



FAQS – Providence Fire Department**1. How far can I burn or have a fire pit from properties?**

Found in our Providence, RI Code of Ordinances, Section 9-10 and RI Fire Code. No person shall burn any refuse, rubbish or waste material. Burning of clean-cut firewood, or other clean burning fuel for personal enjoyment, is permitted in a safe, covered receptacle. Special event burning such as water fire shall be permitted by permit. Open, recreational, and cooking fires shall be constantly attended by a competent person until such fire is extinguished. This person shall have a garden hose connected to the water supply or other fire extinguishing equipment readily available for use.

2. How can I pull a permit?

All information regarding Commercial, Fire Alarm, Sprinkler/Other Fire Suppressions, Smoke/Co Alarm and Tent Permits can be located on our Providence Fire Department website at:

<https://pfd.providenceri.gov/permits/>

All information regarding Dumpster and Pod Permits can be found on our City website:

<https://providenceri.portal.opengov.com/categories/1078/record-types/6444>

3. How do I dispose of needles?

The Providence Fire Department does not accept disposal of needles. Please contact 311 with details of any abandoned Providence site with multiple needles on the ground for more information.

For personal disposal please follow the instructions from the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation:

Preparation: Put needles, lancets and needle pens into a “sharps” container immediately after use. Do not try to remove, bend, break, or recap needles. If you do not have a sharps container, put them into a puncture-proof plastic bleach, detergent, or coffee container, tape shut, and label "SHARPS." Do NOT use a glass container, soda can, juice bottle, or milk container for sharps.

Trash: If none of the above is an option, this item is safe for disposal in your regular trash. Put your properly prepared sharps container (as described above) in the center of a full, preferably dark trash bag, and put the bag out in the regular trash.

Below is the link for more information regarding needle disposal:
<https://atoz.rirrc.org/items/sharps>.

4. Does PFD donate fire extinguishers? Does PFD accept extinguishers? Does PFD refill extinguishers? Where can I purchase a fire extinguisher? How can I dispose the extinguisher?

The Providence Fire Department does not donate, refill, or accept fire extinguishers. If you are looking to purchase a fire extinguisher for your home, you can purchase it at any hardware store. If you are looking to purchase a fire extinguisher for a Residential building the fire extinguisher must be purchased through a fire extinguisher company. The Providence Fire Department does not accept disposal of extinguishers. Please call the company labeled on the extinguisher for disposal information.

5. How can I book a public education event? Is there a fee?

To book a public education event please fill out our event request form. We ask that forms be submitted 3-4 weeks prior to the event date. There are no fees for public education events. Below is the link to Providence Fire Department’s event request form:

<https://pfd.providenceri.gov/fire-safety-education-request/>

6. Who can get Smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors? What is the quantity given? How do you get them?

Our Smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors program’s goal is to facilitate low income families with detectors for their primary residence. Each Providence Resident will receive two (2) Smoke Detectors and one (1) Carbon Monoxide Detector for their home. (Limit of one request per household.) The detectors can be obtained at the Fire Prevention Bureau

and a form must be completed prior to receiving the detectors. The Fire Prevention Bureau is located at Providence Safety Complex, 325 Washington Street, 3rd Floor, Providence RI, 02903.

7. How do I book a Smoke/Co Inspection?

Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Inspections are booked through our Providence Fire Department website. This gives you the opportunity to select the date and time that works best for you. It also gives you the option of paying online or in person.

The link to make an appointment can be found below:

<https://e.providenceri.gov/smoke-inspections/>

8. I need help with Smoke/Carbon placement:

The Providence Fire Department is working in updating a new placement guide. In the meantime, please refer to the guide by the State Fire Marshal's office located in the links below:

<https://fire-marshal.ri.gov/sites/g/files/xkgbur726/files/documents/safety/alarms.pdf>

<https://fire-marshal.ri.gov/media/66/download?language=en>

9. How can I request a fire report?

Fire Reports are requested through APRA (Public Records Request Procedures Under the **Access to Public Records Act**).

