

# Code Reference Package



**2006 Code Edition  
May 2008**

**for  
Architects  
Engineers  
Designers  
Installers**

**Fire Prevention Division  
Engineering Plans Review Branch  
10700 Page Avenue  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030  
Tel: 703 246-4806  
Fax: 703-691-1053  
TTY: 703-385-4419**

**[http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/prevention/code\\_ref\\_pkg\\_06.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/prevention/code_ref_pkg_06.pdf)**

**May 2008**

# FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

Code Reference Package  
2006 Code Edition  
Issued May 2008

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## Codes and Standards in Force Summary

Fairfax County Fire Prevention Division  
Effective May 1, 2008

**Note: ALL PERSONS ARE REQUIRED TO CONSULT AND COMPLY WITH CODE. USE OF THE CODE REFERENCE PACKAGE DOES NOT EXEMPT THE USER FROM DIRECT USE OF THE CODE.**

1. **Fairfax County Public Facilities Manual** current edition. See especially Chapter 9. PFM is continuously updated.
2. **Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code** 2006 edition, incorporating International Building Code, 2006 with emendations.  
(ICC = International Code Council)  
ICC International Mechanical Code 2006  
ICC International Plumbing Code 2006  
NEC 2005
3. **Fairfax County Fire Prevention Code**, incorporating the International Fire Code with emendations, and incorporating VA Statewide Fire Prevention Code 2006.
4. **Elevator Code** ASME A17.1-2004
5. **Accessibility Code** ANSI A117.1-2003, Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities.
6. The following principal National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards. This list is not exhaustive of the NFPA standards referenced by USBC/IBC.

NFPA	10	(2007) Portable fire extinguishers
NFPA	13	(2007) Installation of sprinkler systems
NFPA	13D	(2007) Installation of sprinkler systems in one and two-family dwellings and mobile homes
NFPA	13R	(2007) Installation of sprinkler systems in residential occupancies up to four stories in height
NFPA	14	(2007) Standpipe and hose systems
NFPA	17	(2002) Dry chemical extinguishing systems
NFPA	17A	(2002) Wet chemical extinguishing systems
NFPA	20	(2007) Centrifugal fire pumps
NFPA	22	(2003) Water tanks for private fire protection
NFPA	24	(2007) Private fire service mains and their appurtenances
NFPA	25	(2007) Inspection, Testing & Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems
NFPA	30	(2003) Flammable and combustible liquids code
NFPA	30A	(2003) Automotive and marine service station code
NFPA	30B	(2007) Manufacture and Storage of Aerosol Products
NFPA	37	(2002) Stationary Engines
NFPA	72	(2007) National Fire Alarm Code
NFPA	80	(1999) Fire doors and windows
NFPA	2001	(2004) Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems

## PLAN SUBMITTAL INFORMATION MATRIX

Plan Type	Primary Code Reference	Submit Plans To	Phone Contact	Is a Permit needed/type?
Assembly/Exhibit	Fire Prevention Code	FMO/Inspections	703-246-4849	FPCP@FMO
Building	USBC	DPWES/BPR	703-222-0114	@DPWES
Building Tenant	USBC	DPWES/BPR	703-222-0114	@DPWES
Fire Alarm	IBC 907	FMO Plans Review	703-246-4806	Low Volt/F.AL/FMO
Fire Alarm Tenant	IBC 907	FMO Plans Review	703-246-4806	Low Volt/F.AL/FMO
Fire Pump	NFPA 20-07	FMO Plans Review	703-246-4806	Pump/FMO
Fireworks	Fire Prevention Code	FMO/Inspections	703-246-4849	FPCP@FMO
Foam	NFPA 11 Series	FMO/Plans Review	703-246-4806	Foam/FMO
Clean Agent	NFPA 2001	FMO/Plans Review	703-246-4806	FMO
Special Locks	USBC 1008	FMO/Plans Review	703-246-4806	Low Volt/F.AL/FMO
Propane (LPG) Tank	FPC/NFPA 58	FMO/Plans Review	703-246-4806	FMO
Range Hood	IMC 509	FMO/Plans Review	703-246-4806	FMO
Site Plan	PFM	FMO/Plans Review	703-246-4806	DPWES/OSD S
Sprinkler	13-07	FMO/Plans Review	703-246-4806	SPK@FMO
Sprinkler Tenant	13-07	FMO/Plans Review	703-246-4806	SPK@FMO
Tank Removal	FPC	FMO/Inspections	703-246-4849	FPCP@FMO
Tent/Temporary	IBC 3103	FMO/Plans Review	703-246-4806	FPCP@FMO
Aboveground Tank	FPC/IMC	FMO/Plans Review	703-246-4806	@FMO
Underground Tank	FPC/IMC	FMO/Plans Review	703-246-4806	@FMO

**FEES:** All fees are calculated per the fee schedule in Chapter 61, Code of the County of Fairfax. This includes work done in Plans Review, Systems Testing, and Inspections. Billing rate is per published fee schedule.

DPWES = Department of Public Works and Environmental Services  
 FMO = Fire Marshal's Office (Fire Prevention Division)  
 FPCP = Fire Prevention Code Permit

**FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION PLANS REVIEW BILLING INFORMATION FORM**  
**Herndon Tenant & Site Plans Only**

**PARTY RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT**

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBMITTING FIRM (If same as above – write same)**

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

Type of Plan: \_\_\_\_\_ Shell: (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_ or Tenant: (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_

Plan # or DEM Que #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resubmission: (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_ Revised Approved Plan: (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_

Previously Rejected: (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_ As Built: (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_ Plan Sets: (#) \_\_\_\_\_

Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suite: \_\_\_\_\_

Floor: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

See page 11 for Tenant Plans Information Sheet  
See page 29 for Fire Alarm Plans Check In Form

## SITE PLAN / SUBDIVISION REVIEW CHECKLIST FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

The following checklist is provided to serve as a general guideline for the purpose of identifying major items of review by the Plan Review Section of the Fairfax County Fire Prevention Division as required by the Fairfax County Public Facilities Manual, current edition, Chapter 9, Parts 1 and 2.

PFM = Public Facilities Manual

USBC = Uniform Statewide Building Code

### **BUILDING DATA**

1. Submitter name, address, telephone in full.....USBC 109.2
2. Building name, address in full .....USBC 109.2
3. County site plan number (DPWES Tracking Requirement for Plan Control)
4. Type of construction – IBC classification ..... PFM 9-0202.2C(2)
5. Use Group – IBC classification.....PFM 9-0202.2C(1)
6. Number of stories ..... PFM 9-0202.2C(10)
7. Building height in feet..... PFM 9-0202.2C(10)
8. Foot print area of building..... PFM 9-0202.2C(12)
9. Gross floor area of building ..... PFM 9-0202.2C(12)
10. If fire walls are to be built, label on plan with hour rating ..... PFM 9-0202.2C(11)
11. State on plan if building is to be sprinklered, in full or partial ..... PFM 9-0202.2C(7)
12. If sprinklered, show fire department siamese connection(s), fireline ..... PFM 9-0202.2C(9)  
locations, and size of pipe (with correct valve arrangement)
13. Fire hydrants to be shown on site plan, water mains ..... PFM 9-0202.2C(5), 2C(4)  
to be shown and size of pipe labeled..... PFM STD FH-1,2,3,4,5
14. Provide available fire flow at 20 psi and state source of  
information..... PFM 9-0202.2C(6), 9-0202.2F

### **EMERGENCY VEHICLE ACCESS**

1. Adequate emergency vehicle access, turning radii.....PFM 9-0202.2J(1)
2. Fire lanes to be labeled for curb painting and signage ..... PFM 9-0202.2J(5)
3. Buildings more than 5 stories or 50 ft. need front and rear access..... PFM 9-0202.2J(2)
4. Dead-end fire lanes greater than 100 ft. require a turnaround..... PFM 9-0202.2J(6)
5. Emergency vehicle access to within 100 ft. of main..... PFM 9-0202.2J(1)  
entrance to every building
6. Swimming pool access – to be within 50 ft. of edge of pool via..... PFM 9-0202.2J(7)  
12 ft. wide access lane (must be posted fire lane) with 8 ft. wide personnel gates
7. Height restrictions blocking emergency access ..... PFM 9-0202.2J(8)  
(low overhead like canopy) 15 ft. minimum clearance required
8. Multi-story parking structure obstructions to access, ..... PFM 9-0202.2J(9)  
also design live load to carry weight of fire department vehicles (450 psf. live load)

