

CHAPTER 5
FIRE DEPARTMENT

- 5.01 Fire Prevention
- 5.02 Safety Regulations
- 5.03 Regulation of Alarm Systems
- 5.04 Fire Prevention Code

5.01 FIRE PREVENTION. (1) FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION AND GOALS. (a) Fire Department Recognized. 1. The Council officially recognizes the St Croix Falls Fire Department as the fire department of the City, and the duty of firefighting and the prevention of fires in the City is delegated to such Department.

2. The St. Croix Falls Fire Department is hereby authorized and directed to adopt bylaws for the control, management, government, and regulating the business and proceedings of the Department.

3. The Council shall appropriate funds to provide for operation and for such apparatus and equipment for the use of Fire Department as the Council may deem expedient and necessary to maintain efficiency and properly protect life and property from fire and as provided by agreement with other municipalities.

(b) Goals of the Fire Defense Program. 1. The primary objective of the fire defense program is to serve all citizens, without prejudice or favoritism, by safeguarding, collectively and individually, their lives against the effects of fires and explosions.

2. The second objective of the fire defense program is to safeguard the general economy and welfare of the community by preventing major conflagrations and the destruction by fire of industries and businesses.

3. The third objective of the fire defense program is to protect the property of all citizens against the effects of fire and explosions. All property deserves equal protection, regardless of location or monetary value.

(2) **IMPEDING FIRE EQUIPMENT PROHIBITED.** No Person shall impede the progress of a fire engine, fire truck or other fire apparatus of the Fire Department along the streets or alleys of the City at the time of a fire or when the Fire Department is using such streets or alleys in response to a fire alarm or for practice.

(3) **POLICE POWER OF THE DEPARTMENT; INVESTIGATION OF FIRES.** (a) Police Authority at Fires. 1. The Fire Chief and assistants or officers in command at any fire are hereby vested with full and complete police authority at fires. Any officer of the Department may cause the arrest of any person failing to give the right-of-way to the Fire Department in responding to a fire.

2. The Fire Chief may prescribe certain limits in the vicinity of any fire within which no persons, excepting firefighters and police officers and those admitted by order of any officer of the Department, shall be permitted to come.

3. The Chief shall have the power to cause the removal of any property whenever it shall become necessary for the preservation of such property from fire or to prevent the spreading of fire or to protect the adjoining property, and during the progress of any fire he shall have the power to cause the removal of all wires or other facilities and the turning off of all electricity or other services where the same impedes the work of the Department during the progress of a fire.
- (b) Fire Inspection Duties. 1. The Fire Chief shall be the Fire Inspector of the City and shall have the power to appoint one or more deputy Fire Inspectors and shall perform all duties required of he Fire Inspectors by the laws of the State and rules of the Department of Commerce, particularly §101.14, Wis. Stats.
2. While acting as Fire Inspector pursuant to §101.14(s) Wis. Stats., the Fire Chief, or any officer of the Fire Department designated by the Fire Chief, shall have the right and authority to enter any building or upon any premises in the City at all reasonable hours for the purpose of making inspections or investigations which, under the provisions of his chapter, he may deem necessary. Should the Fire Inspector find that any provisions of this chapter relative to fire hazards and prevention of fires are being violated, or that a fire hazard exists which should be eliminated, it shall be his duty to give such directions for the abatement of such conditions as he shall deem necessary.
 3. The Fire Chief is required, by himself or by officers or members of the Fire Department designated by him as fire inspectors, to inspect all buildings, premises and public thoroughfares, except the interiors of private dwellings, for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any conditions liable to cause fire, or any violations of any law or ordinance relative go the fire hazard or to the prevention of fires. Such inspections shall be made at least once in 6 months in all of the territory served by the Fire Department and oftener as the Fire Chief orders. Each 6 month period shall begin on January 1 and July 1 each year.
 4. Written reports of inspections shall be made and kept on file in the office of the Fire Chief in the manner and form required by the Department of Commerce. A copy of such reports shall be filed with the Fire Chief.
- (4) **DAMAGING FIRE HOSE PROHIBITED; PARKING BY HYDRANTS; BLOCKING FIRE LANES.** (a) Driving Over Fire Hose. No person shall willfully

injure in any manner any hose, hydrant or fire apparatus belonging to the City, and no vehicle shall be driven over any unprotected hose of the Fire Department when laid down on any street, private driveway or other place, to be used in any fire or alarm of fire, without the consent of the Fire Department official in command.

- (b) Parking Vehicles Near Hydrants. It shall be unlawful for any person to park any vehicle or leave any object within 10 feet of any fire hydrant at any time.
 - (c) No Parking Near Fire. It shall be unlawful for any person, in case of fire; to drive or park any vehicle within one block from the place of fire without the consent and authority of the Fire Chief or any police officer.
- (5) **FIREFIGHTERS MAY ENTER ADJACENT PROPERTY.** (a) Entering Adjacent Property. It shall be lawful for any firefighter while acting under the direction of the Fire Chief or any other officer in command to enter upon the premises adjacent to or in the vicinity of a building or other property then on fire for the purpose of extinguishing or investigating such fire and, in case any person shall hinder, resist or obstruct any firefighter in the discharge of his duty as is hereinbefore provided, the person so offending shall be deemed guilty of resisting firefighters in the discharge of their duty.
- (b) Destruction of Property to Prevent the Spread of Fire. During the progress of any fire, the Fire Chief or his assistant shall have the power to order the removal or destruction of any property necessary to prevent the further spread of fire; provided that it is inevitable that, unless such property is removed, other property is in danger of being destroyed by fire.
- (6) **DUTY OF BYSTANDERS TO ASSIST.** Every person who shall be present at a fire shall be subject to the orders of the Fire Chief or officer in command and may be required to render assistance in fighting the fire or in removing or guarding property. Such officer shall have the power to cause the arrest of any person or persons refusing to obey said orders.
- (7) **VEHICLES TO YIELD RIGHT OF WAY.** Whenever there shall be a fire or fire alarm or the Fire Department shall be out for practice, every person driving or riding in a motorized or other vehicle shall move and remain to the side of the street until the fire engine and fire truck and other fire apparatus shall have passed.
- (8) **INTERFERENCE WITH USE OF HYDRANTS PROHIBITED.** No person shall occupy any portion of such streets or alleys with a motorized or other vehicle between such fire engine or fire truck or other fire apparatus or any hydrant to which a fire hose may be, or may be about to be, attached.

- (9) OPEN BURNING. (a) Definition. “Open burning” as used herein, shall mean burning done outside of a building.
- (b) Permitted Burning Without the Permission of Fire Chief. 1. Small outdoor fires used for cooking or as part of a public ceremony.
2. Small open fires used for welding, acetylene torches, safety flares, heating tar or similar applications.
 3. Fire set for practice and instruction of firefighting or for the testing of equipment.
- (c) Prohibited Burning. 1. The setting of any fire on or adjacent to any black top street.
2. Leaf burning, except in Agricultural Districts.
 3. The burning of trees, wood, lumber, stumps or brush, except in Agricultural Districts.
 4. The burning of combustible rubbish.
- (d) Burning Permitted With the Permission of the Fire Chief.
1. The burning of trees, wood, limbs, stumps or brush in Agricultural Districts only.
 2. The burning of leaves in Agricultural Districts only.
- (e) Open Burning Procedures. Before setting or starting any fire, permission authorizing the setting or starting of such fire shall first be obtained from the Fire Chief or from any other person authorized or designated by the Fire Chief to issue such permits. All open burning conducted pursuant to such permission shall be performed in a safe pollution-free manner when wind and weather conditions are such as to minimize adverse affects, and in conformance with local and State fire protection regulations. The size of the pile of material to be burned shall not exceed 4 feet in any direction measured horizontally, or 3 feet measured vertically. The pile of material being burned shall be at least 50 feet away from any structure, wood or lumber pile, wooden fence, trees, or bushes. Provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet of such items or the fire shall otherwise be contained in an approved incinerator or burner device which is located at least 15 feet from any structure, wood or lumber pole, wooden fence, trees, or bushes. Any ashes created by burning such material as lawful under this section are to be disposed of in a manner authorized by law. Open burning shall be constantly attended and supervised by a competent person of at least 16 years of age until such fire is extinguished. This person shall have readily available for use such fire extinguishing equipment as may be necessary for the total control of the fire while burning and/or extinguishing such fire.

