



Travis County ESD No. 12

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KNOX ACCESS REQUIREMENTS

Providing rapid entry for the fire department in an emergency helps protect both lives and property. A properly installed, approved and maintained fire department key box system significantly reduces the need for forced entries, thereby avoiding costly and time-consuming efforts in gaining access to locked properties or structures during an emergency.

A **Knox Box** is a secure device that is designed to contain building entry keys, electronic access cards and other keys that may be required for fire department access in an emergency. A **Knox Gate & Key Switch** allows emergency access through electronic gates that may otherwise be a hinderance to emergency response. A **Knox Padlock** allows emergency access through manual and mechanical security gates. Knox products are operable with a fire department master or sub-master key carried by the fire department which will open approved Knox Boxes, Knox Gate & Key Switches and Knox Padlocks on specified properties.

Contact the **Knox Company** to obtain the required TCESD No. 12 specific Knox Boxes and and/or Knox components for buildings in the jurisdiction of Travis County ESD No. 12 and the City of Manor.

When ordering Knox components, the specific code for items to be used in the jurisdiction of TCESD No. 12 is **4462**. www.knoxbox.com/4462

Knox components shall be installed in an approved manner in accordance with the following requirements:

- The location of the Knox Box(es) and/or Knox Gate & Key Switch(es) shall be confirmed with an on-site meeting with TCESD No. 12 **PRIOR TO INSTALLATION**.
- The Knox Box shall be visible and accessible, facing the fire lane or public road.
- The Knox Box(es) and Knox Gate & Key Switch(es) shall be installed 5 feet (60 inches) above finished grade.
- For new or renovated buildings, the required Knox Box(es) must be installed prior to final occupancy being authorized by TCESD No. 12.
- The Knox Box shall be of a recessed design, unless otherwise approved by the Travis County ESD No. 12 Fire Marshal.
- Individual keys in the recessed Knox Box shall be clearly labeled as to the doors they serve.
- All fire department connections shall have Knox Locking Caps.
- Any gates or barricades installed across a fire apparatus access road intended for vehicular traffic shall be installed with a Knox Gate & Key Switch or a Knox Padlock (if it is a manual gate). Refer to the TCESD No 12 Fire Lane/Fire Access Road Gate Requirements document for additional information pertaining to gate installations. All gate installations are subject to the approval of TCESD No. 12.

If locks or keys are changed, the operator/owner of a building or premises shall notify TCESD No. 12 personnel immediately to change the keys and ensure functionality of the Knox components.

Contact TCESD No. 12 personnel with questions regarding specific installations at (512) 272-4502 or FirePrevention@tcesd12.com.