must be trained in their use.
  + **Violation:** Fire extinguishers not present, or inaccessible due to obstructions.
* **Fire Sprinklers (If Applicable)**
  + IFC 903.2: Fire sprinkler systems must be installed and maintained in certain buildings.
  + **Violation:** Lack of fire sprinkler systems if required, or sprinkler heads obstructed by furniture.

**5. Fire Drills & Staff Training**

* **Fire Drills**
  + IFC 404.1: Fire drills must be conducted regularly (at least once per month in daycare centers).
  + **Violation:** Fire drills not conducted or improperly documented.
* **Staff Fire Safety Training**
  + IFC 404.2: Staff must be trained in fire safety, evacuation plans, and the use of fire extinguishers.
  + **Violation:** Staff not properly trained in fire safety procedures or fire drills.

**6. Housekeeping & Maintenance**

* **Clutter-Free Environment**
  + IFC 304.3: Areas around exits, fire protection equipment, and stairways must be free from clutter and obstructions.
  + **Violation:** Clutter blocking access to fire exits, extinguishers, or fire alarm panels.
* **Flammable Liquids & Hazardous Materials**
  + IFC 3401.1: Flammable liquids or hazardous materials must be stored and labeled correctly.
  + **Violation:** Improper storage of cleaning supplies, chemicals, or flammable materials.

**7. Fire Safety Signage**

* **Emergency Signage & Markings**
  + IFC 1011.1: Signage indicating emergency evacuation routes, exit doors, and assembly points must be posted.
  + **Violation:** Missing or illegible emergency exit signage or inadequate fire safety signage.
* **No Smoking Signs**
  + IFC 310.1: No smoking signs must be posted where applicable.
  + **Violation:** Lack of "No Smoking" signs in areas where smoking is prohibited.

**8. Special Safety Measures for Child Daycare**

* **Window Bars & Security Devices**
  + IFC 1030.5: Bars or security devices on windows must allow for quick and easy egress in case of emergency.
  + **Violation:** Window bars or security devices that prevent quick exit or create a safety hazard.
* **Child-Safe Fire Prevention Measures**
  + IFC 404.3: Ensure that all fire safety equipment is child-safe and not accessible to children.
  + **Violation:** Fire extinguishers or alarms accessible to children.

**Documentation & Records**

* **Inspection and Maintenance Logs**
  + IFC 604.2: Maintain records of fire safety inspections and maintenance (e.g., fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, alarms).
  + **Violation:** Lack of up-to-date inspection logs or maintenance records.
* **Fire Drill & Staff Training Records**
  + IFC 404.1: Keep documentation of fire drills and staff training.
  + **Violation:** Missing records for fire drills or staff training.

**Conclusion:**

This checklist should be used in conjunction with local fire codes and regulations. The International Fire Code provides guidelines to minimize fire hazards and ensure a safe environment, especially in high-risk areas like daycare centers. Any violations identified must be corrected immediately to ensure the safety of children and staff. Be sure to work closely with local fire authorities for specific regulations and inspection requirements.