

**MINNEAPOLIS FIRE DEPARTMENT  
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU POLICY #2-1  
DAYCARE & FOSTER CARE REQUIREMENTS**

Original Issue 10-16-2000

Last Revision 2-4-08

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1. A class 2A-10BC portable FIRE EXTINGUISHER is to be located in the kitchen. The top of the extinguisher is to be mounted between three (3) and five (5) feet above the floor and is to be visible and accessible. (MSFC 906.1)

2. SMOKE DETECTORS must be installed in the corridor or area that gives access to sleeping rooms. The detectors are to be located within 15 feet of the door to the sleeping room and are to be installed near the bottom of stairways at each floor in multi-level buildings and on the ceiling at the top of the stairs of the top floor. The detectors are to be mounted on the ceiling at least four (4) inches from walls or wall mounted four (4) to 12 inches from the top of the detector to the ceiling. Smoke detectors may be battery powered, (exception: detectors are to be hardwired when more than \$1,000 worth of remodeling is done to the house).

Note: See page #3 for additional smoke detector requirements for foster care homes.  
( MSFC 907.3.6)

3. ESCAPE WINDOWS: One escape window or door that opens to the exterior is to be provided in every room that is used for sleeping purposes.

Houses built prior to 4-11-1983: Windows are to open to a clear, unobstructed opening that meets the following minimum criteria. 24 inches high, 20 inches wide and a total area of 720 sq. inches (5.0 sq. ft.), the sill height is not to be more than 48 inches above the floor.

Houses built after 4-11-83: Windows are to open to a clear, unobstructed opening that meets the following minimum criteria. 24 inches high, 20 inches wide and a total area of 820 sq. inches (5.7 sq. ft.), the sill height is not to be more than 44 inches above the floor.

Note: 24 x 20 inches = 480 sq. inches (3.33 sq. ft.)  
(MSFC 1026)

Refer to sheets 4 & 5 for acceptable window wells when the sills of escape windows are below grade and see sheets 6 & 7 for escape window diagrams.

4. Attached GARAGES are to be SEPERATED from the house by one (1) hour fire rated construction. Doors in the separation wall are to be one (1) hour rated, 1 3/8 inch insulated steel or 1 3/4 inch solid wood door. The doors are to be self-closing and latch in the closed position. (MSFC 705.2)

5. Daycare and foster care facilities that are located in MIXED USE BUILDINGS (e.g. commercial / daycare) must be separated from the other uses by fire rated occupancy separations of a proper rating in accordance with the Minnesota State Building Code. (MSFC 705.2)

6. FUELED EQUIPMENT (lawnmowers etc.) are not to be stored in the house (MSFC 3404.3.4.2). FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS are not to be stored in basements (MSFC 3404.3.5.1).FLAMMABLE & COMBUSTILBE LIQUIDS may only be stored in the amount that is needed for normal maintenance. (MSFC 3404.3.4.2)

7. General HOUSEKEEPING is to be within reasonable limits, no excessive trash etc. (MSFC 304.1)

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8. The **BUILDING ADDRESS** is to be posted on the front of the building in four(4) inch high letters and on the rear of the building or auxiliary building in two (2) inch high letters when the buildings are accessible by an alley.  
(MSFC 505.1)
9. **EXTENSION CORDS** shall not be used in place of permanent wiring. Listed power taps are permitted when they are grounded or polarized and protected by overcurrent protection. (MSFC 605.5)
10. A three (3) foot clearance is to be maintained around **FURNACES, WATER HEATERS and ELECTRICAL PANELS**. (MSFC 603.1.7)
11. A one (1) foot clearance or the recommended distance listed on the appliance, which ever is greater, is to be maintained around **RADIANT HEAT APPLIANCES**. (MSFC 603.5)
12. **GUARDRAILS** are required to protect floor openings, glazed sides of stairways, landings, ramps, balconies and porches that are more than 30 inches above grade or the floor below. (MSFC 1027.6)
13. **HANDRAILS** are required on at least one (1) side of each stairway. (MSFC 1027.13)

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**THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO FOSTER CARE ONLY**

**1. FACILITIES WITH THREE (3) OR LESS PERSONS IN FOSTER CARE.**

- a. Houses built prior to 8-1-89: Smoke detectors may be battery powered or hardwired with battery backup. The detectors are not required to be interconnected. New bedrooms that are added to these houses may have battery powered smoke detectors.
- b. Houses built between 8-1-89 and 6-29-98: Smoke detectors are to be hardwired, powered by an unswitched circuit of the building's electrical service. The detectors are not required to be interconnected. New bedrooms that are added to the house are to have smoke detectors that are hardwired and have battery backup.
- c. Houses built after 6-29-98: Smoke detectors are to be hardwired, powered by an unswitched circuit of the building's electrical service and are to have battery backup. The detectors are to be interconnected so that the activation of one (1) detector causes all detectors to sound an alarm. Detectors are to be located on each level of the house, in each room used for sleeping purposes and within 15 feet of sleeping room doors in corridors or areas that provide access to sleeping rooms.