- (10) **KEY BOXES REQUIRED.** (a) Definition. A “key box” is a steel lock box with a high security lock, similar to the Knox-Box Unit manufactured by Knox-Box Company, Newport Beach, California, designed to be surface mounted or recessed mounted to a building to secure keys to such building.
- (b) Key Box Required and Location. A key box shall be installed in any building within the scope of this section in an accessible location as approved by the Fire Chief. The key box shall be a type approved by the Fire Chief and shall contain the following keys necessary to provide emergency access:
1. Keys to lock points of ingress whether on the interior or exterior of such building.
 2. Keys to locked mechanical equipment rooms.
 3. Keys to located electrical rooms.
 4. Keys to elevator controls.
 5. Keys to other areas as shall be directed by the Fire Chief.
- (c) Key Box to Be Maintained. The owner of any building within the scope of this section shall maintain the key box in good working order and be responsible to assure that keys maintained within the key box are current keys to the existing locks in the building. When a change of locks within a building is necessary, the owner shall advise the Fire Chief thereof and place new keys in the key box.
- (d) Unauthorized Removal Prohibited. No person, except authorized Fire Department or law enforcement personnel shall remove any key from a key box without the authorization of the owner of the building.
- (e) Compliance. No commercial building, industrial building, or residential building over 6 units, for which construction has not been commenced on the effective date of this section (June 1, 2006), may be occupied, used or rented which does not comply with this section.
- (11) **FIRE EXTINGUISHERS REQUIRED.** A Class “A” Underwriters’ Laboratories approved fire extinguisher shall be provided and installed in every basement storage area in all multiple family dwelling units now existing or hereafter constructed.
- (12) **RIGHT OF ENTRY.** The Fire Chief, officers of the Fire Department and the Building Inspector may, at reasonable hours, upon proper official identification, and with the owner’s permission, enter any buildings, premises or public

thoroughfares to which City fire prevention ordinances apply, excepting only the interior of private dwellings, for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any condition liable to cause fire or any violation of any law or order relating to hazards or prevention of fire. If the owner, agent or occupant refuses to permit or prevents entry upon the premises by any such inspector, the inspector shall obtain a search warrant to make the inspection or investigation.

5.02 SAFETY REGULATIONS. (1) DISCLOSURE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND INFECTIOUS AGENTS; REIMBURSEMENT FOR CLEANUP OF SPILLS.

(a) Application. 1. All persons, firms or organizations using, researching or producing hazardous materials and/or infectious agents shall notify the Fire Department as prescribed by this section.

2. The provisions of this section shall apply to all persons, firms or organizations using, researching, producing or storing hazardous materials and/or infectious agents on and after the effective date of this section.

(b) Definitions. 1. Infectious Agent. Bacterial, mycoplasmal, fungal, parasitic or viral agent known to cause illness in humans which is used, researched, produced or stored within or on the premise

2. Hazardous Materials. Those materials that can cause death or disabling injury from brief exposure, those materials that could cause a lost-time injury from exposure, and those materials that could cause temporary disability or injury without permanent effects which are used, researched, produced or stored within or on premises, except those household consumer products used at the point of consumption and not used for commercial or experimental purposes. This definition of hazardous materials shall include radioactive materials.

(c) Information Required. 1. Any person, firm or organization using, researching, producing and/or storing any hazardous materials shall provide, in writing, to the Fire Department the following information:

a. Address/location of where hazardous materials are used, researched, stored or produced.

b. The trade name of the hazardous materials.

c. The chemical name and any commonly used synonym for the hazardous material and the chemical name and any commonly used synonym for its major components.

d. The exact locations on the premises where materials are used, researched, stored, and/or produced.

- e. Amounts of hazardous materials on the premises per exact location.
 - f. The boiling point, vapor pressure, vapor density, solubility in water, specific gravity, percentage volatile by volume, evaporation rate for liquids and appearance and odor of the hazardous material.
 - g. The flashpoint and flammable limits of the hazardous substance.
 - h. Any permissible exposure level, threshold limit value or other established limit value for exposure o hazardous material.
 - i. The stability of hazardous substance.
 - j. Recommended fire extinguishing media, special firefighting procedures and fire and explosion hazard information for the hazardous material.
 - k. Any effect of over-exposure to the hazardous material, emergency and first aid procedures and telephone numbers to call in an emergency.
 - l. Any condition or material which is incompatible with the hazardous material and must be avoided.
 - m. An personal protective equipment to be worn or used and special precautions to be taken when handling or coming into contact with hazardous materials.
 - n. Procedures for handling or coming into contact with the hazardous materials.
2. Any person, firm or organization using, researching, producing and/or storing infectious agent and/or carrier of an infectious agent shall provide, in writing, to the Fire Department the following:
- a. The name and any commonly used synonym of the infectious agent.
 - b. Address/location where infectious agents are used, researched, stored and/or produced.
 - c. The exact locations where infectious agents are used, researched, stored and/or produced.

- d. Amount of infectious agent on premises per exact locations.
 - e. Any methods of route of transmission of the infectious agents.
 - f. Any symptoms of effect of infection, emergency and first aid procedure and a telephone number to be called in an emergency.
 - g. Any personal protective equipment to be worn or used and special precautions to be taken when handling or coming in contact with the infectious agent.
 - h. Procedure for handling, clean-up and disposal of infectious agents leaked or spilled.
- (d) Reimbursement for Cleanup of Spills. Any person who possesses or controls a hazardous material or infectious agent which was discharged or caused the discharge of a hazardous material or infectious agent shall reimburse the City for actual and necessary expenses incurred by the City or its agent to contain, remove or dispose of the hazardous substance or infectious agent or take any other appropriate action which is deemed appropriate under the circumstance.
- (2) **RECOVERY OF COSTS OF EXTINGUISHING AND CLEANING UP FIRES INVOLVING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.** (a) Every person,, firm or corporation using, storing, handling or transporting flammable or combustible liquids, chemicals, gasses or other hazardous materials shall comply with the requirements of Chapter COMM 8, Wis. Adm. Code, as the same is now in force and may hereafter from time to time be amended.
- (b) Every person, firm or corporation using, storing, handling or transporting, whether by rail or on the highways, flammable or combustible liquids, chemicals, gasses or other hazardous materials shall be liable to the City for the actual cost of labor and materials associated with the use of any specialized extinguishing agent, chemical, neutralizer or similar material or equipment employed to extinguish, confine or clean up any such hazardous material which is involved in any accidental spill or in threat of any fire or accidental spill.

5.03 REGULATION OF ALARM SYSTEMS. (1) DECLARATION OF PURPOSE.

The purpose of this section is to provide minimum standards and regulations applicable to burglar, fire and holdup alarm systems, alarm business and alarm users. Both society in general and public safety in particular will be aided by providing a useful and usable system of private security which properly balances quick response by law enforcement with minimization of law enforcement time spent on alarms which are false or otherwise not the intended function of private security systems.

