



FireNet

UC DAVIS



FIRE DEPARTMENT

May 2001
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FIREWATCH

Purpose

One of the most effective ways in which the UC Davis Fire Department maintains the safety of the public, property, and the environment is through the use of programs designed to involve the efforts of the campus community in Fire Prevention. One such program is called a Firewatch. Initial determination of a Firewatch will be made by the UC Davis Fire Department. All individuals serving as a Firewatch must be trained and accepted by UC Davis Fire Department personnel.

Definition

A Firewatch is an activity in which a trained University employee/designee will act as an agent of the UC Davis Fire Department Prevention Division to monitor and report incidents or activities that pose a threat to the safety of life and/or property. This is done by conducting a systematic tour of the building and surrounding grounds to ensure that no fire or other emergency has occurred. Reasons for a Firewatch to be activated are:

- Hotwork at a construction/remodel site, or in an occupied building
- Occupied buildings with a temporarily non-working Fire Protection System (Fire Alarm and Sprinkler), such as when there is a power outage for an extended time.
- An event or activity that will be using heat, flame or explosive material/devices

Duties

The duty of the person(s) assigned to the Firewatch is to develop an all-inclusive inspection route prior to an event or emergency, that will encompass a visit to all accessible areas/rooms and surrounding grounds in a logical sequence. The individual(s) must be observant of anything unusual, such as heat, smoke, or odors that may warrant further investigation or notification of emergency responders.

Additionally, if a fire or other emergency is discovered, the appropriate emergency personnel are immediately notified by dialing **9-1-1** or activating the building's fire alarm system. If the building's fire alarm system is not operational and the building is occupied, the use of an air-horn type device for notifying occupants is recommended as long as the occupants have been notified of the change in emergency audibility *in advance*. The individual(s) serving as the Firewatch is/are reminded not to compromise their own safety.

Should you require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the Fire Department at (530) 752-1236.