**FIRE HYDRANT (FH) COVERAGE AND LOCATION**

1. Minimum of 50 ft. distance from FH to any structure ..... PFM 9-0202.1I
2. Maximum 100 ft. from FH to siamese connection ..... PFM 9-0202.1K
3. FH coverage: Measured from the hydrant to the ..... PFM 9-0202.1L  
most remote point of vehicular access on the site,  
via the vehicular travel path:
  - Industrial building and warehouse ..... 250'
  - Schools, day care centers ..... 300'
  - Offices, commercial, church, hospital, nursing home ..... 350'
  - Apartments, multi-family dwellings ..... 350'
  - Single family dwellings ..... 500'
4. Dead-end water main to FH distance:
  - 6" (150 mm.) line ..... 380 ft. max. distance
  - 8" (200 mm.) line ..... 1550 ft. max. distance
  - 10" (250 mm.) line ..... 4600 ft. max. distance
  - 12" (300 mm.) line ..... 11,150 ft. max. distance
5. No obstructions of FH within 4 ft. (plantings, fences, ..... PFM 9-0202.1J  
retaining wall, etc.) or of siamese within 10 ft.
6. All fire hydrants and water mains located in or on parking ..... NFPA 24, 12.2.3  
structures shall be protected from freezing (no heat tape)
7. FH location for single family dwellings: ..... PFM 9-0103.12
  - (a) lot line and/or
  - (b) curve of pavement
8. Siamese located on street front, address side of building ..... PFM 9-0202.2C(9)
9. Siamese connection visible, accessible (no obstructions ..... PFM 9-0202.1J  
within 10 ft.)
10. Water supply must be available as soon as ..... IBC 3311.4  
combustibles present on site

**HEIGHT AND AREA CHECK**

1. USBC Table 503, height and area check ..... USBC 503, PFM 9-0202.2C(10)

**FIRE FLOW**

1. Adequate fire flow (at 20 psi) to be available on site ..... PFM 9-0202.2C(6), 9-0202.2F
2. Fireline properly sized ..... PFM 9-0202.2C(8)

**FIRE LANE DESIGNATION**

1. Appropriate signage and curb markings indicated on all plans ..... PFM 9-0202(FH-7)

See page 21 below for Fireline Installation and Testing

**A Fire Lane Permit is required prior to inspection, A FPD Permit Application Plans Review & Billing Information Form is required, see page 57 for this application**

**FIRE LANE DESIGNATIONS**

Posting and marking of fire lanes was required as of July 1986 for all sites regardless of Use Group classification. Under Section F503.1 of the Fairfax County Fire Prevention Code, the Office of the Fire Marshal is authorized to designate fire lanes on public streets and on private property where necessary. This is to prevent parking in front of or adjacent to fire hydrants and to provide access for fire fighting equipment. Additional areas may be designated as fire lanes as conditions warrant. Markings and signs are to be provided by the owner or agent of the property involved. Parking or otherwise obstructing such areas is prohibited.

For **existing projects**, fire lanes will be designated at the request of the property owner, or agent, or if conditions warrant. The owner will be required to submit scaled site plan drawings for designation by the Office of the Fire Marshal.

For **new projects**, fire lanes will be designated during site plan approval. All fire lane information must be applied in a clear and orderly manner to the original mylar. All fire lanes must be shown on a site plan that is part of the site plan submittal set and all sets must have the fire lane plan included. The site plan scale can be no smaller than 1" = 30'. Street names and building addresses are to be shown. Plans submitted must indicate fire lanes designated in accordance with Fire Prevention criteria. A summary of the information necessary to create fire lanes acceptable to Fairfax County Fire and Rescue follows.

**I. FIRE LANES**

Fire Lanes shall be installed where required by the Office of the Fire Marshal. Fire lanes shall be marked with both sign and curb delineation per section V and VI below. Parking and traffic flow patterns shall be required as follows:

<b>Street Width Curb to Curb</b>	<b>One-Way Traffic</b>	<b>Two-Way Traffic</b>
Less than 24 Feet	No parallel parking on either side of street.	No parallel parking on either side of street.
24 Feet to 30 Feet	Parallel parking on one side as decided by Fairfax County Office of the Fire Marshal.	No parallel parking on either side of street.
30 Feet to 36 Feet	Parallel parking allowed on both sides of street.	Parallel parking on one side as decided by Fairfax County Office of the Fire Marshal.
36 Feet or Greater	Parallel parking allowed on both sides of street.	Parallel parking allowed on both sides of street.

**II. HYDRANTS**

- A. Parking is prohibited within 15 feet of a fire hydrant located along the curb line or edge of any public or private roadway. No special curb marking is required for enforcement.
- B. Fire hydrants installed in parking lots are to be located within a fire lane. Curb and/or roadway marking is required in accordance with sections V and VI below.

### III. FIRE LANE PLANS REVIEW CHECKLIST

The following checklist is provided to serve as a general guideline for the purpose of identifying major items of review by the Plans Review Section of the Fairfax County Fire Prevention Division as required by the Fairfax County Public Facilities Manual, current edition, Chapter 9, Part 1 and Part 2.

PFM = Public Facilities Manual

USBC = Uniform Statewide Building Code, 2003 Edition

IBC = International Building Code, 2003 Edition

CRP = Code Reference Package

#### A. Building Data

1. Submitter name, address, telephone number, in full CRP
2. Building name, address in full CRP
3. County site plan number (DPWES Tracking Requirement for Plan Control) PFM 9-0202.2C (2)
4. Number of stories PFM 9-0202.2C (10)
5. Building height in feet PFM 9-0202.2C (12)
6. If sprinklered, show fire department Siamese connection(s), fire-line locations and size of pipe labeled (with correct valve arrangement) PFM 9-0202.2C (9)
7. Fire hydrants to be shown on the site plan, water mains to be shown and size of pipe labeled PFM 9-0202.2C (5),  
PFM 9-0202.2C (4)

#### B. Emergency Vehicle Access

1. Adequate emergency vehicle access, turning radii PFM 9-0202.2J (1)
2. Fire lanes to be labeled for curb painting and signage PFM 9-0202.2J (5)
3. Buildings more than 5 stories of 50 ft. need front and rear access PFM 9-0202.2J (2)
4. Dead-end fire lanes greater than 100 ft. require a turnaround PFM 9-0202.2J (6)
5. Emergency vehicle access to within 100 ft. of main entrance to every building PFM 9-0202.2J (1)
6. Swimming pool access - to be within 50 ft. of edge of pool via 12 ft. wide access lane (must be posted fire lane) w/ 8 ft. wide personnel gates PFM 9-0202.2J (7)
7. Height restrictions blocking emergency access (low overhead like a canopy) 15 ft. minimum clearance required PFM 9-0202.2J (8)
8. Multi-story parking structure obstructions to access, also design live load to carry weight of fire department vehicles (450 psi live load) PFM 9-0202.2J (9)

#### C. Fire Lane Designation

- Appropriate signage and curb markings indicated on all plans PFM 9-0202 (FH-7)

#### **IV. NOTICES TO APPEAR ON SITE PLANS**

- A. The following notices must appear on the site plans.
  - 1. Fire Marshal field inspection is necessary for final approval of fire lanes. Fire lanes must have final approval prior to request for occupancy permit.
  - 2. Owner shall notify the Fire Prevention Division, Fire Lanes Unit, 10700 Page Avenue, Fairfax, Virginia 22030, 703-246-4849, TTY 703-385-4419, when fire lanes have been installed.
  
- B. The following notices will be shown on the site plans as required.
  - 1. To be an all weather surface designed to support fire department vehicles.
  - 2. To be identified as a fire lane at entrance.
  - 3. To be maintained clear and accessible all year.
  - 4. To have a mountable curb at entrance.
  - 5. Provide manufacturer's specifications and installation instruction for items used in access lanes to the Fire Marshal's Office for approval prior to installation.
  - 6. Installation of access areas must be witnessed by the Fire Marshal's Office. Please call for an appointment.
  - 7. Provide approximately 4 feet high bollards with steel chain locked between at curbside entrances to access lanes.
  - 8. Access lanes must be clearly delineated for entire length and at ends by shrubs, lights, etc.

#### **V. SIGN SPECIFICATIONS**

- A. Metal construction 12 inches X 18 inches.
- B. Red letters on reflective white background with 3/8 inch red trim strip around entire outer edge of sign.
- C. Lettering on sign to be: "NO PARKING OR STANDING FIRE LANE"
- D. Lettering size to be as follows: "NO PARKING" and "STANDING" is 2 inches, "OR" is 1 inch, "FIRE LANE" is 2 ½ inches and the arrow with the solid shaft is 1 inch X 6 inches with the solid head 1 ½ inches wide and 2 inches deep.
- E. Signs are to be mounted 7 feet from the ground to the bottom of the sign unless otherwise directed by the Office of the Fire Marshal.
- F. Posts for signs, when required, shall be metal and securely mounted, unless written permission for alternatives is obtained prior to installation from the Office of the Fire Marshal. Signs should be spaced as shown on approved plans. In long stretches, the maximum distance between signs is 70 feet.
- G. Other special signs may be approved by the Office of the Fire Marshal.