- (2) **DEFINITIONS.** Within this section, the following terms, phrases and words and their derivations have the meanings given herein.
- (a) Alarm Business. Any business in which the owners or employees engage in the activity of altering, installing, leasing, maintaining, repairing, replacing, selling or servicing alarm systems.
 - (b) Alarm System. An assembly of equipment and devices or single device such as a solid state unit which plugs directly into 110-volt AC line or otherwise receives electrical energy arranged to signal the presence of a hazard requiring urgent attention and to which the Police or Fire Department is expected to respond. In this section, the term “alarm system” shall include the terms “automatic holdup alarm systems,” “burglar alarm systems,” “holdup alarm systems” and “manual holdup alarm systems” as those terms are hereinafter defined, and fire alarm systems which monitor temperature, humidity or any other condition directly related to the detection of fire. Excluded from this definition and from the coverage of this section are alarm systems used to alert or signal persons within the premises in which the alarm system is located of an attempted, unauthorized intrusion or holdup attempt or fire.
 - (c) Answering Service A telephone answering service providing among its services the service of receiving on a continuous basis through trained employees emergency signals from alarm systems, and thereafter immediately relaying the message by live voice to the dispatch center of the Police or Fire Department.
 - (d) Automatic Dialing Device. An alarm system which automatically sends over regular telephone lines by direct connection or otherwise a prerecorded voice message or coded signal indicating the existence of the emergency situation that the alarm system is designed to detect.
 - (e) Automatic Holdup Alarm System. An alarm system in which the signal transmission is initiated by the action of the robber.
 - (f) Manual Holdup Alarm System. An alarm system in which the signal transmission is initiated by the direct action of the person attached or by an observer thereof
 - (g) Burglar Alarm System. An alarm system which signals an entry or attempted entry into the area protected by the system.
 - (h) False Alarm. The activation of an alarm system through mechanical failure, malfunctions, improper installation or the negligence of the owner or lessee

of an alarm system or of his employees or agents or other undetermined cause. False alarm does not include alarms caused by tornadoes or other violent climatic conditions.

- (i) Interconnect. To connect an alarm system to a voice grade telephone line, either directly to through a mechanical device, that utilizes a standard telephone for the purpose of using the telephone line to transmit an emergency message upon the activation of the alarm system.
 - (j) Central Station. An office to which remote alarm and supervisor signaling devices are connected, where operators supervise the circuits.
 - (k) Subscriber. A person who buys or leases or otherwise obtains an alarm system and thereafter contracts with or hires an alarm business to monitor and/or service the alarm system.
- (3) ADMINISTRATIVE RULES. The Chief of Police shall promulgate such rules as may be necessary for the implementation of this section. Such rules shall require the approval of the Council and shall be open to inspection by the public.
- (4) AUTOMATIC DIALING DEVICES. No person shall interconnect any automatic dialing device to the Polk County Public Safety Communications Center requiring a police or fire response.
- (5) TESTING. No alarm business or alarm system shall test any alarm without prior approval of the chief of Police or his designee.
- (6) FALSE ALARMS GENERATED BY ALARM DEVICES. (a) General. Each false alarm requires response of public safety personnel, involves unnecessary expense to the City, increases the risk of injury to persons or damage to property and dilutes the overall public safety protection to the City. Such false alarms constitute a public nuisance and must be abated.
- (b) Intentional False Alarm. No person shall intentionally cause the activation of a burglar/fire alarm device knowing that no criminal activity, fire or other emergency exists.
 - (c) Definitions. For the purpose of this section, the following terms, phrases and words and their derivations shall have the following meanings:
 - 1. Alarm or Alarm Device or Device. Any device, whether mechanical, electrical or otherwise, which is designed to be activated by a criminal act, a fire or other act unauthorized by the owner of the device and which sends an audible, electronic voice or other type of

signal intended to alert law enforcement officers of the criminal act. Fire or unauthorized act.

2. False Alarm. Any signal generated by an alarm device which in fact is not activated by the type of activity the device is intended to detect, or which is not due to an emergency situation. False alarms include, but are not limited to, alarms which are triggered by negligent or willful acts of employees of alarm owners. An alarm test shall not be considered a false alarm.

(d) Alarm Device Generating False Alarms. No person shall own, maintain or operate any alarm device in the City which within one calendar year generates more than 2 false alarms to which response is made by law enforcement officers and/or Fire Department personnel employed by the City.

(e) Penalty. Any person violating this section shall, upon conviction thereof, be subject to a fine according to the following schedule based on the number of false alarms:

NUMBER OF FALSE ALARMS	PENALTY
Third or fourth	Not less than \$25 nor more than \$75
Fifth	Not less than \$50 nor more than \$150
Sixth or more	Not less than \$100 nor more than \$200

(f) Strict Liability. This subsection is intended to impose a strict liability on the person, business, corporation or other entity responsible for alarm connection to either the police alarm panel or to alarm receiving firm to which the Police or Fire Department have responded and shall be applied regardless of the cause of the false alarm excepting those alarms excluded from the definition of “false alarm.” Failure to pay such administrative charge(s) in and of itself shall constitute a violation of this section, and such charge(s) shall be collectible as a forfeiture upon prosecution and conviction thereof, together with an additional forfeiture(s) which may be imposed under this subsection for violation of this section for allowing or maintaining condition(s) or act(s) in violation of the intent of this section of eliminating and minimizing the occurrence of false alarms, together with costs of prosecution.

(g) Waiver of Fee. If a possessor of the alarm shows to the satisfaction of the Chief of Police or the Fire Chief, as applicable, that such false alarm was not the result of negligence or improper maintenance, or other good and sufficient cause beyond the reasonable control of the possessor of the

alarm, such fee may be waived and the response shall not count as a false alarm in computing the fee established under par. (e) above.

- (h) **Other Violations.** Any person, corporation or other entity violating this subsection in any manner, other than for collection of unpaid administrative charges treated in the proceeding subsection shall be subject to forfeiture as provided in this section. When any premises located in the City is owned, leased or occupied by 2 or more persons as joint tenants, tenants in common, joint lessees, or in any other manner, each person shall see that the provisions of his section are complied with, and each person may be subjected to a penalty on violation of this section.
 - (i) **Default of Payment for Forfeiture and/or Costs.** On default of payment of forfeiture and/or costs under the pars. (c) or (d) above, such person or responsible officer of the violating corporation or other entity shall be confined in the County jail until the same be paid, but not to exceed a length of time specified by the court, which length of time shall not exceed 6 months. Upon nonpayment of the fee, the amount due may be placed on the tax roll as a special charge pursuant to §66.0627, Wis. Stats.
- (8) **CITY LIABILITY.** The City shall be under no duty or obligation to a subscriber or to any other person concerning any provision of this section, including, but not limited to, any defects in an alarm system or any delays in transmission or response to any alarm; however, this in no way shall be construed that it is not the proper function of law enforcement to respond to alarms.

5.04 FIRE PREVENTION CODE. (1) GENERAL REQUIREMENTS. (a) **Authority of Fire Chief.** The authority of the Fire Chief and his designees shall follow applicable provisions of this Code.

- (b) **Interpretation.** In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this chapter shall be held to be minimum requirements liberally construed in favor of the City for the utmost protection of the public health and shall not be deemed a limitation or repeal of any other power granted by State law.
- (c) **Conflicts with Other Regulations.** In any case where a provision of this chapter is found to be in conflict with a provision of any other local, State or Federal law or regulation, the provision of which establishes a higher standard for the promotion and protection of the health and safety of the people shall prevail.
- (d) **Appeals.** Whenever the Fire Chief or Building Inspector disapproves an application or refuses to grant a permit, or when it is claimed that the provisions of this code do not apply or that the true intent and meaning of this chapter have been misconstrued or wrongly interpreted, any person

feeling aggrieved by such order or determinations may appeal to the Board of Appeals. Those procedures customarily used to effectuate an appeal to the Board of Appeals shall apply.

