

CITY OF ALLENTOWN

MOST COMMON CODE VIOLATIONS

OUTSIDE

- Are the street numbers visible from the street and alley (4 inch high minimum)?
- Is the siding and paint in good condition?
- Is the garage, and any other accessory structure such as a shed, in good condition?
- Are the steps, decks and landings in good condition?
- Do stairways with more than 5 risers have a handrail?
- Do any balconies, porches or landings 30 inches or more above grade have guardrails?
- Are any fences in good repair?
- Are the sidewalks in safe and sound condition?
- Are the gutters and/or downspouts in a good state of repair and directing rainwater away from the structure?
- Is the foundation in good repair?
- Is the yard free of junk, trash or debris?
- All exterior outlets shall be ground fault (GFI).

THROUGHOUT THE HOUSING UNIT

- Are smoke detectors located inside each room used for sleeping purposes and outside of each sleeping area within 15 feet and on every floor level of the structure?
- In multi-family dwellings, are detectors also located every 30 feet in common corridors and at the top of each interior stairway?
- Do all stairways have a handrail?

DOORS

- Do the exterior doors have locks in working order?
- Are the exterior doors weather tight?
- Are any storm or screen doors in good condition?
- Are the doors in good working order?

WINDOWS

- Are there any broken or badly cracked windows?
- Are the windows weather tight and in good working condition (capable of remaining open without a means of support)?
- Do the windows have locks in good working order?
- Does every habitable room have an openable window?

WALLS, CEILINGS AND FLOORS

- Are the walls and ceilings properly sealed, free from peeling paint and capable of being maintained in a sanitary condition?
- Is the carpet ripped or torn, or otherwise causing a tripping hazard?
- Are the floors structurally sound?

PLUMBING

- Do any supply or drain lines leak?
- Do all fixtures have proper traps to prevent the infiltration of harmful sewer gases?

IN THE BASEMENT

- Do clean-out openings and floor drains have proper covers?
- Is there a switched ceiling or wall-type light fixture?

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

- Does every habitable room have at least a switched light fixture and 2 duplex outlets or one (1) switched duplex outlet, plus two (2) remote duplex outlets? Are the outlets located apart from each other in order to reduce the need for use of extension cords?
- Are all cover plates for outlets, switches and junction boxes in place?
- Are there any extension cords running through doorways or under carpets? This is not allowed.
- All outlets within 6 feet of a water source shall be ground fault protected.
- Every public hall, interior stairway, toilet room, kitchen, bathroom, laundry room, boiler room and furnace room shall contain at least one electric luminaire.
- Is electric at least a 60 amp service? If fuses, S type. Are empty circuit breaker slots covered?

MECHANICAL

- Does each room, including bathrooms have adequate heat? 68 degrees measured at a distance of 3 feet above the floor. (**Cooking appliances shall not be used to provide space heating to meet the requirements of this section.**)
- Does the heating system operate properly?
- Has a licensed mechanical contractor or certified technician inspected and documented said inspection of the heating unit within the last year?
- Does the water heater have a temperature pressure relief valve with an extension pipe that extends to within 3-6 inches of the floor?
- Are all combustion gases vented to the outside?
- Sediment traps must be on all gas hot water heaters and furnaces.

IN THE KITCHEN

- Are there separate outlets for the stove and refrigerator in addition to 2 duplex outlets?
- Is there a switched ceiling or wall-type light fixture?
- Are any electric outlets within 6 feet of water of the ground fault design?
- Is the floor able to be easily kept in a clean, dry condition?
- Is the stove maintained in safe working condition?

IN THE BATHROOM

- Is there a switched ceiling or wall-type light fixture?
- If there is a lavatory in the bathroom, is there at least 1 single convenience ground fault electrical outlet? Are there any outlets within 6 feet or water of the ground fault design?
- Are all of the bathroom fixtures working properly?

- ___ Is the floor able to be easily kept in a clean, dry condition?
- ___ Is there an openable window or adequate mechanical ventilation?