



**Yakima County Fire Marshal's Office**  
**Public Information Handout FP-2**  
**Knox Box and Keys**  
**'Fire Department Rapid Entry Key Box'**



The Knox Box, manufactured by the Knox Company, is a highly secured key box installed on or inside the building that stores building access keys and cards used exclusively by the Fire Department during emergencies.

The Knox rapid entry system provides immediate building entry with a single key storage location. This aids in reducing property damage, saves time for false alarm responses, and prevents resources from being held up waiting for a key holder to arrive.

Knox Box or Knox Key Switches are required in the following occupancy types:

- Buildings or dwellings with gated access/entrances.
- Multi-level, multi-family dwellings.
- Commercial or public buildings with fire detection and/or fire suppression systems.
- High hazard buildings as determined by the Fire Marshal.

**INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, CHAPTER 5**

The Fire Code sets forth requirements for the installation of a key box or gate switch when access to or within a structure is restricted because of secure openings, or where immediate access is necessary for life-saving or firefighting purposes.



Knox Boxes can be ordered online at: [www.knoxbox.com](http://www.knoxbox.com)

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact Yakima County Building and Fire Safety at (509) 574-2300.