- (e) Penalty and Enforcement. The Fire Chief, or his designee, may issue citations for violations of any provision of this chapter. Persons cited under this provision are subject to penalties as provided in the general penalty provisions of this Code. The Fire Chief, or his designee shall, also have the power granted under State law to abate violations of this chapter which constitute public nuisances.
- (f) Codes Adopted. 1. The following chapters of the Wisconsin Administrative Code are hereby adopted by reference:

COMM 7	Explosive Materials
COMM 10	Flammable and Combustible Liquids
COMM 12	Liquefied Natural Gases
COMM 13	Compressed Natural Gases
COMM 14	General Hazard Fire Prevention
COMM 15	Cleaning and Dyeing
COMM 28	Smoke Detectors
COMM 30	Safety and Health Standards for Fire Service Personnel
COMM 32	Safety and Health Standards for Public Employees
COMM 43	Anhydrous Ammonia
COMM 50-64	Building and Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning Code
COMM 70	Historic Buildings
COMM 160-164	Existing Buildings

- 2. The codes of the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) as listed below and as amended are hereby adopted by reference.

13	Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems
13A	Care and Maintenance for Sprinkler Systems
13D	Standards for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in 1 & 2 Family Dwellings and Mobile Homes
14	Standards for the Installation, Maintenance and use of Central Station Signaling Systems
72E	Standard on Automatic Fire Detectors

- (g) Definitions For the purposes of this section, the following definitions are used unless a different definition is specifically provided. Words used in the present tense include the future; the singular number includes the plural number; and the plural number includes the singular number. The word “shall” is mandatory and not permissive.

1. Approved. Accepted by the Fire Chief or Building Inspector as a result of his investigation and experience, or by reason of test, listing or approval by Underwriters' Laboratories, or other nationally recognized testing authorities.
2. Area. The maximum horizontal projected area on one floor of a building or structure within the perimeter of the outside surfaces of the exterior walls or, when a building is divided by approved fire walls, each section so divided shall be considered an area.
3. Automatic Fire Alarm System. A system which automatically detects a fire condition and actuates a fire alarm signal device.
4. Automatic Fire Sprinkler Equipment. An integrated system of underground and overhead piping designed in accordance with fire engineering standards. The system includes a suitable water supply, such as a gravity tank, fire pump, reservoir or pressure tank and/or connection by underground piping to a municipal water main. The portion of the sprinkler system above ground is a network of specially sized or hydraulically designed piping installed in a building structure or area, generally overhead, and to which sprinklers are connected in a systematic pattern. The system includes a controlling valve and a device for actuating an alarm when the system is in operation. The system is usually activated by heat from a fire and discharges water over the fire area.
5. Basement. Any level below the first or ground floor with its entire floor below exit discharge grade.
6. Dwelling. A building occupied exclusively for residence purposes and having not more than 2 apartments, or as a boarding or rooming house serving not more than 15 persons with meals or sleeping accommodations or both.
7. Fire Resistive. The type of construction in which the structural members, including walls, partitions, columns and floor and roof construction are of noncombustible materials with the fire resistive ratings not less than those specified in Wis. Adm. Code COMM 51.03.
8. Fire Wall. A recognized fire wall which has a fire resistance rating of not less than the required rating of one, 2, 3, or 4 hour, and which subdivides a building into separate buildings to restrict the spread of fire, including a 3 foot parapet wall if required by the State Code.

- 9. Multi-Family House. A building or portion thereof containing or more dwelling units, including tenement house, apartment house or flat.
- 10. Story. As defined in Wis. Adm. Code 1.01.
- 11. Other terms used in this section shall be defined in Wis. Adm. Code COMM 51.

- (i) Applicability of Fire Prevention Code. 1. This chapter shall be applicable in its scope and intent to the zoning districts R-31, B1, B2, M1 and M2 pursuant to ch. 17 of this Code, and this chapter shall not be applicable in its scope or intent to zoning districts R-1 and R-2, but shall be applicable to conditional uses in R-1 and R-2 Districts.
 - 2. The provisions of this chapter shall apply equally to new and existing conditions, except that existing conditions not in strict compliance with the terms of this chapter shall be permitted to continue where the exceptions do not constitute an exceptional hazard to life or adjoining property.

- (2) BUILDING IDENTIFICATION. (a) Truss and Composite Wood Joist Construction. 1. All buildings except one- and 2-family dwellings with truss or composite wood joist construction shall have a sign at the main entrances indicating Truss Construction. The sign shall be black with white letters, measuring 2” x 4” and be marked as indicated below:

Mx Wx Ix

Definitions: M=Metal Truss W =Wood Truss I= Composite Wood Joist
 X = R: Roof, F: Floors, or A: All

- 2. The signs required by this section shall be installed on the building by the owner or owner’s agent prior to issuance of an occupancy permit for occupancy of the building. The sign shall be located on the upper portion of the main building entrance door jamb in the center.
- (b) Building Identification. 1. All buildings properly identified as required by par. (a) above.
 - 2. The signs shall be provided, installed, and maintained by the building owner.
 - 3. Any blocked exterior door shall be marked on the outside not indicate access to available. Marking shall read “DOOR BLOCKED - NO ENTRY.”

- (3) **AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEMS.** (a) Automated Fire Sprinkler System Required for Certain Buildings. 1. Requirement Approved. Automatic fire sprinkler equipment or automatic fire extinguishing systems shall be installed and maintained for all construction covered by par. (1)(i) above.
2. Definitions The following definitions shall be applicable in this subsection:
- a. Approved. As applied to the installation of automatic fire sprinklers means approval by the authority charged with the enforcement of this chapter.
 - b. Approved. As applied to automatic fire sprinkler equipment and devices, means approval by a recognized testing laboratory.
 - c. Area. The maximum horizontal projected area on the main floor of a building or structure within the perimeter of the outside surface of the exterior walls or between approved fire walls.
 - d. Assembly Hall. All buildings or parts of buildings, other than theaters, which will accommodate more than 100 persons for entertainment, recreation, worship or dining purposes.
 - e. Automatic Fire Sprinkler Equipment. A system of piping connected to an adequate water supply and provided with approved automatic fire sprinklers an/or devices so arranged and located as to discharge water automatically to the seat of the fire.
 - f. Ground Floor. As defined in Wis. Adm. Code COMM 51.01(67).
 - g. Basement. As defined in Wis. Adm. Code COMM 51.01(10).
 - h. Fire Wall. A wall which has a fire resistance rating of not less than 4 hours and which divides a building or separates buildings to restrict the spread of fire. A 3 foot parapet wall may be required part of a fire wall in accordance with Wis. Adm. Code COMM 51.02(12).
 - i. Multi-Family Dwelling. A building or portion thereof containing 3 or more dwelling units such as tenements, apartments or rooming houses. As prescribed in the ch. 17 of this Code. Row houses with fire separation [one hour] extending from basement

to underside of roof separating each living unit are exempt from this definition.

- j. Story. As defined in Wis. Adm. Code 51.01(122).
 - k. Sub-Basement. Any level below basement as defined in Wis. Adm. Code COMM 51.01.
 - l. Theater. All buildings or parts of buildings, containing an assembly hall, having a stage which may be equipped with curtains or movable scenery, or which is otherwise adaptable to the showing of plays, operas, motion pictures or similar forms of entertainment.
3. Installation Required. Approved automatic fire sprinkler equipment or automatic fire extinguishing systems shall be installed and maintained as follows:
- a. Buildings used for the manufacture, storage or sale of combustible goods or merchandise, as follows:
 - i. Fire resistive buildings used for manufacture, storage or sale of combustible materials.
 - A. One floor 10,000 feet or more in area.
 - B. Over one story in height and 6,000 square feet or more in area on a floor.
 - C. Over 4 stories in height regardless of area.
 - ii. Non-Fire Resistive Buildings.
 - A. One floor 6,000 square feet or more in area.
 - B. Over one story in height and 4,000 square feet or more on a floor.
 - C. Over 2 stories.
 - 2. Garages.
 - i. Fire resistive buildings 10,000 square feet or more in area on any floor or exceeding 4, unless open sided.
 - ii. Basement and sub-basement garage, containing spaces in excess of 3 passenger vehicles above or below other occupancies.