**SIGN TYPE "A"**



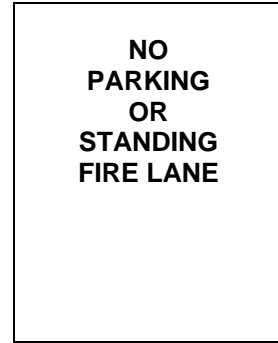
Standard wording with an arrow on the bottom pointing to the right. One sign mounted parallel to the line of curbing or pavement edge at the end of the painted area.

**SIGN TYPE "C"**



Standard wording with an arrow on the bottom pointing to the left. One sign mounted parallel to the line of curbing or pavement edge at the end of the painted area.

**SIGN TYPE "D"**



Standard wording with no arrow. Two signs, back to back, mounted perpendicular to the line of curbing or pavement edge.

## **VI. CURB DESIGNATION**

All curbs or paved spaces designated as fire lanes shall be indicated by yellow paint as approved by the Office of the Fire Marshal. In areas without curbing, a 6 inches (153mm) wide yellow stripe shall be applied to the edge of the pavement. Paint shall be highway traffic grade.

**NOTE:** Fire lane markings, types of signs, locations, etc. shall be subject to approval by the Office of the Fire Marshal.

## BUILDING / TENANT PLAN INFORMATION

BUILDING PLAN REVIEW BRANCH  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION, FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT



Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Suite: \_\_\_\_\_ Floor: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Submitting Firm: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Expediter: \_\_\_\_\_

**RESPONSIBLE PARTY:** Designated to pay all bills per Code of Fairfax County, Chapter 61, Section 61-1-5

Billing Name: \_\_\_\_\_ [Account No: \_\_\_\_\_]  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose of Space:	Floor #:
Scope of Tenant Work:	
Hazardous Materials: ___ Combustible Liq. ___ Flammable Liq. ___ Other _____	
Tenants Per Floor: ___ Single ___ Multiple	Tenants Use Group:

Use Group of Building:	Type of Construction:
Number of Stories in Building:	Code Year Building Designed Under: VUSBC
High-Rise Building: ___ Yes ___ No	Fire Control Room: ___ Yes ___ No
Gross Floor Area Per Floor:	Tenant Space Square Footage:

Sprinklers: ___ Yes ___ No	Partial	Fully
Monitoring by Approved Central Station: ___ Yes ___ No Name: _____		
Fire Alarm System: ___ Yes ___ No Type: _____		
Standpipes: ___ Yes* ___ No *IF YES, PROVIDE LOCATION ON PLAN		

FIRE RESISTANCE DESIGN NUMBER (If necessary)	
Floor/Ceiling:	Roof/Ceiling:
Corridor Separation:	Tenant Separation Walls:
Columns:	Beams:

**Revised March, 2005**

**FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION BUILDING / TENANT PLAN REVIEW CHECKLIST**  
2006 USBC-VA (IBC) Effective May 1, 2008

PROJECT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TENANT Q NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

SUBMITTER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Your tenant plans were rejected on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ for the following reasons:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Provide Key Plan showing location of space in building.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Provide size of space in square feet.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Define contents of space; define all work to be done.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Provide completed Building Information Sheet.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Dead end over 20/50 feet not permitted. IBC 1017.3
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Travel over 75 feet requires 2 remote exits. IBC 1014.3
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Floor space must have minimum of 2 remote exits. IBC 1019.1
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Over 50 people in a space requires 2 remote exits. IBC 1015.1
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Door hardware does not conform to IBC 1008.1.8
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Stairs 3 levels or less shall be 1 hour rated. IBC 1020.1
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Stairs 4 levels or more shall be 2 hour rated. IBC 1020.1
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Exit lights required. IBC 1011
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Emergency egress lighting required. IBC 1006
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Exit access corridor requires 1 hour rating with 20 min. doors, closers. USBC 1017.1
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Central station monitor required. Provide name of same. IBC 903.4.1, 907.14
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. Range hood pull station must be 10 to 20 feet from hood. IBC 904.11.1
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. Provide fire dampers. IBC 716
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. Pull stations to be no more than 5 feet from exit door. IBC 907.3.1
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. Guestroom/D.U. or mall tenant demising walls shall be 1 hour rated. IBC 708.1
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. Transfer grilles/ducts not permitted in exit access corridor. IBC 1017.4
- \_\_\_\_\_ 21. Separation required for mixed uses. IBC 508.3.3
- \_\_\_\_\_ 22. Provide fire alarm speakers. IBC 907.9.2
- \_\_\_\_\_ 23. Provide details of door hardware/special locking (wiring, location & cut sheet).  
USBC/IBC 1008.1.8.6, 1008.1.3.4
- \_\_\_\_\_ 24. Provide full floor plan. USBC 109
- \_\_\_\_\_ 25. Provide clear scaled drawings. USBC 109
- \_\_\_\_\_ 26. Provide seating plan (scaled). IBC 1004.7
- \_\_\_\_\_ 27. Provide Manufacturer Safety Data Sheets for all substances. IFC 2701.2
- \_\_\_\_\_ 28. Provide design number for floor/ceiling or other rated assembly. IBC 601
- \_\_\_\_\_ 29. Provide strobes per NFPA 72-07, 7.5.4.3
- \_\_\_\_\_ 30. Assembly aisles to be minimum width. IBC 1025.9.1
- \_\_\_\_\_ 31. Exit access corridor to be minimum 36/44" width. IBC 1017.2

SEE OVER FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: YES \_\_\_ or NO \_\_\_

If you have additional questions please contact \_\_\_\_\_ at  
703-222-0114 or 703-246-4806 \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer

## DOOR LOCKS, EXITS, AND SECURITY

In order to clarify the code requirements under the Virginia Uniform Statewide code, 2006 edition (incorporating the International Building Code 2006), and the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code, 2006 edition (incorporating the International Fire Code 2006), regarding special locks and their use or prohibition on exit doors, the following considerations must be borne in mind:

1. Is the door to be locked an exit door? Does it control an exit path, for anyone, at any time, in the building?
2. Is the door to be locked a fire-rated door? Is the door labeled? What is the rating in hours of the door, if it has such a rating?
3. Is the door in an exit stairwell?
4. Is the door in an elevator lobby?
5. Does the door pertain to one tenant, to more than one tenant, or to the whole building population in terms of those people who would have to pass through it in order to exit the building at any time?
6. Does the building have a full sprinkler system or full alarm system? If not, delayed egress locks cannot be installed (USBC 1008.1.8.6).
7. If you cannot answer all the above questions, then you cannot assess the code requirements which pertain to the use or prohibition of special locking devices on a particular door. So, first, go establish the above information for any door on which you intend to install special locks.

Then, the following code sections apply:

- A. All special locks (including those installed by or for tenants in tenant areas):** (see also International Building Code, hereafter referred to as IBC, IBC 1008.1.8.3 for main exterior egress door), USBC 1008.1.8.6 and IBC 1008.1.3.4. Any special locking device installed under the above codes must meet one or the other of these sections, known as the “push-bar option” and the “motion sensor option.” You must consult the code for the list of all items under each of these sections which must be complied with. Do not attempt to submit any special lock plan which does not list all items found under these sections in its sequence of operation. If you omit any one element, your plans cannot be approved.
- B. Any exit stairwell door:** IBC 1008.1.8.7, 403.12. In addition to the items under A above, the IBC (1008.1.8.7) states that “all interior stairway means of egress doors shall be openable from both sides without the use of a key or special knowledge or effort.” An exception is “doors arranged in accordance with IBC 403.12.” IBC 403.12, while found under the high-rise provisions, applies to any building in which the stairwell doors are proposed to be locked, and mandates that there be a stairwell door unlock key switch at the main annunciator panel location in the building. In addition, IBC 403.12.1 mandates that there be an emergency (call-out) phone for use by anyone trapped in the stairwell.

Thus, any time you wish to provide special locks on a stairwell door, you must arrange for the override and the call out phone.

Stairwell doors are fire-rated doors, and as such (see NFPA 80-99, 2-4.4.3) require **positive latching**. This means that normal electric strikes in which the strike plate fades away cannot be used in fire-rated door assemblies. There are certain exceptions to 2-4.4.3 which provide that “in a fire emergency, the door becomes positively latched.” Thus, you must provide for positive latching on a fire door.

**C. Hardware:** Rated doors (all exit stairwell doors are rated; other doors may carry a rating as well). All rated doors must have rated hardware. If you do not have rated hardware on a rated door, then your plans cannot be approved. If the cut sheets for the hardware you propose to install do not show explicitly that the hardware is rated, then it cannot be installed on a rated door. Common places where rated doors occur are: stairwells, horizontal exits, fire separations, dwelling unit separations, rated corridors, etc.

