Sterling Fire Protection

Inspection and testing schedule for Alberta owners

How often each fire protection system is inspected under NFC(AE) 2023, the standard each task follows and who may do the work.

CODE EDITION
NFC(AE) 2023, NFPA 25-2017, CAN/ULC-S536:2019

REVIEWED
November 11, 2026

How often water-based systems and alarms are inspected

System and standard	Typical frequencies	Who may do the work
Sprinkler systems (NFPA 25-2017)	Sealed control valves weekly. Wet-system gauges quarterly. Vane-type flow alarms semiannually. Heads and piping visual check annually. Internal pipe assessment every 5 years.	Journeyperson sprinkler installer, or approved NFPA 25 certificate holder (no repairs).
Fire pumps (NFPA 25-2017)	Weekly pump room check. No-flow run weekly (diesel) or weekly or monthly (electric). Annual flow test.	As for sprinklers.
Fire alarm and voice communication (CAN/ULC-S536:2019)	Daily and monthly checks. Annual test of the whole system.	Approved post-secondary certificate or current CFAA Fire Alarm Technician.

Headline tasks only. NFPA 25 has its own tables with longer intervals.

How often the other systems are inspected

System and standard	Typical frequencies	Who may do the work
Portable extinguishers (NFPA 10-2013)	Monthly inspection. Annual maintenance.	Monthly by owner or staff. Servicing by a certified technician.
Kitchen and special hazard suppression (for example NFPA 17A-2017)	Set by that standard.	Post-secondary or manufacturer certificate.
Emergency lighting and exit signs (NFC(AE) 2023)	Monthly function test. Full-duration test yearly.	No certificate named in the code.
Emergency generators (CSA C282-15)	Weekly and monthly checks. Fresh fuel at least every 12 months.	Manufacturer-trained technician.
Fire-line backflow assembly, Edmonton (EPCOR, Bylaw 19626)	Annual test, reported within 5 business days.	EPCOR-registered certified tester.

Headline tasks only. Standpipes and private hydrants follow the NFPA 25-2017 task tables. High buildings test fire emergency systems at least every 3 months (Part 7).

Records and reports

- Keep every inspection record at the premises for at least five years (Division C, 2.2.1.2). Verification and acceptance test reports are kept for the life of the system.
- Since September 8, 2026, Edmonton Fire Rescue Services has required third-party reports to go through its Life Safety Inspection Vault (LIV), and expects them within 14 days of the inspection.

Checks your own staff may do once trained

- [ ] Daily and monthly fire alarm checks under CAN/ULC-S536, after training (Division C, 2.2.4.3).
- [ ] Monthly extinguisher inspections (2.2.4.2), with tag entries handwritten.
- [ ] Weekly and monthly generator checks, after training (2.2.4.7).
- [ ] Monthly emergency light and exit sign tests (Division B, 6.5.1.6 and 6.5.1.8).

Sources

1. National Fire Code 2023 Alberta Edition, National Research Council Canada
   https://nrc-publications.canada.ca/eng/view/object/?id=6c3e5cf6-8891-40e0-8b37-a78665c23f27
2. Fire Inspection Report Submission, City of Edmonton
   https://www.edmonton.ca/programs_services/fire_rescue/fire-inspection-report-submission