



**EAST LAKE TARPON
SPECIAL FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**
3375 Tarpon Lake Blvd.
Palm Harbor, FL 34685
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www.elfr.org

**BOARD OF
FIRE COMMISSIONERS**
Randy Burr
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Notice of Fire Inspection Changes Due to COVID-19

Dear Business Owner/Occupant:

The East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District is committed to the safety and health of our local businesses and their customers; citizens of the district; and our firefighters during the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, effective May 15, 2020, the East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District will implement a self-inspection/virtual inspection program of periodic fire inspections for all business locations to reduce COVID-19 exposures until further notice. These periodic inspections may take the form of a self-inspection or a virtual inspection by fire prevention personnel.

Self-inspections: Are suitable for low risk/low occupancy locations and are usually performed by the business owner or occupant by following our Self-Fire Inspection Form. Once the form is completed, the results are provided to the East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District via email for review and approval. Examples of this type of occupancy include personal service shops, professional offices, small retail occupancies, and small apartment complexes with three or more units

Virtual Inspections: Will be conducted for businesses with relatively higher risks or hazards and are performed during the business day. These inspections are performed quickly and efficiently with the assistance of Video Call/Facetime technology or photos, resulting in minimal disruption of business operations and reduced COVID-19 exposures. Any deficiencies noted during the inspection process are communicated to the owner and will result in a re-inspection once all Florida Fire Prevention Code violations have been resolved. Examples of this type of occupancy include required annual fire inspections through Florida State Statute such as but not limited to schools, medical facilities, fuel storage facilities, and daycare facilities.

Under this new program, business owners or tenants will not be charged a fee for either type of inspection to help support the East Lake community during these times of uncertainty with the COVID-19 pandemic.

As always, if you have any questions or need help with your self-inspection/virtual inspection, the Fire Prevention Division is available to answer questions. You may reach us at 727.784.8668 extension 205. The completed self-inspection form can be submitted to Lieutenant Jason Letzring at jletzring@elfr.org or printed and dropped off at 3375 Tarpon Lake Blvd Palm Harbor, FL 34685. With your support and cooperation, we can make East Lake a safer community for all of us, with less COVID-19 exposures and inconvenience for everyone.

Thank you all for your understanding and cooperation.