1. **Builders Hardware:** (UL category as found in the Underwriters Laboratories Fire Resistance Directory Volume 3.) “Builders hardware for swinging fire doors of the composite, hollow-metal, metal clad, sheet metal and wood-core types are listed in the following categories: auxiliary locks, electric strikes, fire exit hardware, automatic type flush or surface bolts, manual type flush or surface bolts, self-latching type flush or surface bolts, single point locks or latches, electrically controlled single point locks or latches, and two or three-point locks or latches.”
2. **Fire Exit Hardware:** If a door is both an exit door and requires panic hardware (see 1008.1.9), then you must provide fire exit hardware on this door. Any special locks which you install must also meet the UL listing for fire exit hardware.
3. **Un-rated doors:** Must meet 1008.1.8.6 and 1008.1.3.4. Hardware must be listed for the exiting purpose, but does not have to carry a fire rating.
4. **Mounting Height:** (1008.1.8.2): 48” A.F.F. max to 34” A.F.F. min.

**D. Reminders:**

1. **Number of doors** through which a person must pass: USBC 1008.1.8.6. “A building occupant shall not be required to pass through more than one door equipped with a delayed egress lock before entering an exit.” Note that this option is not permitted for an assembly occupancy. Option 1008.1.3.4. is permitted in an assembly occupancy. This is because a delay is involved in the provisions of 1008.1.8.6.
2. **Flush and surface bolts prohibited** by IBC 1008.1.8.4.
3. **Every floor area must be provided with two remote exits:** (see IBC 1019.1.) There are some exceptions to this, but be very careful about invoking them. Elevator lobbies, for example, need two ways out. Main corridors of individual floors must provide access to two remote exits.
4. **Listings:** Found in the following locations: \*UL Fire Resistance Directory, Vol. 3; Fire Door Accessories (Categories GVUW), Hardware (GWGR) and Builders Hardware (GWTZ). **Note:** Underwriters Laboratories provides categories of listed hardware in the above named directories. Other listing agencies may also provide listed hardware, provided that they are “nationally recognized testing laboratories.” The four letter designations are attached by UL to indicate the precise category under which a specific product or item is listed.

## DOOR LOCKS SECURITY ISSUES

Security is not treated per se in the building code. The only concern of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code in exit terms is people's ability to move out of the building, including adequate provisions for persons with disabilities. There are separate documents, not part of the building code, which provide information on security procedures:

1. Vulnerability Assessment of Federal Facilities, June 28, 1995, Department of Justice.
2. Federal specification: Locks, combination, FF-L-2740, Federal Supply Service, GSA.
3. Standards for the Physical Protection of National Resources and Facilities, U.S.D.O.C., National Institute of Standards and Technology, NISTIR 4618, July, 1991.
4. Navy Physical Security Equipment Manual, Department. Of the Navy, Office of CNO, 1989

**Note that the building code will not recognize any other standards with regard to exiting.**

Hence, design of secure areas and secure facilities must provide for exiting procedures as discussed in the building code sections cited above. Security design should therefore be premised on the identification of the secure perimeters to be maintained, the entry controls which are to be put in place, and technical means for providing response to intruders which simultaneously complies with IBC 2006 (all) and other provisions mentioned above. This means that particular attention has to be placed on the total movement pathway geometry for all occupants of the building. **A detailed exiting analysis must form part of any reasonable security design.** For federally owned (not leased) facilities, see 41 CFR 102-80.85.

**Along with the Plans Review Submittal, A FPD Permit Application Plans Review & Billing Information Form is required, see page 57 for this application.**

## **SPECIAL LOCKS PLANS SUBMITTALS**

Under the Uniform Statewide Building Code Section 109, and IBC 907.1.1, SFPC 108.5.3, plans submittals are required for the installation of special locks.

**Contents** of the submittal:

1. **Floor plan**, showing all doors and devices to be installed, with sufficient detail to indicate:
  - a. On which side and at what height each device is to be installed, with reference to the door.
  - b. The complete exiting pattern of the floor on which the door is located, including all surrounding areas, the main exit stairs, etc.
  - c. A complete symbols list, with accurate device names and part numbers for each item to be provided in the installation, along with a door list, showing ratings and sizes of the doors on which devices are to be installed, numbering each door and showing the list of devices to be at that door.
  - d. Complete building address, floor number, tenant space name and number, contractor and submitter name, address, phone, FAX, space occupant, use group of space and floor.
2. **Materials list:** All parts, components, or wiring, with complete cut sheets verifying the listing of each item.
3. **Sequence of operation:** must conform to USBC 1008.1.8.6, 1008.1.8.3, 1008.1.8.7, 403.12, 1008.1.3.4. Incomplete or erroneous sequence of operation is unacceptable.
4. **Wiring diagram**, including details of any and all interfaces with the fire alarm system, including which modules of the existing system will be utilized for interconnection. Type of wire per NEC 760.
5. **Power supplies.** Any power supplies associated with the installation, showing how they will drop out (fail safe) properly, if necessary.
6. **Stair door unlock switch location** and details if provided (see 1008.1.8.7.)
7. **Signage details**, with full dimensioned text of required lettering and location relative to the door shown, including height above finish floor and offset from the door (elevation views).
8. Location of existing or proposed stairwell call-out phones.

THREE COPIES OF THE ABOVE SUBMITTAL (with FPD Permit App. form) MUST BE SENT TO:

**Attn: Revenue & Records  
Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department  
Fire Prevention Division  
10700 Page Avenue  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030-7001  
Phone: 703-246-4806, FAX: 703-691-1053, TTY:703-385-4419**

The Plans Review staff cannot be responsible for assembling or collating your submittal materials.

**THEY MUST BE IN THREE COMPLETE COPIES, PROPERLY ASSEMBLED AND LABELED.  
IF THEY ARE NOT, THEY CANNOT BE REVIEWED.**

## REFERENCES:

INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, 2006 edition

STANDARD FOR FIRE DOORS AND FIRE WINDOWS, 1999 EDITION, NFPA 80, published by:

National Fire Protection Association.

1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269-9101

Phone: 800-344-3555

UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES, INC DIRECTORIES:

Building Materials Directory

Automotive, Burglary, and Mechanical Equipment Directory

Fire Resistance Directory

333 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook IL 60062-2096

Phone: (847) 272-8800, FAX (847)272-2020, 8129

**Along with the Plans Review Submittal, a FPD Permit Application Plans Review & Billing Information Form is required, see page 57 for this application**

## **SPRINKLER SYSTEM WATER SUPPLIES**

Effective July 1, 1986, all automatic sprinkler hydraulic designs submitted to this office shall provide:

1. Flow test data for an on-site hydrant, provided by and attested to by the water supplier to the site concerned, with date of flow test. If an on-site hydrant is not available for the test, the closest available hydrant shall be used.
2. Elevation, tax map number, and street location of the test hydrant.
3. An adjusted water supply curve for the test hydrant based on the low hydraulic grade line as provided by the water supplier. High and low hydraulic grade lines shall be obtained from the water supplier and shall be referenced to a specific date. Adjustment of the water supply curve at the test hydrant by use of the low hydraulic grade shall consist of adjusting the entire water supply curve by subtracting the elevation of the test hydrant from the hydraulic grade, converting the difference to psi, and if the psi values obtained from the flow test (static and residual) are greater than the low hydraulic grade, dropping the test hydrant water supply curve to the level of the low hydraulic grade

Example: S = 97, R = 30, Q = 800, test elev. - 400 feet  
Low H.G.L. = 600 feet  
 $600 - 400 = 200 \text{ feet} = 86.62 \text{ or } 87 \text{ psi}$

Hence use S =87, R = 20, Q = 800 as design curve at test hydrant location.

4. A minimum safety factor of (10 psi) below the (adjusted) water supply curve. This safety factor will not necessarily accommodate all potential increases in water supply requirements due to tenant fit outs. Final responsibility for long-term and short-term system adequacy rests with the designer/contractor/installer.

## **INTERCONNECTION OF SPRINKLER/STANDPIPE RISERS AND HYDRAULIC CALCULATIONS**

It remains the policy of the Fairfax County Fire Prevention Division that interconnection of per floor sprinkler take-offs between two bulk risers should be provided in all structures three levels/stories and above. Exceptions to this practice will be considered on a per case basis for structures of three levels or less which are less than 10,000 square feet in area per floor.

Hydraulic calculations for all systems should consider only a single, most remote, riser and shall calculate the full sprinkler (and/or standpipe) demand back to water supply test via that riser and associated bulk piping. Dual riser feeds should not be calculated for simultaneous supply of a given remote design area. The above practice insures the adequacy of protection in all structures if one standpipe riser is shut down for maintenance, repair, or tenant work. If the owner chooses not to interconnect risers and to supply all floors from a single riser, this office will have to have on file a notarized letter from the owner stating that he will vacate the building whenever said riser is not in service. Unless such a letter is on file, review of sprinkler plans cannot be undertaken.

## STANDPIPE CALCULATIONS & FIRE HOSE VALVES

How to calculate standpipes according to IBC 905, NFPA 14-07.

In all buildings requiring standpipes, two sets of calculations are necessary to size riser piping, supply piping and the water service piping.

