

Fire Code

Chapter 9, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rockford, Illinois, is hereby amended as follows:

Section 9-111 is amended as follows:

Section 9-111. Adopted by reference.

The ICC International Fire Code 2021, as recommended and maintained by the International Code Council, Inc. including Appendix A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M and N is hereby referred to, adopted, and made a part hereof, as if fully set out in this article, with the additions, insertions, deletions and amendments contained in section 9-112 and section 9-113.

Section 9-113 is amended as follows:

Section 9-113 Amendments, additions and deletions.

Amendments to the ICC International Fire Code 2021 have not been set out herein, but can be found on file with the appropriate department of the city for review and purchase by the public.

Amendments to the International Fire Code.

The ICC International Fire Code /2021 edition is amended as follows:

(1) Section 101 is amended as follows:

101.1 Title. These regulations shall be known as the *Fire Code* of The City of Rockford, hereinafter referred to as "this code."

(2) Section 102.7.1 is amended as follows:

102.7.1 Conflicts. Where conflicts occur between provisions of this code and referenced codes and standards, ~~the provisions of this code shall apply,~~ the stricter of the codes and standards shall apply, or as approved by the fire code official.

(3) Section 103.1 is amended as follows:

103.1 Creation of agency. The ~~[INSERT NAME OF DEPARTMENT]~~ City of Rockford Fire Department is hereby created and the official in charge thereof shall be known as the fire code official. The function of the agency shall be the implementation, administration and enforcement of the provisions of this code.

(4) Section 103.4 is added as follows:

103.4 Restriction of employees. An official or employee connected with the enforcement of this code, except whose only connection is that of a member of the board of appeals established under the provisions of section 111 of this code, shall not be engaged in, or directly or indirectly connected with, the furnishing of labor, materials or appliances for the construction, alteration or maintenance of a building, or the preparation of construction documents thereof, unless that person is the owner of the building; nor shall such officer or employee engage in any work that conflicts with official duties or with the interests of the department.

(5) Section 104.1.2 is added as follows:

104.1.2 Automatic Appeals. In any case where orders or approvals by the Code official and Director of the Fire prevention Bureau are not in full agreement, the matter shall be resolved in the following manner: The case shall be reviewed by the Community Development Director and the Fire Chief. If agreement cannot be reached, the matter shall be referred to the City Administrator for review and decision. The decision of the City Administrator may then be appealed to the Building Board of Appeals pursuant to Section 113.

(6) Section 105.5.12 is amended as follows:

105.5.12 Cutting and welding. When required by the fire code official, an operational permit is required to conduct cutting or welding operations within the jurisdiction.

(7) Section 105.5.34 is amended as follows:

105.5.34 Open burning. An operational permit is required for the kindling or maintaining of an open fire or a fire on any public street, alley, road, or other public or commercial ground. Instructions and stipulations of the permit shall be complied with.

Exception: Recreational fires, as defined in City of Rockford open burning ordinance, which are located on private residential ground.

(8) Section 105.6.24 deleted and replaced as follows:

105.6.24 Temporary membrane structures, canopies and tents. A construction permit is required to construct an air-supported temporary membrane structure and tent having an aggregate area in excess of 120 square feet. A construction permit is required to construct a canopy having an aggregate area in excess of 400 square feet.

Exceptions:

1. One day use in conjunction with residential uses unless the tent, canopy requires electrical permit and inspections due to use of electric equipment.
2. Tents used exclusively for private recreational purposes.
3. Tents or canopies used in conjunction with funeral services.
4. Tents open on all sides which comply with all of the following:
 - a. Individual tents shall have a maximum size of 400 square feet.
 - b. The aggregate area of multiple tents placed side by side without a fire break clearance of not less than 12 feet shall not exceed 700 square feet total.
 - c. Tents, canopies or membrane structures shall not be located within 20 feet of lot lines, buildings or other tents or membrane structures, parked vehicles or combustion engines unless approved by the fire code official.

(9) Section 109.3 is amended as follows:

109.3 Recordkeeping. A record of periodic inspections, tests, servicing and other operations and maintenance shall be maintained on the premises or other approved location for not less than 3 years, or a different period of time where specified in this code or referenced standards. Records shall be made available for inspection by the fire code official, and a copy of the records shall be provided to the fire code official on request.

The fire code official is authorized to prescribe the form and format of such recordkeeping. The fire code official is authorized to require that certain required records be filed with the fire code official.

109.3.1 Records submittal. All required records are to be submitted to the fire code official through an online submittal process as prescribed by the fire code official.

