

# Terms and explanations

## What is a fire hydrant?

There are two types of fire hydrants in Strathcona County; municipal hydrants (yellow) and private hydrants (red).



In the winter months, please ensure snow and ice are cleared from around a fire hydrant on your property.

## What is a fire department connection (FDC)?

It's where SCES would attach firefighting hoses to support your sprinkler system. The red one is called a Siamese connection and the silver one is a Storz connection.



or



## What is a lock box?

It is a secured box mounted to your building that holds keys to the sprinkler system, maintenance area and/or elevator. Contact Expert Lock Services in Sherwood Park if interested in purchasing one. SCES will lock your access key into this box.



## What are the FDC sign details?

Fire department connections should be identified by a permanent approved sign which must have the letters "FDC" at least 15 cm (6") high with 2.5 cm (1") stroke in white text on a red background.

The sign must be 46 cm x 30 cm (18" x 12") and must be made of rust-free aluminum. The sign should be mounted no lower than 2.5 m (8 feet).



→ 6 mm (1/4") mounting hole on each corner

→ 15cm (6") tall with 2.5 cm (1") stroke (letter thickness)

→ 9 cm (3.5") tall with 2.5 cm (1") stroke (arrow thickness)

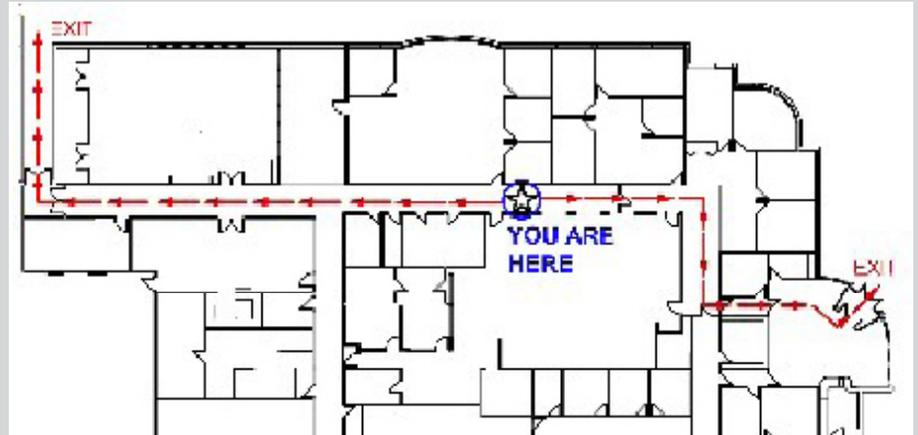
## What is an emergency procedures evacuation plan

Procedures on how staff and occupants should respond if discovering a fire, hearing the smoke alarm and in the event you cannot exit the building needs to be documented. For a generic fire safety plan template, please call the Fire Prevention and Investigation branch.

### EXAMPLE:

In the event of emergency:

1. Sound the alarm.
2. Phone 9-1-1 (ask for Strathcona County fire)
3. Staff instruct occupants to leave the premise and meet in the identified muster area.
4. Evacuate occupants, keeping in mind provisions for those with special needs and/or requiring assistance.
5. If the individual is trained in the use of a fire extinguisher, attempt to extinguish the fire ONLY if it is small and not between you and the exit. If one extinguisher does not control the fire, leave the area immediately.
6. For larger fires or smoke conditions, get out and close the doors behind you to contain fire and smoke spread.



Sample of an evacuation map

## What is a fire extinguisher?

Remember to tip back and forth your fire extinguisher every month to ensure the contents do not settle and solidify at the bottom of the extinguisher.



## What is a fire alarm?

A fire alarm system is different than a smoke alarm in your home.

A fire alarm system monitors smoke detectors, heat detectors, sprinkler flow switches and fire pull stations. When one of these are activated, a signal is sent to the monitoring agency who then call SCES.

If a fire alarm system has been installed, but it does not monitor in the event of activation, post a sign at each annual signaling box, indicating that 9-1-1 needs to be called.



### Dial 9-1-1 in an emergency.

The address here is:

The phone number is:

Do not hang up the phone until instructed to do so by the Emergency Communications Operator.



## Fire/smoke control

(referencing points 3 and 4) Any door that has self-closing hardware that allows the door to latch on its own cannot be blocked open.

## What is an exit door?

(referencing point 1) A door that has an exit sign over it must always be unobstructed. Nothing can be in front of it.

## Electrical

(referencing point 3) Ensure that the breaker box, junction box, electrical switches and plug ins all have the manufacturer's cover on them.

## Heating appliances

(referencing point 2) Ensure that the proper manufacturer's covers are in place and that the furnace and hot water tank are not obstructed. Do not store anything around these appliances as IT is a fire hazard.



**STRATHCONA  
COUNTY**

**For more information**  
Strathcona County Emergency Services  
Fire Prevention and Investigation branch  
780-449-9651

fireprev@strathcona.ca | www.strathcona.ca/sces