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### **VACANT PROPERTY REQUIREMENTS**

Vacant buildings left unsecured create a hazard for both the public and to responding emergency personnel. This is a hazard year round in our community due to beach comers seeking shelter and late night vandalism.

Section 311 of the North Carolina Fire Prevention Code requires that owners or persons in charge of vacant buildings or tenant spaces properly safeguard the property to minimize the risk of fire and prevent unauthorized entry. The following steps must be taken to correctly maintain vacant properties or tenant spaces:

- Any hazardous materials shall be moved from inside and outside of the structure.
- All accumulations of combustible waste and rubbish shall be removed from the property.
- All openings, including doors and windows, shall be properly secured to prevent unauthorized entry.
- Fire-rated partitions separating vacant tenant spaces from adjoining spaces shall be maintained.

To report an unsafe condition regarding a vacant or abandoned property, contact the Atlantic Beach Fire Marshal's office at 252-726-7361.