- iii. Garages used as passenger terminals.
- c. Basements. Basements having an area of 2,500 square feet or more when used for the sale or storage of combustible materials, not including garage area.
- d. Multi-Family.
 - i. Fire Resistive Buildings.
 - A. Basements, stairways and corridors in buildings up to 5 stories.
 - B. Throughout in buildings 5 stories or more.
 - ii. Non-Fire Resistive Buildings.
 - A. Basement, stairways and corridors.
 - B. Throughout building if 3 stories or over.
- e. Office Buildings, Motels and Hotels.
 - i. Fire Resistive Buildings.
 - A. None required for single story.
 - B. Basements, stairways and corridors in buildings of tow 2 stories up to 5 stories.
 - C. Throughout in buildings of 5 or more.
 - ii. Non-Fire Resistive Buildings.
 - A. Basements, stairways and corridors up to 2 stories.
 - B. Throughout if building over 2 stories.
- f. Theaters and Assembly Halls.
 - i. Fire Resistive Buildings. Stage, under roof of stage, gridirons, fly galleries and ridges, dressing rooms, property rooms and on stage side of the proscenium opening.
 - ii. Non-Fire Resistive Construction. Throughout all buildings.
- g. Hospitals.
 - i. Fire Resistive Buildings. Basement, kitchens, shops, laundries, laboratories, stairways. Corridors and all other areas where combustible materials are handled or stored.

- ii. Non-Fire Resistive Construction. Throughout all buildings.
- h. Nursing, Convalescent, Old Age and Institutional Buildings.
 - i. Throughout all buildings.
- i. Schools, Colleges, Universities.
 - i. Fire Resistive Buildings. Basements, workshops, laboratories, stairways, corridors, stage areas of auditoriums, janitor closets, kitchens, cafeterias and all places where combustible materials are handled or stored.
 - ii. Non-Fire Resistive Construction. Throughout all buildings
- j. Dormitories, Fraternity and/or Sorority Houses.
 - i. Fire Resistive Construction. Linen rooms, storage rooms, boiler rooms, kitchens, stairways, corridors and all areas where combustible materials are handled or stored.
 - ii. Non-Fire Resistive Construction. Throughout all buildings.
- k. Hazardous Properties. Throughout every building which by reason of its construction or highly combustible occupancy involves a severe life hazard to its occupants or, in the judgment of the authority having jurisdiction, constitutes a fire menace. Sample occupancies which are considered highly combustible are as follows:
 - i. Aircraft hangars
 - ii. Chemical works
 - iii. Explosive or pyrotechnic manufacturing
 - iv. Linseed oil mills
 - v. Linoleum and oil cloth manufacturing
 - vi. Oil refineries
 - vii. Paint shops
 - viii. Pyroxylin plastic manufacturing or processing
 - ix. Shade cloth manufacturing
 - x. Solvent extracting
 - xi. Varnish or paint manufacturing

- xii. Any occupancy involving processing, mixing, storage and/or dispensing volatile liquids
1. Other Properties Requiring Protection.
 - i. Bowling Alleys. Throughout buildings of 8,000 square feet or more floor area.
 - ii. Restaurants.
 - A. Throughout buildings of 8,000 square feet or more floor area.
 - B. All kitchen exhaust hoods and ducts for cooking equipment must be sprinklered or an approved type of automatic extinguishing system installed.
 - iii. All Sub-Basements. Required throughout.
 - iv. All buildings 50 feet in height above outside grade at any point required throughout.
 - m. Application to Existing Buildings Where the Fire Chief and/or Building Inspector finds that existing buildings, which, in whole or in part for the purposes set forth in par. (1)(i) above, constitute a fire hazard to its occupants or adjoining property, the Fire Chief and/or the Building Inspector may require the installation of automatic sprinkler systems or automatic fire extinguishing systems as provided under this section.
 - n. Type of System and Approval of Plans.
 - i. Automatic sprinkler equipment shall be installed and connected to an adequate water supply. Sprinkler heads, valves and auxiliary equipment of standard types shall be determined by the authority having jurisdiction in effect at the date of installation.
 - ii. All automatic sprinkler systems will be installed as to audibly alert persons occupying buildings.
 - iii. No automatic sprinkler equipment shall be installed or altered in a building until plans have been submitted to and approved by the Fire Chief and/or fire officers.
 - o. Exemptions.

- i. Safe deposit or other vaults.
 - ii. Rooms or buildings devoted to the manufacture or storage of aluminum powder, calcium carbide, calcium phosphide, metallic sodium or potassium, quick lime, magnesium powder, sodium peroxide or like materials where the application of water may cause or increase combustion.
 - iii. Any other locations where the installation of sprinklers may increase the occupational hazard as determined by the authority having jurisdiction.
- (b) Design and Installation. 1. Design Standards The design and installation of any automatic fire sprinkler system shall be completed in accordance with NFPA 13 - Standard of Installation of Sprinkler Systems and other applicable standards of NEPA.
2. Additional Design Requirements. a. System Drain. The system shall have a drain piped to the outside of the building or to a drain suitable to handle the required flows.
- b. Inspector's Test Valve. The system shall have an inspector's test valve piped so as to discharge to the outside of the building, or to drain suitable to handle the flows.
 - c. Alarm Bells or Horns. Alarm bells or horns shall be installed on all systems. Bells or horns shall be installed on the inside of the building, and shall be in each unit or tenant space. A Mechanical Water Gong alarm shall be installed on the outside of the building.
 - d. Residential Occupancies. In multi-family residential buildings without a common interior area, the sprinkler system riser shall be located in a separate heated room with direct access to the outside of the building for use by the fire department.
 - e. Optional Fire Sprinkler Systems in One- or 2-Family Dwellings. When any fire sprinkler system is installed in a one or 2 family dwelling it shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 13D - Standard for Installation of Sprinkler Systems in one- and 2-family dwellings and mobile homes and the following requirements:

- i. Any installation of an automatic sprinkler system within a one- or 2-family dwelling shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 13D - Standard for Installation of Sprinkler Systems in one- and 2-family dwellings and mobile homes
- ii. Automatic sprinkler systems installed within one- and 2-family dwellings shall have 2 plans submitted to the Fire Department for review and conditional approval.
- iii. Residential quick response sprinkler heads are to be used in buildings of this type.
- iv. The installation of the sprinkler system shall be inspected by the Fire Department prior to enclosing into wall and ceiling spaces.
- v. A hydrostatic test shall be conducted on the system in the presence of a Fire Department Inspector.
- vi. A final inspection by the Fire Department shall be conducted prior to placing the system in service.

(c) Conditional Approval Required for Installation. No automatic sprinkler equipment shall be installed or altered in any building until plans have been submitted to and conditionally approved by the Fire Department. Two copies of the plans and the specifications shall be submitted for review. Plans for sprinkler systems including drawings, diagrams and calculations shall be submitted to the Fire Department for review and conditional approval. In the event pipe schedule is used, a written report with verified pressure information shall be submitted. The engineer submitting such calculations shall stamp and sign the report. Conditionally approved plans shall be stamped with the date of review. One copy shall be returned to the owner and one retained by the Fire Department. Plans shall be conditionally approved prior to any installation or construction.

- (d) Installation of Sprinkler Systems, Inspection Services Required.
1. Installation of Sprinkler Systems. The installation of all sprinkler piping, heads, and risers shall be inspected by the Fire Department before being covered.
 2. Installation of Underground Piping. The installation of underground piping shall be inspected by the Fire Department prior to being covered.

