

Life-Threatening Deficiencies

The NSPIRE standards include a category of severe health and safety (SHS) deficiencies. Life-threatening conditions are included within the SHS category. HUD seeks public feedback on its proposed list of life-threatening conditions and on its draft definition of the phrase, 'life-threatening'.



The life-threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to residents.



These deficiencies include certain toxins, electrical hazards, fire hazards, significant fall hazards, and the absence of common life-safety devices designed to alert residents of such hazards or to directly protect against life-threatening hazards such as fire or natural disasters.

Send feedback to NSPIREStandards@HUD.gov and learn more about NSPIRE Life-Threatening Deficiencies at https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/react/nspire/severe-risks.



Scan the QR code or visit https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/react/nspire/severe-risks to view Life-Threatening Deficiencies webpage on the NSPIRE website.

Proposed List of Life-Threatening Deficiencies Based on the NSPIRE Standards:

UNIT

Last updated: 4/02/2021

- Call-for-Aid System: System does not function properly
- Carbon Monoxide Alarm: Carbon monoxide detector is missing, not installed, or not installed in a proper location
- Carbon Monoxide Alarm: Carbon monoxide detector is obstructed
- Carbon Monoxide Alarm: Carbon monoxide detector does not produce audio or visual alarm when tested
- Chimney: A visually accessible chimney, flue, or firebox connected to a fireplace or wood-burning appliance is incomplete or damaged such that it may not safely contain fire and convey smoke and combustion gases to the exterior
- Clothes Dryer Exhaust Ventilation: Electric dryer transition duct is detached or missing
- Clothes Dryer Exhaust Ventilation: Gas dryer transition duct is detached or missing
- Clothes Dryer Exhaust Ventilation: Electric dryer exhaust ventilation system has restricted airflow
- Clothes Dryer Exhaust Ventilation: Dryer transition duct is constructed of unsuitable material
- Clothes Dryer Exhaust Ventilation: Gas dryer exhaust ventilation system has restricted airflow
- Egress: Obstructed egress on a building 4 stories or more
- Egress: Obstructed egress on a building 3 stories or less
- Electrical - Conductor: Exposed electrical conductor
- Electrical - Outlet and Switch: Outlet or switch is damaged
- Electrical - Service Panel: The overcurrent protection device is damaged
- Fire Extinguisher: Fire extinguisher pressure gauge reads over or under-charged
- Fire Extinguisher: Fire extinguisher service tag is missing, illegible, or expired
- Fire Extinguisher: Fire extinguisher is missing
- Flammable and Combustible Items: Improperly stored flammable or combustible item on or near an ignition source
- Foundation: Foundation appears to be in imminent danger of collapse or failure
- Guardrail: Guardrail is missing or not installed
- Guardrail: Guardrail is not functionally adequate
- Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC): Outside temperature is below 68 degrees Fahrenheit and the resident is unable to maintain a minimum temperature of 68 degrees Fahrenheit through a safe heating source
- Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC): Heating system or device fueled by combustion has a misaligned, disconnected, improperly connected, damaged, blocked, or missing exhaust vent
- Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC): Combustion chamber cover or gas shutoff valve is missing from a combustion-fueled heating appliance
- Leak: Natural gas, propane, or oil leak
- Smoke Alarm: Smoke alarm is not installed where required
- Smoke Alarm: Smoke alarm does not produce an audio or visual alarm when tested
- Sprinkler Assembly: Sprinkler head assembly is obstructed by an item, object, or encasement within 18 inches of the sprinkler head
- Sprinkler Assembly: Paint or foreign material on the sprinkler head assembly
- Sprinkler Assembly: Sprinkler head escutcheon is missing
- Sprinkler Assembly: Concealed sprinkler cover plate assembly is missing
- Structural System: Structural system exhibits signs of serious failure
- Toilet: Only 1 toilet was installed, and it is missing
- Toilet: Only 1 toilet was installed, and it is damaged or inoperable
- Water Heater: Chimney or flue piping is blocked, misaligned, or missing
- Water Heater: Gas shutoff valve is damaged, missing, or not installed