(10) Section 109.7 is added as follows:

109.7 Debris as nuisance. Debris remaining at the scene of a fire after the site has been authorized for removal by the fire department shall constitute a nuisance. Property owner shall be notified of said nuisance and, if not rectified to standards established by City of Rockford inspectors, said debris shall be removed by the city or its duly authorized agent. Costs for removal shall become a lien against the property or other actions permitted by law.

(11) Section 112.4 is deleted and replaced as follows:

~~**[A] 112.4 Violation penalties.** Persons who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, install, alter, repair or do work in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the fire code official, or of a permit or certificate used under provisions of this code, shall be guilty of a [SPECIFY OFFENSE], punishable by a fine of not more than [AMOUNT] dollars or by imprisonment not exceeding~~

~~[NUMBER OF DAYS], or both such fine and imprisonment. Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.~~

112.4 Violation penalties. *Persons who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, install, alter, repair or do work in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the fire code official, or of a permit or certificate used under provisions of this code, shall be subject to penalties within the limits provided in state and local laws and punishable by a fine of not less than \$50.00 and not more than \$750.00 dollars. Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.*

(12) Section 307.1 is deleted and replaced as follows:

307.1 General. Open burning shall be prohibited.

Exceptions:

1. As permitted by City of Rockford Open Burning Ordinances
2. Un-incorporated areas with a burn ordinance

(13) Section 307.1.1 is amended as follows:

307.1.1 Prohibited open burning. Open burning shall be prohibited when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous.

~~Exception: Prescribed burning for the purpose of reducing the impact of wildland fire when authorized~~

(14) Section 308.1.6.3 is amended as follows:

308.1.6.3 Sky lanterns. A person shall not release or cause to be released a ~~untethered~~ sky lantern or any other airborne flame producing device.

(15) Section 308.4.1 is amended as follows:

308.4.1 Group R-2 dormitories. Candles, incense and similar open-flame-producing items shall not be allowed in ~~sleeping units in~~ Group R-2 dormitory occupancies.

(16) Section 313.2 is amended as follows:

313.2 Group R occupancies. Vehicles ~~powered by flammable liquids, Class II combustible liquids or compressed flammable gases~~ shall not be stored within the living space of Group R buildings.

Exception: Areas of Group R buildings designed in accordance with 2021 IBC, or applicable code at the time of construction, for vehicle storage.

(17) Section 506.1.2 is amended as follows:

506.1.2 Key boxes for ~~nonstandardized~~ fire service elevator keys. Key boxes provided for ~~nonstandardized~~ fire service elevator keys shall comply with Section 506.1 and all of the following:

1. The key box shall be compatible with an existing rapid entry key box system in use in the jurisdiction and *approved by the fire code official.*

(18) Section 507.5.3 is amended as follows:

507.5.3 Private fire service mains and water tanks. Private fire service mains and water tanks shall be periodically inspected, tested and maintained in accordance with NFPA 25 at the following intervals:

1. Private fire hydrants of all types: Inspection annually and after each operation; flow test and maintenance annually.
2. Fire service main piping: Inspection of exposed, annually; flow test every 5 years.
3. Fire service main piping strainers: Inspection and maintenance after each use.

Records of inspections, testing and maintenance shall be maintained and a copy submitted to the City of Rockford Fire Department in accordance with section 109.3.1

(19) Section 507.5.1.2 is added as follows:

507.5.1.2 Private Fire Hydrants. Where a private fire hydrant water supply is provided from a building or structure, a room constructed in accordance with 2021 IBC shall be provided with a minimum fire separation of 2 hours and structurally capable to resist early collapse. Provided rooms shall be accessible from no less than one exterior door and heated to a minimum of 50 degrees Fahrenheit in accordance with 2021 International Mechanical Code.

Exception:

1. Buildings provided throughout with an automatic fire suppression sprinkler system shall provide a room with a minimum fire separation of 1 hour.

2. Separate building or structure provided for the sole purpose of private fire water service constructed in accordance with this code, 2021 International Building Code, and referenced NFPA standards

(20) Section 508.1.6 is amended as follows:

508.1.6 Required features. The *fire command center* shall comply with NFPA 72 and shall contain the following features:

1 through 3 no changes

4. Annunciator unit visually indicating the location of elevators and whether they are operational. Annunciator shall provide control of elevators from the fire command center.

5 through 18 no changes

(21) Section 901.4.8 is added as follows:

901.4.8 Fire Alarm Installation Personnel Qualifications. Manual fire alarm, automatic fire detection systems, and emergency communication systems installation personnel shall be certified to a NICET Fire Alarm level II or higher, or IMSA Interior Fire Alarm level II. A trainee to trainer ratio of 2:1 is allowed. Qualified installer shall be on site during all fire alarm installation activities.

