

## **General Information Regarding Canal Place Fire Safety**

This building is equipped with alarms both in the units and in the common areas.

**In-unit alarms:** Alarms in each unit consist of upstairs and downstairs smoke and carbon monoxide detectors as mandated by Massachusetts building codes; these are maintained by the unit owner. Additionally, there is an alarm in the upstairs hallway that is connected to the main building system. This alarm—a red box mounted high on the wall outside the bedrooms— will sound a voice alarm when triggered telling occupants to evacuate, as well as setting off floor-wide alarms on the floors immediately above and below the floor where the alarm was activated. Under normal circumstances the management arranges for inspection of the in-unit alarms annually.

**Common area alarms:** These alarms are located throughout the building. When triggered, they display a flashing white light and alternately sound a loud, whooping-style alarm and a voice announcement to evacuate the building. While some situations will set off the entire system, it is not unusual to have certain areas activated and others unaffected. ***Nonetheless, residents are advised to leave the building any time they hear these alarms sounding.***

The Lowell Fire Department is automatically alerted any time that the main building alarms are activated and should arrive within a few minutes. If they do not, please call 911 if you are able and make sure they are aware of the situation.

**Fire Corridors:** All multi-level units have an upstairs emergency exit from the area above their main entry. This door leads to a fire corridor that accesses both the front and rear stairways. Care should be taken to keep this door in your unit clear of furniture or other clutter. There is absolutely NO storage allowed in the fire corridors. The stairwell doors from the corridor are for exiting only; they are kept locked on the stairwell side to prevent access back into the corridor.

**Manual Pull Boxes:** The Canal Place building has alarm pull stations on every floor near the entrances to the front and rear staircases; this includes in the basement and in the fire corridors. Additional pull boxes are present on the first floor next to the exterior door in each stairwell and to the left of the double doors leading from the atrium to the front lobby.

**Sprinkler heads:** It is important to ALWAYS to be mindful of the sprinkler heads present in your unit and throughout the building. ***Do NOT hang things from the sprinkler heads*** or from any sprinkler piping. Bumping into the sprinkler heads or damaging them in any way can release thousands of gallons of water into your unit and the units below. The resulting deluge can only be shut off by the Fire Department and can cause massive amounts of damage.

**Power Outages:** Residents should not only familiarize themselves with exit routes from the building, but should also keep a flashlight stored within easy reach. In case of a power outage, the building's emergency generators will keep the atrium and stairwell lights running but will not supply any power to individual units. During a blackout the generators will also keep the elevators operating but these should NOT be used during a fire.

**Fire Hoses & Extinguishers:** There are multiple fire hoses and/or fire extinguishers on each floor and in the fire corridors as marked on the available floor diagram. ***These should only be used by knowledgeable people who have been instructed how to operate them safely and effectively. Hoses should NEVER be used on an electrical fire; water conducts electricity and this can result in electrocution.*** Residents should notify management about any damaged fire safety equipment they see.

**Should you need to evacuate the building:**

- Close doors upon exiting. This helps slow the spread of fire and smoke.
- Do NOT use elevators during a fire; always use the stairs instead.
- If exiting through smoke, stay low and crawl if necessary to the nearest exit.
- Establish a designated meeting spot in advance for your own family/friends.
- Notify building management (if they are on site) and/or emergency responders of any missing persons and their last known locations.
- Do not regroup in fire lanes or around hydrants.
- Once you have exited the building, stay out until cleared by the fire department to reenter.

**If unable to exit building:**

- Dial 911 and report your exact location.
- Seal room(s) by closing doors, windows and vents. Use towels, rags, bedding, or tape to cover cracks.
- Move to a window and signal for help. Make yourself visible by waving a flashlight or other bright object.
- Call out loudly to bystanders or firefighters.

<p>A building diagram of exits, pull alarm boxes, extinguishers/hoses, etc. can be found at: <a href="https://www.canalplaceone.com/firesafetymap.pdf">https://www.canalplaceone.com/firesafetymap.pdf</a></p> 	<p>The document you are reading can be found at: <a href="https://www.canalplaceone.com/alarms-etc.pdf">https://www.canalplaceone.com/alarms-etc.pdf</a></p> 	<p>FEMA offers a fire safety printout for apartment residents at: <a href="https://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/fief/apartment_fire_safety.pdf">https://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/fief/apartment_fire_safety.pdf</a></p> 
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