INSIDE

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- Carbon Monoxide Alarm: Carbon monoxide detector does not produce audio or visual alarm when tested
- Chimney: A visually accessible chimney, flue, or firebox connected to a fireplace or wood-burning appliance is incomplete or damaged such that it may not safely contain fire and convey smoke and combustion gases to the exterior
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- Clothes Dryer Exhaust Ventilation: Gas dryer transition duct is detached or missing
- Clothes Dryer Exhaust Ventilation: Electric dryer exhaust ventilation system has restricted airflow
- Clothes Dryer Exhaust Ventilation: Dryer transition duct is constructed of unsuitable material
- Clothes Dryer Exhaust Ventilation: Gas dryer exhaust ventilation system has restricted airflow
- Egress: Obstructed egress on a building 4 stories or more
- Egress: Obstructed egress on a building 3 stories or less
- Electrical - Conductor: Exposed electrical conductor
- Electrical - Outlet and Switch: Outlet or switch is damaged
- Electrical - Service Panel: The overcurrent protection device is damaged
- Exit Sign: Exit sign that clearly identifies the emergency exit is missing or obstructed
- Fire Extinguisher: Fire extinguisher pressure gauge reads over or under-charged
- Fire Extinguisher: Fire extinguisher service tag is missing, illegible, or expired
- Fire Extinguisher: Fire extinguisher is missing
- Flammable and Combustible Items: Improperly stored flammable or combustible item on or near an ignition source
- Foundation: Foundation appears to be in imminent danger of collapse or failure
- Guardrail: Guardrail is missing or not installed
- Guardrail: Guardrail is not functionally adequate
- Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC): Heating system or device fueled by combustion has a misaligned, disconnected, improperly connected, damaged, blocked, or missing
- Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC): Combustion chamber cover or gas shutoff valve is missing from a combustion-fueled heating appliance
- Leak: Natural gas, propane, or oil leak
- Smoke Alarm: Smoke alarm is not installed where required
- Smoke Alarm: Smoke alarm does not produce an audio or visual alarm when tested
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- Sprinkler Assembly: Sprinkler head escutcheon is missing
- Sprinkler Assembly: Concealed sprinkler cover plate assembly is missing
- Structural System: Structural system exhibits signs of serious failure
- Water Heater: Chimney or flue piping is blocked, misaligned, or missing
- Water Heater: Gas shutoff valve is damaged, missing, or not installed

OUTSIDE

Last updated: 4/02/2021

- Chimney: A visually accessible chimney, flue, or firebox connected to a fireplace or wood-burning appliance is incomplete or damaged such that it may not safely contain fire and convey smoke and combustion gases to the exterior
- Chimney: Chimney exhibits signs of structural failure
- Clothes Dryer Exhaust Ventilation: Electric dryer exhaust ventilation system has restricted airflow
- Clothes Dryer Exhaust Ventilation: Gas dryer exhaust ventilation system has restricted airflow
- Electrical - Conductor: Exposed electrical conductor
- Electrical - Outlet and Switch: Outlet or switch is damaged
- Electrical - Service Panel: The overcurrent protection device is damaged
- Exit Sign: Exit sign that clearly identifies the emergency exit is missing or obstructed
- Fire Escape: Fire escape component is damaged or missing
- Fire Extinguisher: Fire extinguisher pressure gauge reads over or under-charged
- Fire Extinguisher: Fire extinguisher service tag is missing, illegible, or expired
- Fire Extinguisher: Fire extinguisher is missing
- Flammable and Combustible Items: Improperly stored flammable or combustible item on or near an ignition source
- Foundation: Foundation appears to be in imminent danger of collapse or failure
- Guardrail: Guardrail is missing or not installed
- Guardrail: Guardrail is not functionally adequate
- Leak: Natural gas, propane, or oil leak
- Sprinkler Assembly: Sprinkler head assembly is obstructed by an item, object, or encasement within 18 inches of the sprinkler head
- Sprinkler Assembly: Paint or foreign material on the sprinkler head assembly
- Sprinkler Assembly: Sprinkler head escutcheon is missing
- Sprinkler Assembly: Concealed sprinkler cover plate assembly is missing
- Structural System: Structural system exhibits signs of serious failure
- Water Heater: Gas shutoff valve is damaged, missing, or not installed