(22) Section 901.4.9 is added as follows:

901.4.9 Fire and Life Safety Protection Systems Labels, Tags, and Information Plates: All required identification labels, tags, and information plates for fire and life safety protection systems shall be approved and constructed of material designed to resist weathering or loss of required information due to environmental exposures. All required labels on control valves and system deactivation switches shall be reflective with lettering contrasting to the background.

(23) Section 901.6.3.2 is added as follows:

901.6.3.2 Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems Records submittal. All required service and maintenance records are to be submitted to the fire code official through an online submittal process as prescribed by the fire code official.

(24) Section 901.6.4 is added as follows:

901.6.4 Fire Alarm Service Personnel Qualifications. Manual fire alarm, automatic fire detection systems, and emergency communication systems inspection, testing, and maintenance personnel shall be certified in NICET Inspection and Testing of Fire Alarm Systems, IMSA Interior Fire Alarm level I, or specialized training from the fire alarm system manufacture. A trainee to

trainer ratio of 2:1 is allowed. Qualified personnel shall be on site during all fire alarm inspection, testing, and maintenance activities.

(25) Section 901.6.5 is added as follows:

901.6.5 Fire Sprinkler Suppression System Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance Personnel

Qualifications. Fire sprinkler suppression system inspection, testing, and maintenance personnel shall be NICET qualified or completed a trade journeyman course. A trainee to trainer ratio of 2:1 is allowed. Qualified personnel shall be on site during all sprinkler suppression system inspection, testing, and maintenance activities.

(26) Section 901.6.6 is added as follows:

901.6.6 Evidence of Qualification. Life safety and fire protections Installation and service personnel must keep on their person evidence of qualifications while performing their duties. Evidence of qualification must be presented at the request of the fire code official.

1. If evidence of qualification cannot be produced when requested by the fire code official, the fire code official may issue a stop work order, issue fines, and require corrective action by the responsible contractor or property owner.

(27) Section 903.2.4.2 is amended as follows:

903.2.4.2 New and existing Group F-1 distilled spirits. *An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout a building or structure with a Group F-1 fire area used for the manufacture of distilled spirits.*

(28) Section 903.2.9.3 is amended as follows:

903.2.9.3 New and existing Group S-1 distilled spirits or wine. *An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout a building or structure with a Group S-1 fire area used for the bulk storage of distilled spirits or wine.*

(29) Section 903.2.10 is amended as follows:

903.2.10 Group S-2 parking garages. *An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout buildings classified as parking garages where any of the following conditions exist:*

Items 1 through 3, no changes

4. Any new or existing parking garages with electric vehicle charging stations.

(30) Section 903.2.10.3 is added as follows:

903.2.10.3 Parking Garages. New sprinkler systems installed in any parking garage shall be designed to a minimum hazard classification of Ordinary Hazard 2.

(31) Section 903.3.8.4 is amended as follows:

903.3.8.4 Supervision. Control valves shall not be installed between the water supply and sprinklers unless the valves are of an *approved* indicating type that are supervised and secured in the open position.

(32) Section 907.2.4 is amended as follows:

907.2.4 Group F. A manual fire alarm system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed in Group F occupancies where ~~both~~ any of the following conditions exist:

1. The Group F occupancy is two or more stories in height with a combined fire area of 12,000 square feet or greater.
2. The Group F occupancy has a ~~combined~~ *occupant load* of ~~500~~ 100 or more above or below the lowest *level of exit discharge*.
3. The Group F occupancy has a combined occupant load of 300 or more.
4. The Group F occupancy is 12,000 square feet or greater and is occupied by more than one tenant.

Exception: Manual fire alarm boxes are not required where the building is equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 and the occupant notification appliances will activate throughout the notification zones upon sprinkler water flow.

(33) Section 907.2.9. is amended as follows:

907.2.9. Group R-2 and R-4. Fire alarm systems and smoke alarms shall be installed in Group R-2 and R-4 occupancies as required in Sections 907.2.9.1 through 907.2.9.4.2

(34) Section 907.2.9.4.1 is added as follows:

907.2.9.4 Group R-4. Fire alarm systems and smoke alarms shall be installed in Group R-4 occupancies as required in Sections 907.2.9.4.1 through 907.2.9.4.2.

(35) Section 907.2.9.4.1 is added as follows:

907.2.9.4.1 Manual fire alarm system. A manual fire alarm system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed in Group R-4 occupancies.

