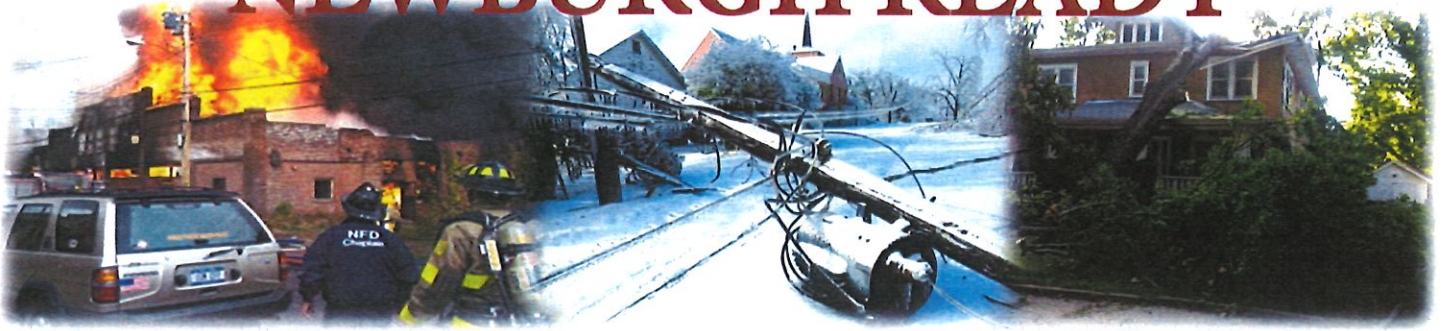


NEWBURGH READY



December 2016

In response to recent events in Newburgh and in Oakland, where deaths occurred at illegal event spaces, the City would like to urge property owners and event hosts to consider the consequences of illicit occupancy.

The City fully recognizes that business development, especially around the arts, culture and music, is critical to the City's redevelopment and that this history of diverse cultural events is a key component that make us all Newburghers. As a City we are proud of the diversity of venues and events that take place here and hope to ensure their lasting success.

However, as has been made exceedingly clear in the recent weeks, unlicensed and uninspected event and assembly spaces can unfortunately lead to tragic events.

Newburgh, and New York State, follow ICC 2015 International Building Code, which classifies Assembly spaces in Section 303. "Assembly Group A occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, for the gathering of persons for purposes such as civic, social or religious functions; recreation, food or drink consumption or awaiting transportation." This would include any space used as an art gallery, a music venue, or an event space. Property owners must ensure that their Certificate of Occupancy includes an Assembly use prior to any events taking place therein.

The City urges all property owners and event hosts to become familiar with the requirements of this code, and to reach out to the City of Newburgh Department of Code Compliance and/or the Newburgh Fire Department's Office of Fire Prevention well in advance of any planned events to protect and provide for the safety event attendees. Only with partnership between the City and the community can we all ensure the safety of all and the continuation of a wonderful legacy of arts and culture in Newburgh.

For questions or information please contact:

William Horton, Assistant Chief of Fire Prevention, NFD: 845-569-7419

Felix Medina, Code Compliance Officer, Department of Codes: 845-569-7401



City of Newburgh Fire Department - 845.562.1212