The set of calculations size the supply piping to standpipes. According to NFPA 14-07, 7.10.1.1, 7.10.1.2, this requires a minimum flow of 500 gpm for the first riser and 250 gpm for each additional riser up to 1250 gpm. (1000 gpm for fully sprinklered buildings).

A residual pressure of 100 psi must be maintained at the topmost outlet of each riser while flowing the minimum quantities of water required in the above paragraphs. The fire department's hose is to be supplied by the pumper with the following pressures and flows at the siamese connection: 200 psi @ 0 gpm, 199 psi @ 750 gpm, 150 psi @ 1250 gpm. For buildings over 150 feet in height, standpipes must be supplied by the on-site fire pump.

Please note that sprinkler calculations still need to be submitted along with these calculations.

Sprinkler and standpipe calculations must take into account the low hydraulic grade line for the site, come in under water supply curve and comply with requirements for water supplies. IBC 905.4 notes that firefighter hose valves are to be located at intermediate landings.

FHV location: on Intermediate landing such that, when looked at from the floor landing above, the FHV is seen in the corner of the intermediate landing below. Hose comes up along the wall.

## FIRE PUMP CALCULATIONS

In all buildings requiring fire pumps, a set of fire pump calculations will be required. This calculation shall prove that sufficient pressure will be available at the time of the fire pump test. The calculation shall prove that 20 psi (138 KPa) is available at the suction side of the fire pump while the pump is operating at 150 percent of its rated capacity (per Virginia Department of Environmental Quality requirements for public water supply). Fire pump calculations must take into account the low hydraulic grade line for the site, come in under water supply curve and comply with requirements for sprinkler system water supplies and with NFPA 14, IBC 905. Where PRVs are an issue, the high hydraulic grade line must also be taken into account.

## **STANDPIPE FIRE HOSE OUTLETS INSTALLATION OF PRESSURE REDUCING/REGULATING VALVES**

The following policy is adopted to define the type of fire hose pressure reducing valves to be installed in Fairfax County. (NFPA 14-07, 7.2.1.2)

Pressure reducing/regulating fire hose valves shall be capable of delivering a residual flow pressure between 150 psi to 170 psi, at 250 gallons per minute. This standard shall be applied to all class I and III systems.

Pressure reducing/regulating fire hose valves shall be capable of external adjustment to higher pressures by the fire department. The external mechanism for reducing or regulating shall be capable of being removed completely, allowing the fire hose valve to function fully open.

Installation of pressure reducing/regulating valves shall not occur until:

1. Approved by the Engineering Plans Review Branch of the Fire Prevention Division.
2. Certification is received from the manufacturer on testing and pressure settings using 1¾" hose with a 100 psi tip pressure.
3. Valves are tested on site by the installing contractor and witnessed by the systems testing personnel from the Fire Prevention Division.
4. Valves, once adjusted and approved, shall be fixed with a plastic break-away seal. This seal shall contain the date of test, valve identification and contractor conducting test.

Once installation has occurred, the installing contractor shall forward a report to the Fire Prevention Division with valve identification (i.e., numbering system), set points, location and floor level.

### **Annual Maintenance:**

Valves shall be inspected visually each year to ensure that the settings have not changed and there is no damage to the valves. A flow test is required every 5 years per NFPA 25. If there is a question due to damage, change of settings, missing tag, etc, the valve shall be removed and retested. The retest shall be witnessed by Fire Prevention Division personnel.

## **ELEVATOR HOISTWAYS AND MACHINE ROOMS SPRINKLER PROTECTION UNDER VA USBC 2006**

In order to satisfy the requirements of ASME A17.1-04, 2.8.2.3, IBC 3006.5, NFPA 72-07, 6.15.4, the following method of removing electrical power from elevator machinery prior to the activation of hoistway or machine room sprinklers shall be acceptable:

1. Place 160° or 190° F rated heat detectors at the top of the hoistway and/or in the machine room. These heat detectors will be part of the building fire alarm system. The detectors will be connected directly to the shunt trip disconnect(s) to the affected elevator(s). Activation of these heat detectors disconnects power to the affected elevator(s). NOTE: The fire alarm system supervises the elevator power circuit as well as the initiating device circuit. See 72-07, 6.16.4.
2. Place 212° F rated, standard response sprinkler heads near the heat detectors at the top of the hoistway and/or in the machine room (NFPA 13-07, 8.15.5).

This procedure allows for adequate sprinkler protection to elevator hoistways and machine rooms as well as meeting the concerns associated with water application to live elevator machinery. It is applicable to structures built under the 2006 Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code.

Note: See NFPA 13-07, 8.15.5.5. for exception which allows omission of sprinkler head at top of hoistway (not machine room). Also see 13-07, 8.15.5.2 for elevator pit sprinkler and exceptions to same.

The above assumes that smoke detectors per ASME A17.1 & NFPA 72-07, 6.16.3. are present for recall.

Machine-room less elevators: per USBC 2006, 3006.7, hoistway is considered the machine room and must be sprinklered.

## WAREHOUSE STORAGE LIMITATIONS

BUILDING  
NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

BUILDING  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER/TENANT: \_\_\_\_\_

SPRINKLER  
CONTRACTOR: \_\_\_\_\_

SPRINKLER SYSTEM DESIGNED TO  
NFPA: \_\_\_\_\_

STORAGE OF CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_ COMMODITY

MAXIMUM STORAGE HEIGHT: \_\_\_\_\_ FEET

INSIDE HOSE STATIONS PROVIDED? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

---

We, the undersigned, by our signature(s), understand the limitations of this building/tenant space. In addition, we realize that storage in excess of the height mentioned is prohibited; storage of a greater hazard commodity is likewise prohibited.

BUILDING OWNER: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TENANT: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE:**

Failure to submit this form will be grounds for rejection of plans by the Fire Prevention Division, Fire and Rescue Department, Fairfax County, Virginia.

**A Fire Underground Permit is required prior to inspection, a FPD Permit Application Plans Review & Billing Information Form is required, see page 57 for this application**

**UNDERGROUND FIRE MAINS AND FIRELINES  
STANDARDS FOR INSTALLATION AND TESTING**

The following provisions for underground fire lines must be followed:

1. All installation and testing shall be conducted per NFPA 24 2007.
2. Fire lines shall have at least 4 feet of cover from the top of the pipe (Section A-10.4.1 Figure A-10.4.1).
3. All bends and tees shall have thrust blocks or approved mechanical restraint (Section A-10.8.1, Figure A-10.8.2 (b, c)).
4. All piping through footers and under buildings shall have rods to a point at least 5 feet outside of building wall (Figure A-10.8.3) (Mech. restrained joints may not require rods).
5. All rods shall be at least 5/8 inch diameter. Number of rods will depend on the size of pipe (Table 10.8.3.1.2, 2).
6. All rods, nuts, bolts, washers, clamps and other restraining devices shall be coated with a bituminous or other acceptable corrosion-retarding material (Section 10.8.3.5).
7. Thrust blocks shall be placed against undisturbed soil or rods shall be installed with thrust blocks (Section A.10.8.2 (b, c)).
8. Rods secured on smooth pipe shall be anchored with 2 clamps, with one rod in each clamp (10.8.3.1.2.2) Listed retainer-type fittings must be installed per manufacturer's instructions.
9. A visual inspection by the Fire Marshal's Office shall be made before pipe is covered. Appointment shall be made for visual inspection by calling 703-246-4821 to schedule the visual inspection.
10. If pipe is covered, no drop in pressure during test is allowed. The contractor shall remain responsible for locating and correcting any leakage.
11. Fire lines shall not be run under buildings (10.6.1).
12. A hydrostatic test of 200 pounds or 50 pounds over static pressure, whichever is greater, shall be conducted for 2 hours (10.10.2.2).
13. Gauges used in performing acceptance tests on fire suppression systems witnessed by the Fire Prevention Division must meet the following criteria:
  - a. The gauge shall be appropriate for the type of test; i.e., air gauge for an air pressure test, a water gauge for a hydrostatic test.
  - b. Air gauges shall have increment markings of two pounds or less. Water gauges must have increment marking of ten pounds or less.
  - c. The gauge shall be capable of registering pressures above the minimum pressure required during the test. The pressure registered during the actual test shall be at least the minimum required for the test and less than the maximum of the gauge register.
  - d. Gauges must be marked as accepted by UL and/or FM testing laboratories.
14. No valves shall be installed in the fireline between street valve at water main and OS&Y valve inside of building.
15. Domestic water line take off shall be connected at least 5 feet outside of building with a 200 pound shut off valve on the domestic water line only.
16. All firelines shall be flushed with not less than a 4 inch opening (10.10.2.1.3). The flush shall be witnessed by the Fire Marshal's Office.