3. Notice. The installer shall provide a minimum of 3 working days' advance notice to the Fire Department before any required installation inspection.
- (e) Final Approval, Acceptance Test; Automatic Sprinkler System. 1. The sprinkler system shall have a hydrostatic test performed in the presence of a fire department inspector.
2. The sprinkler system shall be tested by flows of the main drain and inspector's test. The acceptance test shall be conducted by the installer in the presence of a Fire Department Inspector.
 3. The installer shall provide minimum of 3 working days advanced notice to the Fire Department prior to performance of final acceptance test.
- (f) Failure to Comply. Failure to comply with the items listed in pars. (d) and (e) above can result in enforcement action against the installer.
- (g) Automatic Sprinkler System; Annual Test Requirements; Owner's Responsibility to Maintain Automatic Sprinkler System. 1. Maintenance. a. Automatic fire sprinkler systems shall be maintained for efficient service as specified within NFPA 13A - Standard for the Care and Maintenance of Sprinkler Systems.
- b. A qualified sprinkler technician shall inspect and test the automatic sprinkler system at least annually. The provisions of NEPA 13A, Chapters 7 to 21 shall be used as the inspection criteria.
2. One- and Two-Family Dwellings. Automatic fire sprinkler systems installed in one- and 2-family dwellings shall be maintained following the provisions of NEPA 13A and NFPA 13D.
 3. Records. A current test record shall be posted adjacent the sprinkler control valve, signed by the sprinkler technician.
- (h) Retroactive Provisions. 1. The provisions of par. (b)2.a.. above (sprinkler system drains), par. (b)2.b. above (inspector's test valve) and par. (g) above (sprinkler system annual testing) shall apply to all sprinkler systems within the City.
2. Systems not in compliance with the provision of par. (b)2.a. and b. above shall have 12 months after the effective date of this section to come into compliance.

- (4) **ALARM SYSTEM (FIRE AND SMOKE DETECTION).** (a) Scope. To Provide early warning in the event of fire, detection systems shall be installed and maintained in operable condition in all occupancies and locations set forth in this section.
- (b) Where Required. When required by State codes, smoke detection systems shall be installed in all spaces in buildings regardless of size or construction. One- and 2-family dwellings shall have smoke detection systems as required by the Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- (c) Installation. All components of fire or smoke detectors system shall be listed by Underwriters Laboratories (UL), or the Factory Mutual System (FM). The entire installation shall conform to applicable provisions of NFPA Standards 71, 72A, 72C, 72D, or 72E, the National Electrical Code Article 760, the Wisconsin Electric Code and the Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- (d) System Operation. Alarm initiating devices, and the standards for actuation of such devices, shall comply with the requirements of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- (e) Conditional Approval for Installation of Fire and Smoke Detection Systems. No fire and smoke detection system shall be installed or altered in any building until plans have been submitted to and conditionally approved by the Fire Department. Two copies of the plans shall be submitted. The plans shall contain drawings showing locations of detectors, pull stations and horns. The plans shall contain a brief description of connections within the system. Conditionally approved plans shall be stamped with the date of approval. One copy shall be returned to the owner.
- (f) Acceptance Test Required. 1. The acceptance test of a fire and smoke detection system shall be conducted in the presence of an Inspector from the Fire Department prior to being placed in service. All testing shall be conducted by the installer.
2. The installer shall give 3 working days advance notice to the Fire Department prior to the conduction of any test.
- (g) Failure to Comply. Failure to comply with the items listed in par. (f) above may result in enforcement action against the installer.
- (h) System Service Support. 1. The system installer must maintain a service organization within 50 miles of the City.

2. The system installer must be a licensed electrician.
- (i) Alarm Systems; Test Requirements; Owner's Responsibility to Maintain Alarm System. 1. Maintenance fire detection and fire alarm systems shall be tested for efficient service as specified by NFPA requirements.

2. A current test/maintenance record shall be posted at the system control panel.
- (5) **STANDPIPES AND HOSE SYSTEMS.** (a) Where Required. Standpipe and hose systems shall be installed and maintained in operable condition in all occupancies in the following locations:
1. In any new building with more than 3 interior stories, except one- and 2-family dwellings.
 2. Within any building 100,000 square feet or more in total gross area.
 3. Within any building having any horizontal dimension of 300 or more feet.
- (b) Design and Installation. 1. Standpipe and hose systems shall be installed in accordance with Wis. Adm. Code COMM 51.21, or NFPA 14 - Standards for Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems.
2. Standpipe and hose systems required in this Chapter shall be Class I or III types, as specified in NFPA 14. Wet standpipe systems may be permitted as an integral part of an approved automatic fire sprinkler system, provided calculations for required fire flows have been submitted with sprinkler system plans.
- (c) Conditional Approval Required for Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems. No standpipe and hose system shall be installed or altered in any building until plans have been submitted to and reviewed by the Fire Department. Two copies of the plans and specifications shall be submitted. The plans shall contain drawings showing locations of valves, Fire Department connections, and hydraulic calculations. The engineer submitting the calculations shall stamp and sign the report. Approved plans shall be stamped with the date of review. One copy shall be returned to the owner and one copy kept on file in the Fire Department office.
- (d) Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems, Inspection Required. 1 Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems. The installation of all

standpipes and hose systems shall be inspected by the Fire Department before being covered.

2. Installation of Underground Piping. The installation of underground piping shall be inspected by the Fire Department prior to being covered.

(e) Final Approval, Acceptance Test; Standpipe and Hose Systems. 1. The system shall have a hydrostatic test performed in the presence of an inspector from the Fire Department.

2. The system shall be tested in accordance with NFPA 14. the test shall be conducted by the installer in the presence of an Inspector from the Fire Department.

3. The installer shall give 3 working days advance notice to the Fire Department prior to the conduction of any test.

(f) Failure to Comply. Failure to comply with the items listed in par. (d) and (f) above may result in enforcement action against the installer.

(g) Standpipe and Hose System Test Requirements. 1. Standpipe and hose systems shall be maintained in accordance with NFPA 14 - Standards for Installation of Standpipes and Hose Systems.

2. Inspection and maintenance of standpipe and hose system shall be conducted annually by a qualified sprinkler/standpipe technician in accordance with NFPA 14, Chapter 8. Exception: Hydrostatic testing of underground piping may be omitted during annual testing.

3. A current inspection/maintenance report shall be posted on the system control valve.

(6) FIRE HYDRANT REQUIREMENTS. (a) Where Required. 1. Intent. The intent of this subsection is to insure an adequate water supply for firefighting purposes to structures or buildings which are located on private property at extended distances from City hydrants.

2. Installation Required .When substantial portions of a building are set back 250 feet or more from the street or highway or are more than 300 feet from a City hydrant, the owner shall install, at his expense, approved water hydrants. Hydrants shall be free standing and be installed not more than 50 feet nor less than 25 feet from the building. One hydrant shall be located at the main entrance to such building. Additional hydrants shall be provided around the perimeter of the

building so that no hydrant is more than 250 feet from any other approved hydrant measured by normal access routes.