**2. FACILITIES WITH FOUR (4) OR MORE PERSONS IN FOSTER CARE.**

Smoke detectors are to be hardwired, powered by an unswitched circuit of the building's electric service and are to have battery backup. The detectors are to be interconnected so that the activation of one (1) detector causes all detectors to sound an alarm. Detectors are to be located on each level of the house, in each room used for sleeping purposes and within 15 feet of sleeping room doors in corridors or areas that provide access to sleeping rooms.

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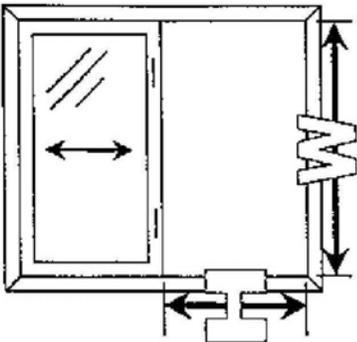
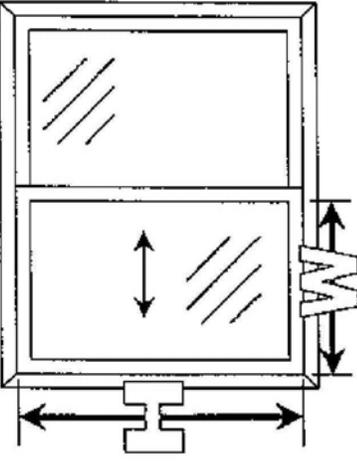
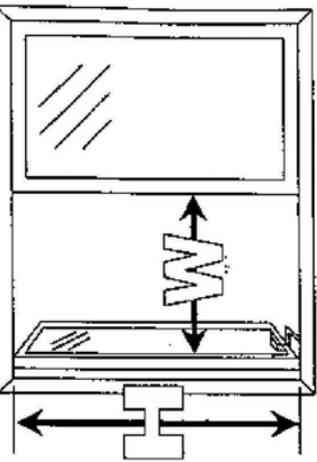
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**Egress Window Worksheet for Windows Installed Before April 11, 1983**

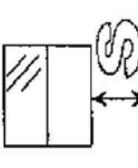
1) Check Window Height and Width

 <p><b>DOUBLE HUNG</b></p>	 <p><b>SLIDING</b></p>	 <p><b>CASEMENT</b></p>
<p>Is the clear openable height, <b>H</b> at least 24 inches? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Is the clear openable width, <b>W</b> at least 20 inches? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>		

2) Check Window Opening Area (fill in the three blanks)

 <p><b>H</b> _____ (inches) Openable height (inches)</p>	<p><b>X</b></p>	 <p><b>W</b> _____ (inches) Openable width (inches)</p>	<p><b>=</b></p>	 <p><b>A</b> _____ (square inches) Openable area (square inches)</p>
<p>Is the clear openable area, <b>A</b> at least 720 square inches? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>				

3) Check the distance from the floor to the bottom of opening

<p>Is the distance, <b>S</b> from the floor to the finished sill (bottom of opening) 48 inches or less? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
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If you answered yes to all questions then the window should comply with the 1997 Minnesota Uniform Fire Code.

For assistance: CALL MOBILE COMMAND VAN AT (612) 370-3830

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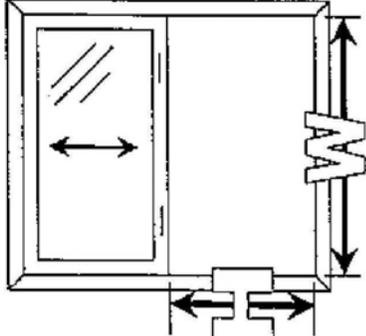
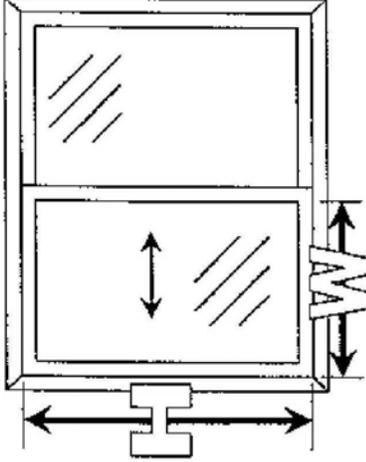
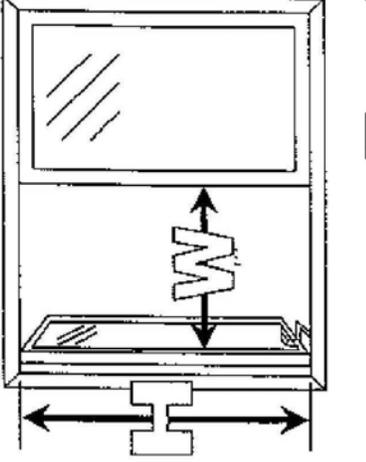
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**Egress Window Worksheet for Windows Installed On or after April 11, 1983**

1) Check Window Height and Width

 <p><b>DOUBLE HUNG</b></p>	 <p><b>SLIDING</b></p>	 <p><b>CASEMENT</b></p>
<p>Is the clear openable height, <b>H</b> at least 24 inches?</p>	<p>Is the clear openable width, <b>W</b> at least 20 inches?</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>