17. Site plans approved by this office showing size and location of pipe shall be on the job site before the inspection or test is performed. Cover sheet and site plan page shall have original reviewer's stamp and approval.
18. Galvanized spool piece (potable water). The procedure for installing a galvanized pipe between the ductile iron fire line and the OS&Y valve is as follows.
  - a. If a spool piece is used between the fire line stub and the OS&Y valve to raise the valve off of the fire line stub, then it shall be galvanized pipe or shall be rated per AWWA C104, C110 for potable water. This spool piece may be hydrostatically tested as part of the underground, or part of the sprinkler riser.  
OR
  - b. If the OS&Y valve is rated by the AWWA as suitable for connection to a potable water system, this valve is a suitable transition piece between the fire line stub and the check valve. This OS&Y valve may be attached directly to the fire line stub if there is adequate clearance for proper operation of the valve, and then no galvanized pipe is required.
19. Above items shall be inspected by Fire Marshal prior to any backfill.
20. All test and permit fees shall be paid before an inspection or test is performed.
21. Electrical ground wires shall not be connected to underground fireline (10.6.8).
22. Backfill shall be well tamped, free of rocks, and free of corrosives (10.9).

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Engineering Section or Systems Acceptance Testing at 703-246-4821.

**Along with the Plans Review Submittal, a FPD Permit Application Plans Review & Billing Information Form is required, see page 57 for this application**

## **HYDROSTATIC TESTING OF SPRINKLER TENANT WORK**

To provide a uniform policy governing hydrostatic testing for sprinkler tenant work, the following guidelines are established. If the tenant work involves:

1. The addition or relocation of five heads or more;
2. The addition of ten or more new fittings;
3. The addition of twenty feet or more of pipe (nipples shall not be counted as pipe length);
4. Or any combination of the above

then a hydrostatic test will be required. For  $\geq 5$  and  $\leq 20$  hds, hydro test at system working pressure. Contractor shall remain on site in occupied buildings during the hydrostatic test. All work falling within items one through four shall require a visual inspection prior to any close-in.

Gauges used in performing acceptance tests on fire suppression systems witnessed by the Fire Prevention Division must meet the following criteria:

1. The gauge shall be appropriate for the type of test; i.e., air gauge for an air pressure test, a water gauge for a hydrostatic test.
2. Air gauges shall have increment markings of two pounds or less. Water gauges must have increment marking of ten pounds or less.
3. The gauge shall be capable of registering pressures above the minimum pressures required during the test. The pressure registered during the actual test shall be at least the minimum required for the test and less than the maximum of the gauge register.
4. Gauges must be marked as accepted by UL and/or FM testing laboratories.
5. Only one gauge, per test appointment, per inspector, will be permitted.
  - a. All new piping shall be hydrostatically tested.
  - b. All standpipes shall be flushed (prior to charging or connection to floor system).
6. Where sprinkler heads *only* have been replaced, visual inspection with approved cut sheets is the only requirement; i.e., defective, corroded ordinary heads that have been replaced with quick response heads.

### **Annual Maintenance:**

Each fire sprinkler system shall be tested in accordance with NFPA-25 and a sprinkler system test card/tag that shows the date and results of the test and the name of the person and organization conducting the test shall be attached to the sprinkler system valve/riser. Annually, testing shall include a main drain test to determine whether there has been a change in the condition of the water supply piping and associated control valves. The results of the test shall be recorded on the sprinkler system test card/tag attached to the sprinkler system valve/riser. Additionally, each sprinkler system valve shall be fully tripped annually. Dry sprinkler system valves shall be partially tripped each year and fully tripped every 3 years **during warm weather**. Preaction and deluge sprinkler system valves should only be partially tripped every year. The valve trip times and the type of trip test (full or partial) shall be recorded on the sprinkler system test card/tag attached to the sprinkler system valve/riser.

## **FIRE PUMP / STANDPIPE TESTING AND RETESTING**

All fire pumps will be acceptance tested in accordance with NFPA 20-07. All controllers shall be signed off by the electrical inspector per NFPA 20-07, 10.3.4) and NEC-05 695 prior to the acceptance test. Fire pump retesting will be conducted in accordance with NFPA 25-08.

Prior to the fire pump acceptance test, all hydrostatic tests for shell building bulk piping shall be completed.

All fire pump test gauges shall be approved (UL/FM) type or on-site documentation of calibration must be provided. (see NFPA 20, 14.2.7.1.2).

Standpipe flow test will be done in those buildings having standpipes at the time of fire pump acceptance testing. Gauge must be provided at the top of standpipe riser per NFPA 14-07, 5.5.1. It is the responsibility of the contractor to provide all hoses and equipment needed and to make acceptable arrangements for disposal of the water released.

### **Annual Maintenance:**

The property owner is responsible for answering that the fire and life safety systems are maintained in an operable condition at all times in accordance with NFPA 25-08. A written record of tests/maintenance shall be maintained and made available to the code official on request.

## **RECALLED SPRINKLER HEADS (REF SFPC 901.10)**

After review and discussion with the Systems Acceptance Section the following procedure will be effective immediately regarding recalled sprinkler heads. This procedure is for “one for one” sprinkler head replacement only. Any other changes to a fire protection system must go through the normal Plans Review process.

1. The County will require a permit be issued as usual but will not charge for it. The Permit Section already does this.
2. The Sprinkler contractor must submit to Plans Review the old and new “cut sheets” for the sprinkler heads at the permit location. They will be reviewed by the Plans Review staff and approved or denied as appropriate replacements for use at the permit location. The charge for review is at the normal rate.
3. Upon completion of the sprinkler head replacement, the contractor will call Systems Acceptance Testing, 703-246-4821, to schedule a free inspection of the replaced heads.

FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION  
 STUDY GUIDE TO CODE REQUIREMENTS  
 FOR FIRE ALARM DEVICES AND SYSTEMS  
 IBC 2006 & IFC 2006

**NOTE:** This list DOES NOT replace the requirement for everyone to consult and comply with the code. It is a study and reference aid ONLY.

I. Inspections, tests and maintenance

A. Acceptance Tests – ALL COMPONENTS, ALL FIRE ALARM DEVICES/SYSTEMS (IBC 907.16)

B. Regular Inspections/Tests

<u>Device</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Code Reference</u>
Flow Switch	Quarterly	NFPA 25, 13.2.6.
Fire Pump	Annual	NFPA 25, 8.5.3
Manual Pulls	Annual	NFPA 72-07, 10.4.4
All Automatic Devices	Annual	NFPA 72-07, 10.4.4
Smoke Control System	Twice per Year	IFC 909.20.4

II. Devices: Alarm & supervision requirements under VIRGINIA UNIFORM STATEWIDE BUILDING CODE, 2006 Edition

<u>Item/Device</u>	<u>Code Section</u>	<u>Comment</u>
A. Central Station Hookup	IBC 901.6	Spk + unrated corridors A,B,E,F,M,U uses; suppression system in A,B,E,I,M,R uses; any required system; high-rise bldgs
B. S.D.'s, Hospitals, Automatic Sys., H-Use	IBC 907.2.6.2 IBC 908	Corridors
C. Sprinkler Flow Alarm & Supervise	IBC 901.6.1, 903.4.2 IBC 903.4 NFPA 72, 6.3.3.1, 6.13	Exterior required Dry pipe hi/lo air, etc.
D. Duct Detectors	IMC 606, IBC 907.11	Return ducts over 2000 CFM, supervision required, access required
E. Visual Alarms (& Handicap)	IBC 907.9.1	To meet/UL 1971& ANSI/NFPA 72-07, Ch 7
F. Audible Alarms	IBC 907.9.2	Audibility required in all spaces
G. Fire Pump	NFPA 20, 10.4.7 NFPA 72, 6.8.5.9	
H. Elev. Lobby/Hoistway Machine Room S.D.	NFPA 72-07, 6.16.3 ANSI A17.1-04	Verification required Dedicated loop required
I. Voice Alarms	IBC 907.2.12.2 907.2.13, 907.2.20	High-Rise ; any building w/ atrium and of A,E, or M use; mall >50k sq ft
J. Atrium S.D.'s	IBC 907.2.13	Any Atrium with smoke exhaust/control
K. Damper Control	IBC 716.3.2.1	UL 555S type dampers w/ S.D.'s

L.	Sleeping Area S.D.'s	IBC 907.2.10	
M.	Releasing S.D., H.D.	NFPA 72-07, 6.12	Connected to building alarm (IBC 904.3.5) (e.g., halon, dry/wet chem)
N.	Refrigerant Detector	IBC 908.6	
III.	Occupancies (Use Groups) requiring alarm <u>systems</u> (see code for some exceptions)		
1.	Manual System	IBC 907	A>300; B>500 or >100 above/below grade; schools, F=> 2 stories with 500, M-Use with 500 or >100 above/below grade. I Uses, hotels, motels, apartments 3 stories & up
2.	Automatic System	IBC 907	I-Use; hotels, motels, all high-rises, special amusement building
3.	Smoke Control	IBC 909	Malls, atriums
IV.	Power Supply	IBC 2702 NFPA 72-07, 4.4.1.4, 4.4.1.5	
V.	Wiring	NEC 760	FPL or nonpower limited



Fire Prevention Division  
10700 Page Avenue  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030  
703-246-4800

## FIRE ALARM PLANS CHECK IN FORM

Building Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suite #: \_\_\_\_\_ Floor: \_\_\_\_\_ Building Permit #: \_\_\_\_\_

### CONTRACTOR:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### EQUIPMENT SUPPLIER:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE:** The **submittal cannot be accepted** by this office if the following items are not submitted. If the submitter does not supply the items listed below in one complete package, no review or approval will be conducted and the items shall be returned to the individual at the counter.