3. **Approved Water Hydrant.** Water hydrant connected to a City water main, with 2 and 2-1/2 inch hose connections and one 4-1/2 inch hose connection. The connecting water line between the City water main and the approved water hydrant shall be not less than 6 inches. All water hydrants shall be approved by the Fire Chief and the Director of Public Works and shall be installed in compliance with the standards of the Department of Public Works. All water hydrants shall be installed in such a manner and location so as to be accessible at all times to the Fire Department.
 4. **Miscellaneous Requirements.** All fire hydrants shall be approved by the Fire Chief and shall be installed in compliance with the standards of the City Water Utility. All fire hydrants shall be installed in such manner and location as to be accessible at all times to the Fire Department. All fire hydrants shall be tested at least annually. Hydrants shall be located at every intersection or in every cul-de-sac. The Water Utility shall provide the Fire Chief with a written report of fire hydrant testing by January 1 of each year.
- (b) **Blocking of Fire Hydrants Prohibited.** Except where marked with official traffic markings, no person shall park any motor vehicle within 10 feet of any fire hydrant or connection, or otherwise interfere with the accessibility of an fire hydrant by piling, dumping or placing any other obstructive material or object within then 10 feet of a fire hydrant, nor between them and the centerline of the street, without first obtaining written permission from the Fire Chief. Every calendar day during which such interference continues shall constitute a separate offense.
- (c) **Marking of Fire Hydrants.** 1. **General Requirements.** Fire hydrants locations shall be identified with yellow paint on the curb. The curb shall be painted to produce a 20 foot stripe extending 10 feet to each side of the hydrant unless a shorter distance is indicated by official traffic markings. Areas without a curb shall have a 6 inch yellow stripe placed on the pavement. Pursuant to Chapter 2 of NFPA 291, all fire hydrants shall be color coded.
2. **Classification of Hydrants.** Hydrants shall be classified in accordance with their rated capacities [at 20 psi (1.4 bar) residual pressure or other designated value] as follows:

Class AA — Rated capacity of 1500 gpm or greater (5680 L/min)

Class A — Rated capacity of 1000-14900 gpm (3785 - 5675 L/min)

Class B — Rated capacity of 500 -999 gpm (1900-3780 L/min)

Class C — Rated capacity of less than 500 gpm (1900 L/min)

3. Marking of Hydrants. a. Public Hydrants. i. All barrels are to be chrome yellow, except in case where another color has already been adopted. The tops and nozzle caps should be painted with the following capacity-indicating color scheme to provide simplicity and consistency with colors used in signal work for safety, danger, and intermediate condition:
 - A. Class AA — Light blue
 - B. Class A—Green
 - C. Class B — Orange
 - D. Class C — Red
 - ii. For rapid identification at night, it is recommended that the capacity colors be of a reflective type paint.
 - iii. Hydrants rated at less than 20 psi (1.4 bar) should have the rated pressure stenciled in black on the hydrant top.
 - iv. In addition to the painted top and nozzle caps it may be advantageous to stencil the rated capacity of high volume hydrants on the top.
 - v. The classification and marking of hydrants provided for in this section anticipate determination based on individual flow test. Where a group of hydrants may be used at the time of fire, some special marking designating group flow capacity may be desirable.
 2. Flush Hydrants. Location markers for flush hydrants should carry the same color background as stated above for class indication, with such other data stenciled thereon as may be deemed necessary.
 3. Private Hydrants. Marking of private hydrants within private enclosures shall be marked as required in **section 4-82(A, B, & C)**. When private hydrants are located on public streets, they shall be painted red or some other color to distinguish them from public hydrants.
- (7) **SECOND EXIT FROM DWELLINGS REQUIRED.** Any dwelling units with 3 or more units per building shall have 2 exits from each dwelling unit. One exit shall go directly to the outside of the building by means of an exit door. For multiple story buildings, a rescue platform (exterior balcony) may be used.

Rescue platforms shall be designed and installed according to Wis. Adm. Code IND 57.05. The second exit may use a common hallway or other normal means of ingress/egress.

- (8) **BUILDING FLOOR PLAN SUBMITTAL REQUIRED.** (a) Before the issuance of an occupancy permit, in addition to any other required plans, the owner/agent shall submit to the Building Inspector 2 11" x 17" floor plans of a building, whether new or remodeled. For multi-floor buildings, 2 11" x 17" plans of each floor shall be provided. The plans shall indicate the "as built" plan of the building. One set of plans shall be forwarded from the Building Inspector to the Fire Chief.
- (b) The floor plans shall indicate all electrical panels, furnaces, sprinkler connections, lock boxes, roof mounted equipment, roof and attic access panels and scuttles, fire alarm panels. The symbols used shall be National Electrical Code symbols and symbols listed in the Appendix.
- (c) The floor plans shall be clear reproductions, capable of being copied.
- (9) **RAZING DAMAGED BUILDINGS.** This section adopts by reference §66.05, Wis. Stats., and Wis. Adm. Code COMM 14.117 as they relate to damaged buildings.
- (10) **FIRE PREVENTION.** (a) Maintenance of Equipment. Any sprinkler system, standpipe system, fire alarm system, smoke detection system and other fire protective or extinguishing system or appliance which has been installed pursuant to this chapter or in compliance with any other statute, ordinance or regulation, shall be maintained in operative condition at all times. It shall be unlawful for any owner or occupant to reduce the effectiveness of the protection so required; provided, however, that the owner or occupant may temporarily reduce or discontinue the protection where necessary to make tests, repairs, alterations or additions to the system or appliance. The Fire Department Dispatch Center shall be notified before any system is reduced or discontinued for such repair. Alteration or addition and shall be notified promptly upon the system's restoration to service.
- (b) Storage In and Around Required Egress. Storage of combustibles shall not be permitted in and around any required egress area (under staircases, in horizontal exit, etc.) in any building covered by this chapter.
- (11) **REQUIRED ACCESS FOR FIRE APPARATUS.** (a) General Requirements. 1. Provisions For. All premises, public or private, which the Fire Department may be called upon to protect in case of fire and which are not readily accessible from public roads shall be provided with suitable gates, access roads and fire lanes so that all buildings on the premises are accessible to fire apparatus.

2. Fire Lanes. Fire lanes shall be provided on public or private property devoted to public use for all buildings used for human habitation or occupancy which are set back more than 100 feet from a public road or exceed 30 feet in height and are set back more than 50 feet from a public road. Fire lanes may also be designated on those private roadways where it is found by the Fire Chief that such access is necessary for fire apparatus.
 3. Width. Fire lanes shall be at least 20 feet in width with the closest edge of the lane at least 10 feet from the building.
 4. Designation, Marking and Maintenance of Fire Lanes. The designation, marking and maintenance of fire lanes shall be accomplished as specified by the Fire Chief. The current State Department of Transportation standards for highway marking shall be used as guidelines in designating and marking any fire lane.
 5. Emergency Access. A written document, on a form prepared by the Fire Chief and for the benefit of the City, shall be required for emergency access over all fire lanes. The document shall define the area designated as a fire lane and shall specify those methods used to label or post the area as a fire lane. A copy of the document shall be kept on file in the Fire Department, the Police Department, the office of the City Clerk, and the office of the Building Inspector.
- (b) Designated Fire Lanes. 1. Designated fire lanes shall be marked with signs within 5 feet of the beginning and within 5 feet of the end of the fire lane, with spacing between signs not to exceed 75 feet. Each sign shall face in the direction of oncoming traffic. The curb shall be painted yellow; if there is no curb, a 6 inch wide stripe shall be painted the full length of the fire lane. Fire lane signs shall be affixed to a stationary pole or object. Signs shall be plainly visible.
2. Roadways identified exclusively as fire lanes shall be identified with approved fire lane signs on each side facing forward and the pavement area between the signs shall be striped with 6 inch wide yellow stripes.
 3. Before the requirements may be enforced, the fire lane shall be approved by the Fire Chief. A sticker shall be placed on each sign indicating approval and authorizing enforcement of the provisions of this subsection.
 4. It shall be unlawful for any person to post a fire lane sign without the approval of the Fire Chief.

5. Vehicles parked in fire lanes shall be cited with a municipal citation. This may be issued by a member of the Police Department or members of the Fire Department who have been assigned citation authorization.
 6. Vehicles shall be permitted to stop in a fire lane while actively loading or unloading provided the driver is present. When this requirement is met, a reasonable amount of time may be allowed for the completion of the transaction.
- (c) Fire Lane Parking Regulated. 1. Any vehicle that is parked within a fire lane designated and marked in accordance with sub. (2)(b) above may be removed at the vehicle owner's expense.
2. Vehicles shall be towed away under the following circumstances:
 - a. When a vehicle repeatedly violates par. (b) above by habitually parking in a fire lane.
 - b. When a vehicle blocks the ingress/egress of a business, theater, night club, apartment complex, gymnasium or place of public assembly.
 - c. When the vehicle's presence threatens the life safety of the public by impeding the ability of fire apparatus and/or emergency medical equipment to respond to an emergency.

