The Most Popular Causes for Rejected Fire Protection Permit Inspections
(And how you can avoid them…)

1. Installations not per plan – Have the approved plans on site for the installers and ensure the installation matches the plans.
2. Not ready for inspection – Do not schedule the inspection until you are ready. Remember, GCs cannot call in inspections for trade permits, only the permit holder can schedule the inspection.
3. Approved plans not correct – Mistakes happen; the code is the final word.
4. “I am not the person who did the work” – If you didn’t do the work, do not call in the inspection, have the responsible person there on site.
5. “I do not know how to conduct the test” – The inspectors can only witness tests, so make sure you have pre-tested the system and have someone there who can perform the required tests.
6. On underground fire lines, the 42” cover requirement means earthen cover, not concrete or other material.
7. Lines used to flush underground fire lines must be safely secured so they can not whip around and hurt someone or cause erosion and flooding.
8. “I didn’t know you were coming this early”- We expect to be on the road by 0800.
9. “I haven’t worked in Prince William County before” – Please refer to the Code Compliance Manual on this web page or call 703.792.6360. We are always happy to discuss code requirements and inspection procedures.
10. System was not pre-tested – Problems should be identified and corrected before the FMO final tests.
11. Work cannot be visualized – The code requirements are clear and we will require drywall or other impediments to be removed to conduct the proper inspection, so coordinate wall and ceiling close-ins with the GC.
12. Language barriers.
13. Painted heads, hangers, and “Sammy” screws – Coordinate your work with the GC so other trades do not do this to you.
14. Non-system features or equipment – If it is not on the approved plans, it probably does not belong in your system.
15. Batteries not charged prior to installation for the battery test.
16. Lack of coordination between the sprinkler and alarm contractors – Talk and pre-test so both systems are ready.
17. Improper programming of devices – Pre test!
18. Cut sheets not on site – Maintain a file of all cut sheets for all required equipment/devices with the approved plans.