Exceptions:

1. A manual fire alarm system is not required in buildings not more than two stories in height where all individual *sleeping units* and contiguous attic and crawl spaces to those units are separated from each other and public or common areas by not less than 1-hour *fire partitions* and each individual *sleeping unit* has an *exit* directly to a *public way, egress court* or yard.
2. Manual fire alarm boxes are not required throughout the building where all of the following conditions are met:
 - 2.1. The building is equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.
 - 2.2. The notification appliances will activate upon sprinkler water flow.
 - 2.3. A minimum of one manual fire alarm box is installed at an *approved* location.

(36) Section 907.2.9.4.2 is added as follows:

907.2.9.4.2 Automatic smoke detection system. An automatic smoke detection system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed throughout all interior *corridors* serving *sleeping units*.

Exception: An automatic smoke detection system is not required in buildings that do not have interior *corridors* serving *sleeping units* and where each *sleeping unit* has a *means of egress* door opening directly to an *exit* or to an exterior *exit access* that leads directly to an *exit*.

(37) Section 907.2.10 is amended as follows:

907.2.10 Group S. A manual fire alarm system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed in Group S public- and self-storage occupancies ~~three~~ two stories or greater in height for interior *corridors* and interior common areas. Visible notification appliances are not required within storage units under 1,000 square feet.

Exception: Manual fire alarm boxes are not required where the building is equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, and the occupant notification appliances will activate throughout the notification zones upon sprinkler water flow.

(38) Section 907.2.10 deleted and is replaced as follows:

907.2.10 Group S. A manual fire alarm system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed in Group S occupancies where any of the following conditions exist:

1. The Group S occupancy is two or more stories in height.
2. The Group S occupancy has an *occupant load* of 100 or more above or below the lowest *level of exit discharge*.
3. The Group S occupancy has a combined occupant load of 300 or more.
4. The Group S occupancy is 12,000 square feet or greater and is occupied by more than one tenant.

Exceptions:

1. Manual fire alarm boxes are not required where the building is equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 and the occupant notification appliances will activate throughout the notification zones upon sprinkler water flow.
2. Visible notification appliances are not required within individual storage units under 1,000 square feet.

| (39) Section 912.2.2 is deleted and replaced as follows:

912.2.2 Existing buildings. On existing buildings, wherever the fire department connection is not visible to approaching fire apparatus, the fire department connection shall be indicated by an *approved* sign mounted on the street front or on the side of the building. Such sign shall be reflective and constructed of material designed to resist weathering. The sign shall have a white background with all lettering and graphics red in color. Such sign shall have the letters "FDC" not less than 6 inches (152 mm) high and words in letters not less than 2 inches (51 mm) high or an arrow to indicate the location not less than 3 inches (75 mm) high. Such signs shall be subject to the approval of the fire code official.



(40) Section 912.6 is deleted and replaced as follows:

912.6 Backflow protection. A water supply serving a fire suppression system shall be protected against backflow with a Reduced Pressure Zone (RPZ) backflow device and comply with the requirements of *Illinois Plumbing Code*.

(41) Section 1103.5.3 is amended as follows:

1103.5.3 Group I-2, Condition 2. In addition to the requirements of Section 1103.5.2, existing building of Group I-2, Condition 2 occupancy shall be equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1. The automatic sprinkler system shall be installed as established by the adopting ordinance (~~DATE BY WHICH SPRINKLER SYTEM MUST BE INSTALLED~~) a compliance plan submitted by the property owner and approved by the fire code official.

(42) Section 1103.7.5.2 is amended as follows:

1103.7.5.2 Group R-1 and R-3 boarding and rooming houses manual fire alarm system. A manual fire alarm system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed in existing Group R-1 and R-3 boarding and rooming houses.

Exception:

1. Buildings less than two stories in height where all *sleeping units*, attics and crawl spaces are separated by 1-hour *fire-resistance-rated* construction and each *sleeping unit* has direct access to a *public way, egress court* or yard.
2. Manual fire alarm boxes are not required where the building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2 and the occupant notification appliances will activate throughout the notification zones upon sprinkler water flow.
3. Not fewer than one manual fire alarm box is installed and an *approved* location.

(43) Section 1103.7.5.1 is amended as follows:

1103.7.5.1 Group R-1 hotel and motel manual fire alarm system. A manual fire alarm system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed in existing Group R-1 hotels and motels more than one story above or below the level of exit discharge or with more than ~~20~~ 16 *sleeping units*.