Removal of a vehicle under such circumstances may be authorized by the person in lawful possession of the property or by the Fire Chief, or his representative. The Police Department may order the towing of a vehicle at any time that the above conditions exist.
 3. An inspection report with warning notice shall be issued to the property owner, occupant or risible party requiring that if the obstruction is not removed within the specified time period, the department may cause the removal of the obstruction with the cost of removal billed to the person responsible for the obstruction.
 4. When it becomes necessary to obstruct a fire lane, i.e. construction, remodeling or repair, a site approval shall be required and permission obtained from the Fire Chief. A copy of the authorization shall be posted at the time.

- (d) Unapproved Fire Lane. Unapproved fire lane signs posted without the approval of the Fire Chief shall be removed or the fire lane shall be formally established and posted as required by this chapter.
 - (e) Required Access Within Construction Areas.
 1. Every building shall be accessible to Fire Department apparatus by way of an access roadway.
 2. Access roadways shall be extended to within 150 feet of all portions of the exterior walls of the first story of any building.
 3. Access roadway shall not be less than 20 feet of unobstructed width, and shall have a minimum of 13 feet 6 inches of vertical clearance.
 4. Access roadways in excess of 300 feet in length shall provide approved provisions for a turnaround adequate for Fire Department apparatus.
 5. A driving surface of at least road base quality gravel shall be maintained at all times in order and all weather integrity is assured.
 6. The road base shall be capable of supporting the imposed loads of fire apparatus.
 7. During winter months, the roads shall be maintained by the owner to include proper and timely snow removal.
 8. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in issuance of a citation under **section 4-6** and each calendar day shall constitute a separate offense.
- (12) ADMINISTRATIVE APPENDIX. (a) Explanation. An administrative appendix which explains and clarifies sections of this chapter may be prepared and maintained by the Fire Chief
- (b) Liability for Damages. This chapter shall not be construed to affect the responsibility of any person owning, operating or installing any equipment for damage to persons or property caused by any defect therein nor shall the City be held as assuming any such liability by reason of the inspection or reinspection authorized herein or by reason of the disapproval or approval of any equipment authorized herein.
 - (c) Investigation of Fires.
 1. The Fire Chief or designated Fire Department officers shall investigate the cause, origin and circumstances of every fire occurring in the City which is of suspicious nature or which involves loss of life or injury to persons or by which property has been destroyed or

substantially damaged. Such investigations shall begin immediately upon the occurrence of such fire by the Fire Department officer and, if it appears that such a fire is of suspicious origin, the Chief shall be immediately notified of the facts. He shall take charge immediately of the physical evidence, shall notify the proper authorities designated by law to pursue the investigation of such matters, and shall further cooperate with the authorities in the collection of evidence and in the prosecution of the case.

2. Every fire shall be reported in writing to the Fire chief or Fire Department officers within 2 days after the occurrence of the same by the officer in whose jurisdiction such a fire has occurred. Such report shall be in such a form as shall be prescribed by the Fire Chief and shall contain a statement of fact relating to the cause, origin and circumstances of such fire, injury to persons, extent of the damage and such other information as may be required.
 3. The City Attorney, the Police Department and the Building Inspector, upon request of the Fire Chief, may assist the inspectors in the investigation or disposition of any fire which, in their opinion, is of suspicious origin.
- (d) Orders to Eliminate. Whenever the Fire Inspector shall find in any building or upon any premises dangerous or hazardous conditions as follows, he shall order such dangerous materials or conditions to be removed or remedied in such a manner as may be specified in the order:
1. Dangerous or unlawful amounts of combustible or explosive matter.
 2. Hazardous conditions arising from defective or improperly installed equipment for handling or using combustible or explosive matter.
 3. Dangerous accumulations of rubbish, wastepaper, boxes, shavings or other highly flammable materials.
 4. Accumulations of dust or waste material in air conditioning systems or of grease in kitchen exhaust ducts.
 5. Obstruction to or on fire escapes, stairs, passageways, doors or windows liable to interfere with the operations of Fire Department or egress of occupants in case of fire.
 6. Any building or other structure which, for want of repair, lack of sufficient fire escapes or other exit facilities, automatic or other fire alarm apparatus or fire extinguishing equipment, or by reason of age or dilapidated condition, or from an other cause, creates a fire hazard or a threat to life and safety.

- (e) Service of Orders. 1. The service of such orders as provided in par. (d) above may be made upon the owner, occupant or other person responsible for the conditions, either by delivering a copy of some personally or by delivering the same to and leaving it with any person in charge of the premises, or in case such person is not found upon the premises, by affixing a copy thereof in a conspicuous place on the door to the entrance of said premises. Whenever it may be necessary to serve such an order upon the owner of premises, such an order may be served either by delivering to and leaving with the said person a copy of the order, or if such owner is absent from the jurisdiction of the officer making the order, by mailing such copy to the owner's last known post office address.
2. If a building or other premises are owned by one person and occupied by another under lease or otherwise, the orders issued in connection with the enforcing of this chapter shall apply to the owner and occupant thereof; in such cases, the rules or order shall affect the owner and occupant unless it is otherwise agreed between the owner and occupant.
- (f) Fire Records. The Fire Chief shall keep in his office a record of all fires and of all facts concerning the same, including statistics as to the extent of such fires and damage caused thereby.
- (g) Modifications. The Fire Chief or Fire Inspectors shall have power to modify any of the provisions of this chapter upon application in writing by the owner or lessee, or his duly authorized agent, when there are practical difficulties in the way of carrying out the strict letter of this chapter; provided that, the spirit of this chapter be observed, public safety secured and substantial justice done. The particulars of such modification, when granted or allowed, and the decision of the Department officials thereon shall be entered upon the records of the Department and a signed copy shall be furnished to the applicant.
- (h) Permits, Certificates, Approvals, Inspections and Appeals. 1. A building permit shall be issued only for those buildings which conform to the provisions of this chapter. Two copies of the plans and specifications detailing standpipe, hydrants, sprinkler or substitute systems designed by a licensed designer of fire protection systems, professional engineers or architects shall be submitted for approval. Approved plans shall be stamped "Approved by Fire Chief and/or Fire Officers" and the date of approval. One copy shall be returned to the owner and one copy kept on file in the Fire Department. Inspection of systems and determination of compliance with this chapter and the approved plans shall be made by the Fire Chief and/or Fire Officers.

2. Whenever the Fire Chief and/or Fire Officers shall disapprove an application or the Fire Chief and/or Fire Officers shall request a revocation, the applicant may appeal the decision to the Board of Appeals within 30 days of the date of the appealed decision.
3. Whenever the applicant shall claim that the provisions of this chapter do not apply to the structure in question or that the intent and meaning of this chapter have been misconstrued or wrongly interpreted, the applicant may appeal the decision to the Board of Appeals within 30 days of the date of the appealed decision.
4. The Fire Chief and/or Fire Officers may request the revocation of any permit issued in accordance with this chapter in any case where he finds that any of the conditions for issuance have not been maintained or where there has been false statement or misrepresentation of any material fact in the application or plans on which the issuance was based.
5. The Fire Chief shall promptly notify the permit holder of the request for revocation and if so requested by the permit holder, the effective date of the revocation shall be deferred pending a hearing before the Fire Chief. The decision of the Chief for revocation, following the hearing, shall be final except that the permit holder may appeal the decision to the Board of Appeals within 30 days.
6. All appeals shall be in the form of a written notice served on the Fire Department or the City Clerk in which the questioned decision is fully stated. Such notice shall be at once transmitted to the Board of Appeals, which Board shall arrange for a hearing on the particular issue raised.