Are the items below submitted with this submittal?	YES	NO
1. Electrical Floor Plans (3) Copies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Wiring Riser Diagrams (3) Copies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Operational Description (3) Copies with Battery Calculations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Any Necessary Mechanical (3) Copies Risers or Floor Plans Necessary to Evaluate Duct Detection or Smoke Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Annunciator Panel Diagram (3) Copies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Manufacturer's Cut Sheets for <u>All</u> Devices, Including Sprinkler System Alarm and Supervisory Devices, Verifying Listing (3) Copies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Along with the Plans Review Submittal, a FPD Permit Application Plans Review & Billing Information Form is required, see page 57 for this application**

**FIRE ALARM TESTING OF NON HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS**

1. Prior to installation of fire alarm systems, 3 sets of complete fire alarm system plans shall be submitted for approval to the Fire Prevention Division. The submittal shall contain electrical floor plans, manufacturers cut sheets for all devices, wiring riser diagrams, operational description of system, any mechanical risers or floor plans necessary to evaluate controls and status indicators, and an annunciator panel diagram including status indicators and controls for mechanical equipment where necessary. All submittals shall contain verification of the listing of all components.
2. Every fire alarm system shall be pre-tested by the installing contractor or his representative before the Fire Marshal's acceptance test begins. This will help to alleviate multiple retesting and free up more appointment time for other tests to be held.
3. To set up fire alarm acceptance tests, please call the Fairfax County Fire Prevention Division at 703-246-4821 at least 14 days prior to test.
4. All fire alarm annunciator panels, control panels, and associated equipment are to be "buttoned up" with no loose wire hanging before the Fire Marshal's acceptance test will be conducted. Test area shall have completed painting, carpeting, etc., in final form. Areas with smoke detectors shall be free of dirt, dust, and sanding residue.
5. During testing of the fire alarm systems, the following installers or representatives should be present to assist in testing the fire alarm systems if applicable:
  - a. Fire Alarm installer
  - b. Sprinkler installer
  - c. Elevator installer
  - d. Air handling units installer (duct smoke detector)
  - e. Fire alarm control panel representative
  - f. Fire alarm panel programmer
6. The acceptance test will not be conducted without Fire Marshal fire alarm approved plans (cut sheets and electrical floor plans, fire alarm sequence of operation, etc.) on site.
7. All permit and test fees shall be paid before the test.
8. The Fire Marshal's acceptance test will include but is not limited to the following:
  - a. All smoke detectors will be tested with smoke.
  - b. All heat detectors will be tested.
  - c. All pull stations will be tested.
  - d. All flow switches (i.e., sprinkler, standpipe, and main fire line) will be tested by actual flowing of water. Sprinkler flows will be tested through a test orifice equal in size to the smallest sprinkler orifice in the system. Sprinkler flow retard switch shall be adjusted to no less than 20 seconds retard to avoid false alarms due to water hammer.
  - e. All duct smoke detectors will be tested. Air handling units are to be "running" during duct smoke detector test to witness "shut down" of unit when duct smoke detector activates.
  - f. All smoke removal systems reports on testing by Special Inspector per IBC/IFC 1704 shall be approved by the Fire Prevention Division.
  - g. Trouble circuits will be "spot checked" periodically during the tests, and the alarm system will be checked with the system in "trouble."

- h. Any concealed detector must have a remote, readily visible, red LED light and descriptive label, as close as possible to the actual device location.
- i. Floor call buttons for elevator shall be tested while elevator is in Phase I and Phase II. Elevator inspector approval must be obtained before testing by FPD.
- j. If the sprinkler system is divided by zone, annunciator of sprinklers will be by floor, device, (sprinkler flow), and proper zone. If system is zoned, the sprinkler zones shall correspond with fire alarm zones. If the sprinkler is a "looped" system covering an entire floor, no zone annunciation will be accepted. Only floor level and device (sprinkler flow) shall annunciate.
- k. A high/low air pressure condition in the dry sprinkler system shall set off a trouble light and a buzzer on the annunciator panel. A separate circuit shall be on the control panel showing high/low air pressure.
- l. All suppression and detection devices and equipment in the building shall be tied to the alarm system and tested.
- m. All Digital Alarm Communication Transmitters (Dialers) shall be tested. Approved DACT plans shall be on site for test. UL/FM central station listing documentation is required. Central station shall be on line with no alarms or troubles for 24 hours prior to test.
- n. Generator (if present) shall show fault when turned off or when load side breaker to building is open, or experiences any condition that would cause failure under emergency operation (NFPA 110-02, 5.6.5.2)
- o. All ceiling tile, floor covering, and interior finish shall be in place for testing of audibility and visibility. Visual appliance coverage shall be complete. For shell building tests, interior walls shall be prime coated and floors broom swept. When fire alarm tests are to be conducted in occupied buildings, the building shall be posted 24 hours prior to the test to notify the occupants.
- p. Detection devices shall not be installed until after construction clean-up of all trades is complete. Detectors that are contaminated shall be cleaned or replaced (per NFPA 72-07, 5.7.1.11).
- q. R-2 occupancies with copper loops under breezeways will be required to conduct flow tests from remote points (13R-07, 6.5.4).

All testing equipment (smoke machines, etc.) shall be supplied by the contractor. Where required, UL approved Central Station shall be on line, and is part of the Fire Alarm System. Central Station documentation (listing, etc.) is required. The sequence of operation/installation manual shall be maintained on site for the life of the system for inspection by the fire official.

For further assistance, please call the Fire Prevention Division, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 703-246-4821.

Posting of central station monitoring company: The name, telephone number, and account number of the current central station monitoring company shall be posted and maintained inside the locked fire alarm control panel (FACP). If the fire alarm system is not monitored, that fact shall be posted inside the locked FACP.

**FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION  
NON-HIGH-RISE ANNUNCIATOR PANEL LAYOUT**

THIS IS A SAMPLE ONLY (Revised January, 2003)

POWER ON ○ (Green)

MANUAL STATION	○ (RED)	PENTHOUSE	(RED)	○
SMOKE DETECTOR	○ (RED)	5TH. FLOOR	(RED)	○
(Spare)	(RED)	4TH. FLOOR	(RED)	○
HEAT DETECTOR	○ (RED)	3RD. FLOOR	(RED)	○
ATRIUM SMOKE DETECTOR	○ (RED)	2ND. FLOOR	(RED)	○
ELEVATOR LOBBY/MACHINE ROOM	○ (RED)	1ST. FLOOR	(RED)	○
SMOKE DETECTOR	○ (RED)	CELLAR	(RED)	○
SPRINKLER FLOW	○ (RED)	GARAGE #1 LEVEL	(RED)	○
STANDPIPE FLOW	○ (RED)	GARAGE #2 LEVEL	(RED)	○
FIRE SERVICE LINE	○ (RED)	STAIRWAY A	(RED)	○
CLEAN AGENT OR PRE-ACTION SYSTEM	○ (RED)	STAIRWAY B	(RED)	○
KITCHEN HOOD	○ (RED)	STAIRWAY C	(RED)	○
DUCT DETECTOR	○ (AMBER)	STAIRWAY D	(RED)	○
VALVE TAMPER	○ (AMBER)			
DRY PIPE HI/LO AIR	○ (AMBER)			
FIRE PUMP RUN	○ (GREEN)	GENERATOR RUN	(GREEN) -	○
FIRE PUMP FAULT	○ (AMBER)	GENERATOR FAULT	(AMBER) -	○

TROUBLE	TROUBLE	TROUBLE	RESET	TEST
○ (AMBER)	□	○ (KEYED)	○ (KEYED)	○ (KEYED)
LIGHT	BUZZER	SWITCH	SWITCH	BUTTON

**The above drawing is a sample:** number of floors, garage levels, etc., may vary. Certain lights may be omitted or additional ones may be needed. This sample is not for a high-rise building.

1. Panel to be located at main lobby.
2. Annunciator shall indicate type of alarm received by device and floor level. Sub-zoning required when floor area exceeds 20,000 square feet.
3. Layout of building will be required for zoning purposes and identification of areas/stairways/risers.
4. Submit 3 sets of plans, riser diagrams, cut sheets, and annunciator panel diagram for approval. (See page 28)
5. Ring back required on trouble and reset switch (if it is not a momentary switch).
6. Sprinkler annunciation shall be by floor and device (sprinkler flow) only.  
Exception:
  - a. If sprinkler system piping is separated into zones and not cross-connected between zones, and
  - b. Sprinkler system zones coincide exactly with graphic fire alarm zoning.