2) Check Window Opening Area (fill in the three blanks)

$$H \text{ (Openable height in inches)} \times W \text{ (Openable width in inches)} = A \text{ (Openable area in square inches)}$$

Is the clear openable area, **A** at least 820 square inches? Yes  No

3) Check the distance from the floor to the bottom of opening

Is the distance, **S** from the floor to the finished sill (bottom of opening) 44 inches or less? Yes  No

If you answered yes to all questions then the window should comply with the 1997 Minnesota Uniform Fire Code.  
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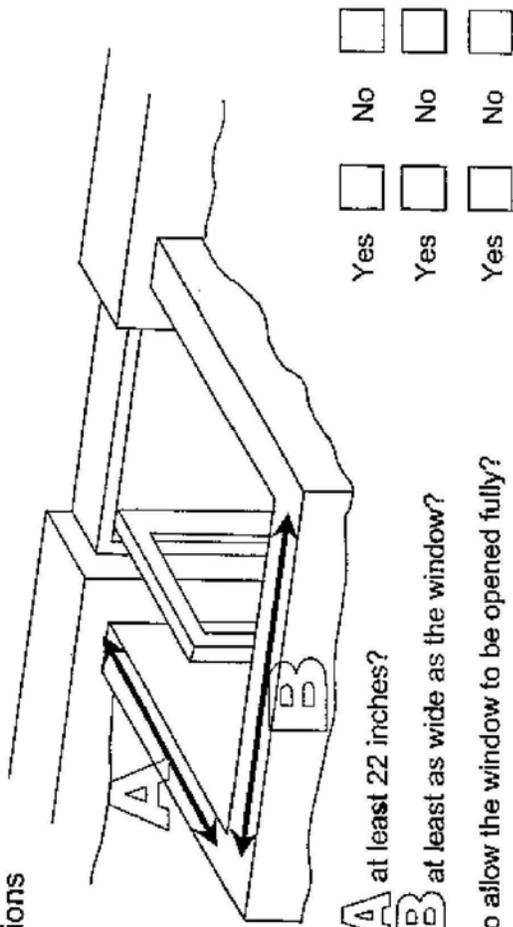
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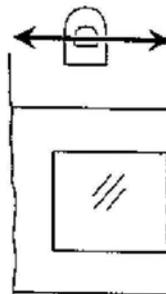
**Window Well Worksheet When Installed** Before June 29, 1998

1) Check Window Well Dimensions



2) Check the vertical depth of the window well

If the distance, **D** from the bottom of the well to the top at grade is more than 44 inches, a ladder is required. If a ladder is required, is one provided?



Yes  No

If you answered yes to all questions then the window should comply with the 1997 Minnesota Uniform Fire Code  
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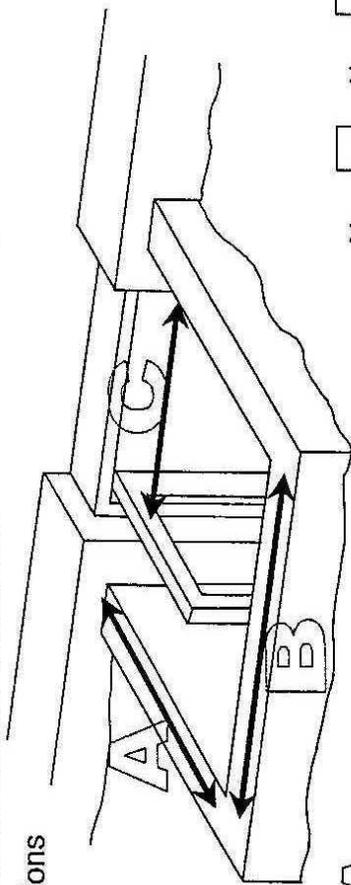
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**Window Well Worksheet When Installed** On or after June 29, 1998

1) Check Window Well Dimensions



- Is the clear horizontal distance, **A** at least 36 inches?      Yes  No
- Is the clear horizontal distance, **B** at least 36 inches?      Yes  No
- Is the clear horizontal distance, **C** with the window open at least 30 inches?      Yes  No

2) Check Window Well Opening Area (fill in the three blanks)

**A** \_\_\_\_\_ X **C** \_\_\_\_\_ = **Area** \_\_\_\_\_

Horizontal distance (inches)      Horizontal distance (inches)      Net horizontal opening (square inches)

Is the clear openable area, **Area** at least 1,080 square inches?      Yes  No

3) Check the vertical depth of the window well

If the distance, **D** from the bottom of the well to the top at grade is more than 44 inches, a ladder is required. If a ladder is required, is one provided?      Yes  No

The diagram shows a top-down view of a window well. Dimension D is the vertical depth from the bottom of the well to the top at grade level.

If you answered yes to all questions then the window should comply with the 1997 Minnesota Uniform Fire Code

For assistance: CALL MOBILE COMMAND VAN AT (612)370-3830