Here are some answers to common questions we receive:

Q: Can my contractor redesign my barn so that it meets code requirements?
A: State law requires a registered engineer or architect to prepare plans for this facility. Each time you make a change in design, you must submit new plans. A common misconception is that Tennessee’s agritourism laws exempt barns from meeting code requirements. The agritourism law does not do this. It provides certain legal protections for agritourism activities. The agritourism law does not apply to a barn used for wedding ceremonies or assemblies. This means a barn is regulated by the International Building Code regardless of the type of occupancy. A building or structure used for a wedding is an Assembly Occupancy whether it is for assembly use?

Q: Does it require a fire sprinkler system?
A: Possibly. There are several factors used to determine if one is required. Your design professional will help you determine if you need one. A: A permit issued by a local authority having jurisdiction does not relieve an owner of responsibility for approval requirements of the SFMO. Assembly buildings or religious functions, or for recreation and food or drink consumption. Fires in assembly occupancies have been among the deadliest in our country's history and are the basis for many of the code requirements today. Here are some answers to common questions we receive:

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Here is an informative video to help schools prepare for school inspections:

We've also developed this helpful guide to alcohol-based hand sanitizers and fire sprinkler heads. Where flexible plastic is used, it must meet the requirements of NFPA 701. Many schools are installing sneeze guards or dividers to protect students and teachers. These maneuvers are designed to maintain social distancing. While it is necessary to evacuate one class at a time, this is acceptable. We've also developed this helpful guide to alcohol-based hand sanitizers and fire sprinkler heads. Where flexible plastic is used, it must meet the requirements of NFPA 701. Many schools are installing sneeze guards or dividers to protect students and teachers. These maneuvers are designed to maintain social distancing. While it is necessary to evacuate one class at a time, this is acceptable.

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