



Newton Commercial Business / Property Inspection Newsletter

October 2021

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Program

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Important Documents/Links

[Registration Form](#)

[Business Checklist Form](#)

[Payment Center](#)

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New Program End of Third Quarter Updates

The City of Newton Commercial Property/Business Inspection program started January 1, 2021. The program was developed to ensure the health and safety of Newton's citizens and visitors. Newton City Council has established a goal of improving curb appeal within the community, providing information on the program and to provide health and safety information to business owners. Another goal of the newsletter is to address common questions and provide information to assist business and property owners in achieving compliance with the program. As of October 15, 2021, there are 211 registrations and 193 inspections have been completed. All commercial business properties north of 1st Ave are to be inspected in 2021. There are 269 commercial/business properties in the 2021 inspection program. Businesses south of 1st Ave will be inspected in 2022.

Check Your Batteries



The most common issue that is our inspectors are finding is that batteries are missing or no longer working in the EXIT sign. Our inspector is looking to see that the exit sign is installed and maintained. This means that it is in an appropriate place and that it illuminates with battery backup. We recommend following the National Safety Regulations that require exit signs and emergency lights are tested for functionality once every 28 days for 5 minutes and 90 minutes every six months. If you need to purchase a new exit sign or emergency lights there are several online options, as well as a couple companies that are located in Des Moines, Iowa. You can locate information about these companies on the Newton Website/Fire Marshal/Links/Fire Equipment Services.

SW Quadrant Registrations Due 12/31/2021

Businesses in the southwest area of the City (south of 1st Ave and W of 1st St N) are required to be registered by December 31, 2021. Businesses can register by completing the online form on the Newton website under Commercial Inspection Program or they can stop by the fire station and fill out a registration form.

Knox Box Program

We understand that sometimes you are not able to be present at your business or residence. The Knox Box program helps reduce delays in providing emergency assistance, improve access to buildings and result in savings by eliminating property damage from Fire Department forced entry. Only the Fire Department has the key to access Knox boxes in Newton. Also, all new construction is required to have a Knox Box. You can find more information in the Fire Marshal section of the Newton website. Questions regarding the Knox box program can be directed to Fire Chief Jarrod Wellik.

Meet Our Inspector – Jason VanAusdall



Jason, owner of Iowa Inspections, LLC was contracted through the City of Newton Fire Department to perform the commercial inspections. Iowa Inspections, LLC has been in business since 2011 and Jason has more than 10 years' experience inspecting residential and commercial properties. Iowa Inspections is also the inspector for our residential properties.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING COMMERCIAL BUSINESS/PROPERTY INSPECTION PROGRAM

Quadrant:	Annual Registration Renewal Deadline:
Northwest	March 31
Northeast	June 30
Southeast	September 30
Southwest	December 31

All properties north of 1st Ave
– Inspected in 2021
All properties south of 1st Ave
– Inspected in 2022

Newton Fire Department
410 S 2nd Ave W
Newton, IA 50208