Exceptions:

1. A manual fire alarm system is not required in buildings less than two stories in height where all *sleeping units*, attics and crawl spaces are separated by 1-hour *fire-resistance-rated* construction and each *sleeping unit* has direct access to a *public way, egress court* or yard.
2. A manual fire alarm system is not required in buildings not more than three stories in height with not more than 20 *sleeping units* and equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.
3. Manual fire alarm boxes are not required throughout the building where the following conditions are met:
 - 3.1. The building is equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.
 - 3.2. The notification appliances will activate upon sprinkler water flow.
 - 3.3. Not less than one manual fire alarm box is installed at an *approved* location.

(44) Section 1103.7.5.1.1 is amended as follows:

1103.7.5.1.1 Group R-1 hotel and motel automatic smoke detection system. An automatic smoke detection system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5

shall be installed throughout all existing Group R-1 hotels and motels ~~throughout all interior corridors serving sleeping rooms~~ not equipped with an *approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.

Exception: An automatic smoke detection system is not required in buildings that do not have interior *corridors serving sleeping units* and where each *sleeping unit* has a *means of egress* door opening directly to an *exit* or to an exterior *exit access* that leads directly to an *exit*.

(45) Section 1103.7.5.2.1 is amended as follows:

1103.7.5.2.1 Group R-1 and R-3 boarding and rooming house automatic smoke detection system.

An automatic smoke detection system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed in existing Group R-1 and R-3 boarding and rooming houses throughout all interior *corridors serving sleeping units* not equipped with an *approved, supervised sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.

~~Exception: Buildings equipped with single station smoke alarms meeting or exceeding the requirements of Section 907.2.11.1 and where the fire alarm system includes not less than one manual fire alarm box per floor arranged to initiate the alarm.~~

(46) Section 1103.7.6 is deleted and replaced as follows:

1103.7.6 Group S A manual fire alarm system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed in existing Group S occupancies where any of the following conditions exist:

1. The Group S occupancy is two or more stories in height.
2. The Group S occupancy has an *occupant load* of 100 or more above or below the lowest *level of exit discharge*.
3. The Group S occupancy has a combined occupant load of 300 or more.
4. The Group S occupancy is 12,000 square feet or greater and is occupied by more than one tenant.

Exceptions:

1. Manual fire alarm boxes are not required where the building is equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 and the occupant notification appliances will activate throughout the notification zones upon sprinkler water flow.
2. Visible notification appliances are not required to be installed within individual storage units under 1,000 square feet.

(47) Section 1103.7.7 is added as follows:

1103.7.7 Group F. A manual fire alarm system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed in existing Group F occupancies where any of the following conditions exist:

1. The Group F occupancy is two or more stories in height with a combined fire area of 12,000 square feet or greater.
2. The Group F occupancy has an *occupant load* of 100 or more above or below the lowest *level of exit discharge*.
3. The Group F occupancy has a combined occupant load of 300 or more.
4. The Group F occupancy is 12,000 square feet or greater and is occupied by more than one tenant.

Exception: Manual fire alarm boxes are not required where the building is equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 and the occupant notification appliances will activate throughout the notification zones upon sprinkler water flow.

(48) Section 3305.5.1 is amended as follows:

3305.5.1 Fire watch during construction. A fire watch shall be provided during nonworking hours for new construction that exceeds 40 feet (12 192 mm) in height above the lowest adjacent grade at any point along the building perimeter, for new multistory construction ~~with an aggregate area exceeding 50,000 square feet (4645 m²) per story~~ or as required by the *fire code official*.

(49) Section 3305.5.2.1 is amended as follows:

3305.5.2.1 Duties. The ~~primary~~ sole duty of fire watch personnel shall be to perform constant patrols and watch for the occurrence of fire. The combination of fire watch duties and site security duties is acceptable.

(50) Section 3305.5.2.2 is amended as follows

3305.5.2.2 Training. Personnel shall be trained to serve as an on-site fire watch. Training shall include the use of portable fire extinguishers, use of on-site fire protection systems, and response to fire, medical, and weather emergencies. Fire extinguishers and fire reporting shall be in accordance with Section 3310. Documentation of training for fire watch personnel shall be made available to the fire code official upon request.

(51) Section 5601.2.2 is deleted and replaced as follows:

5601.2.2 Sale and retail display. Persons shall not construct a retail display nor offer for sale *explosives, explosive materials, or fireworks* (1.3G or 1.4G).

(52) Section 5608.1 is amended as follows:

5608.1 General. Outdoor fireworks displays, use of pyrotechnics before a ~~proximate~~ an *audience*, and pyrotechnic special effects in motion picture, television, theatrical, and group entertainments productions shall comply with Section 5608.2 through 5608.10, NFPA 1123 and 1126, and all governing federal, state, and local laws and ordinances.