Below is the link to request a report:

<https://providenceri.nextrequest.com/>

Please follow these steps:

- Click make request.
- Fill out form entirely. The more information the better.
- Under department box please select Fire Department.
- Click make request.
- Your request will be answered via email within 10 business days of submission.

10. How can I request a Rescue Run Report?

Law Offices: EMS reports can be requested via mail only. Our Medical Authorization Form must be filled out entirely and signed. There is a fee of \$10.00, paid by check or money order and it should be made out to Providence Fire Department. As well as a pre-stamped return envelope. Requests will be mailed back within 10 business days.

For Patients: EMS reports can be requested in person or via mail only. Our Medical Authorization Form must be filled out entirely and signed. There is no fee for in person requests. In person request can be fulfill immediately and mailed requested will be returned within 10 business days. A pre-stamped return envelope is needed for mail requests.

11. Does PFD fill up pools?

The Providence Fire Department is not able to fill up swimming pools of any kind.

12. How can I find my Local Fire Station?

You can find your Local Fire Station on our Providence Fire website: <https://pfd.providenceri.gov/find-your-local-fire-station/>

13. PVD Safe Stations:

Any body with a substance abuse problem can come into any Providence Fire Station ring the door bell and ask for help. Under 15 minutes you will be contented with peer recovery specialist that will guide you to your path to recovery. This service is free and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More information can be found on the PVD Safe Stations website: <https://pfd.providenceri.gov/safe-stations/>.

14. If I see a hydrant pouring out water who do I call? Can I turn the hydrant on?

Turning on your neighborhood hydrant is not permitted. If you come across a hydrant pouring out water please contact Providence Water at 401-521-6300

15. How can I join Providence Fire Department?

Thank you for your interest in working for the Providence Fire Department. All information regarding joining our department can be found at <https://pfd.providenceri.gov/join-the-pfd/>

16. How can I request a Rescue Run Bill?

Providence Fire Department Rescue Run Bills can be requested through COMSTAR via chartswap or by calling 1-800-488-4351. Their mailing address is COMSTAR, 8 Turcotte Memorial Drive, Rowley, MA 01969.

17. For Media request for the Providence Fire Department:

For all Press Inquiries, please contact Lindsay Lague, Public Information Officer via email at lrichardson@providenceri.gov.

18. Does the Providence Fire Department hold any fire or EMS related classes?

The Providence Fire Department does not hold any public Fire or EMS related classes.

19. How can I get in touch with Providence Canteen?

The Providence Canteen is a Non-Profit organization. All information regarding the Providence Canteen, including how to contact them and how they assist the community, can be found on their website: <http://www.pvdcanteen.com/>.

20. How can I file a claim against Providence Fire Department?

All information in regards to filing a claim can be found on the Providence City Council website: <https://council.providenceri.gov/clerk-claims/>.

21. Does the Providence Fire Department install or assist with infant car seats?

The Providence Fire Department does not install or assist with infant car seats. All information regarding child passenger safety seat checks and installments is provided the Providence Police Department.

Please call and leave a message with your name and telephone number the Police Department number (401) 243-6166 and they will contact you.

22. How can I get records of call logs?

Call Logs are requested through APRA (Public Records Request Procedures Under the **A**ccess to **P**ublic **R**ecords **A**ct).

Below is the link to request a report:

<https://providenceri.nextrequest.com/>

Please follow these steps:

- Click make request.
- Fill out form entirely. The more information the better.
- Under department box please select Telecommunications.
- Click make request.
- Your request will be answered via email within 10 business days of submission.

23. I am starting a Home Day Care or Food Truck business; how do I book an inspection?

All home daycares and food truck business are inspected by the State Fire Marshals Office. More information can be found on their website: <https://fire-marshal.ri.gov/>

For Emergencies Dial: 9-1-1 | **Non-Emergency:** 401-243-6050

Public Safety Complex

325 Washington Street
Providence, RI 02903

For Press Inquiries

Lindsay Lague
Public Information Officer

lrichardson@providenceri.gov

Questions? Email us at FireDepartment@Providenceri.gov