Note: Generators are not mandatory on low-rise buildings. If present, they shall annunciate as above.

**HIGH-RISE CENTRAL FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM  
REQUIREMENTS AND ACCEPTANCE TESTING  
2006 CODE**

- I. **Definition:** In all buildings having floors used for human occupancy which are greater than 75 feet above the lowest level of Fire Department vehicle access. IBC 403.1
- II. All fire alarm and detection systems, fire and life safety system controls and system supervision shall conform to the “High-Rise Buildings” section of the current Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (IBC) and to the referenced editions of applicable NFPA documents, including but not limited to: 13, 14, 20, 37, 70, 72, 110.
- III. **Fire Control Room** (Fire Command Station) IBC 403.8, 911
- A. **Construction and Size**—minimum 96 square feet & minimum 8 feet in any direction IBC 911
1. One (1) hour rated enclosure with 1 hour “B” label door. IBC 911.1
  2. Sized to allow minimum of 3 feet working clearance to front of panels. (NFPA 70, 110.13)
  3. Clearance at rear and top of panels per equipment manufacturer’s recommendations. NEC, section 110.13
  4. Provided with adequate ventilation necessary for removal of heat generated by equipment. NEC, section 110.13
  5. Electrical, mechanical, or plumbing equipment other than those associated with the system shall not be located in the Fire Control Room.
  6. 1 copy of building plans to be in Fire Control Room.
  7. Must be sprinklered.
  8. Provide smoke detector.
  9. Layout must be approved.
  10. Provide 15 sets of master keys in room.
  11. Direct callout phone.
- B. **Location** IBC 911
1. Located at main lobby entrance.
  2. Preferably located on an outside wall.
  3. Not located next to or adjacent to boiler rooms, transformer rooms, etc.
  4. Bulk Piping not to be run through Fire Control Room.
- IV. **Shop Drawings and Specifications**
- A minimum of 3 sets of drawings and specifications shall be submitted for review and approval. All equipment shall be listed by a recognized testing authority for its intended use. The submittal shall include the following:
- A. Quantity, manufacture, model number, etc. of each device to be installed (materials list). IBC 907.1.1
- B. Engineering cut sheets and specifications for each type of device. Specifications on type of wire to be used (NEC 760, 72-07, 6.9.10.4.3). IBC 907.1.1

- C. Wiring diagrams, annunciator panel detail, fan control panel detail, voice/paging panel detail.
- D. Floor plans showing the location of each device including legend.
- E. Operational description of system, including overall program matrix.
- F. Any mechanical reference sheets (e.g. riser diagrams, fan schedules, etc.) pertaining to the system.
- G. A complete operational description, including volume calculations, for all smoke control and pressurization systems, including a proposed test protocol and testing measurement locations.
- H. Provide generator load breakdown/summary. Battery calculations.

It is suggested that submittal of atrium or other smoke control design calculations and sequences be submitted prior to or simultaneously with building permit drawings to insure timely feedback to the designer. IBC 909, IBC 404.4

**V. Central Control Station: Alarm Detection, Communication and Status Indication**

**A. Receive fire alarm indication and annunciation from:**

- 1. Manual fire alarm stations 72-07, 6.8.5.2, 5.13
- 2. Heat detectors
- 3. Smoke detectors (by location and zone: elevator lobby detectors and atrium detectors to be on individual zones: see NFPA 72, 6.16.3) IBC 3003.2, 907.2.12.1
- 4. Duct detectors IMC 606, IBC 907.2.12.1(2)
- 5. Sprinkler flow switches (atrium sprinkler to be on separate zone) 72-07, 5.11, 6.8.5.5

**B. Receive or Transmit Communications from:**

- 1. Firefighter's 2-way telephone (dedicated phones, NOT jacks) IBC 911, 907.2.12.3
- 2. Public telephone – in Fire Control Room, line direct to outside IBC 911.1(10)
- 3. Voice Alarm and Public Address Systems IBC 907.2.12.2

**C. Receive status indication from:**

- 1. Fire pump (run or fault) 20-07, 10.4.7
- 2. Emergency power system (run or fault) IBC 911.1(9)
- 3. Elevators (recalled or not)(status and location) IBC 911.1(4)
- 4. Stairway pressurization system (on, off) IBC 911.1(4)
- 5. Smoke control systems (on, off) IBC 911.1(6)
- 6. Air handling systems (on, off) IBC 911.1(5)
- 7. Stairway door unlock (open=green, locked=red) IBC 911.1(7)

The above shall be provided with a status indicator light as follows: ON (green); OFF (red); Elevator emergency recall (yellow)

**D. Receive and Annunciate Supervisory and/or Trouble Indications:**

- 1. Tamper switches on sprinkler, fire pump and standpipe water control valves (supervisory) 72-07, 5.15
- 2. Electrical circuits and wiring

3. A, B, C above except public telephone
4. Voice alarm system and all components
5. Standpipe flow switch (trouble light)
6. Fire pump flow switch (trouble light)
7. Generator (trouble light)
8. Hi/Lo air pressure for dry pipe systems (supervisory signal)

E. Operational Controls

Operational controls shall be provided for and located in the Fire Control Room for the following: IBC 911

1. Voice Alarm and Public Address System
2. Firefighter's 2-way communications system
3. Fire pump (ON, auto only)
4. Emergency generator (ON, auto)
5. Stairwell pressurization system (separate controls for each stairwell required) (H-O-A)
6. Smoke control systems (H-O-A) (separate controls required for each system, on a per floor basis)
7. Off normal conditions on H-O-A.'s shall sound a trouble buzzer.
8. Air handling systems (separate controls required for each system, on a per floor basis (H-O-A))
9. Elevators

VI. Operational Requirements

A. Receipt of any alarm signal shall:

1. Initiate a signal to an approved Central Station (or to a proprietary system conforming to NFPA 72.) IBC 907.14
2. Activate the voice alarm system and the visual fire alarm indicators on the floor level where the alarm was initiated, the floor directly above and below, and the elevator car and stairwell speakers. IBC 907.2.12.2
3. Activate the stairwell pressurization system. IBC 1020.1.7, 909.20.5
4. Activate mechanical smoke control (if provided) on the fire floor, except if signal originates from a manual pull station. (NOTE: Per floor smoke control is often not found today; AHU controls are still necessary).
5. If the signal originates from an elevator machine room or elevator lobby smoke detector, activate the elevator recall system. If the primary floor level of return is the floor of alarm origin, the elevators shall be automatically directed to the secondary floor level of return. ASME A17.1, IBC 3003.2; 72-07, 6.16.3

B. Design and Installation

1. Voice Alarm and Public Address System
  - a. The alarm and communication system shall be designed and installed so damage to any terminal unit or speaker will not render more than one zone of the system inoperative. IBC 907.8.2, 72-07, 6.9.10.4.1

- b. The system shall be continuously electrically supervised against component failure of the audiopath including amplifiers, speaker wiring, switches, and electrical contacts and shall detect opens, shorts and grounds which might impair the function of the system. Both a visual and audible trouble signal shall operate at a location as indicated in Section VI. A.1. above. 72-07, 6.9.8
- c. All wiring shall be installed in metallic tubing or approved equivalent. The installation shall be in a manner which will afford the maximum protection against the effects of fire and which will facilitate repair or replacement. NEC 760, 72-07, 6.9.10.4.2
- d. The system shall be installed so trouble can be readily detected by floor and device.
- e. There shall be a maintained contact push button and visual indicator for each floor level or zone. An "all call" position is also required. Operation shall be by selective basis; i.e., one zone, any combination of zones, or by all zones. One set of maintained push buttons for the fire alarm system and one set for the public address system is required. 72-07, 6.9.6
- f. Zones shall be limited to a maximum of 22,500 square feet. In no instance shall a zone encompass more than one floor level. Floors shall alarm on a per floor basis and alarms shall annunciate by floor, zone and device. IBC 907.8
- g. Speakers shall be installed in the following locations: elevators, elevator lobbies, corridors, exit stairwells at every 3rd level, rooms or tenant spaces exceeding 1,000 square feet, dwelling units in apartments, and hotel guest rooms or suites. **NOTE:** Speakers in elevator, stairs & cabs, see 6.8.6.2 72-07, 6.8.6
- h. Speakers shall be listed by a recognized testing authority for fire alarm use. Speakers shall provide the sound levels specified in NFPA 72 at all locations in the structure. IBC 907.9.2, 72-07, 6.8.6.5.1, 7.4.1, 7.4.2, 7.4.5
- i. Wall mounted speakers shall be installed so sound reproduction is in one direction only. In no instance shall corridor speakers be installed so sound reproduction is directed towards the opposite wall. 72-07, 7.4 (all)
- j. Speaker spacing shall be in accordance with the recommendation of the manufacturer, the listing authority, and above all, to provide the required sound reproduction listed under item "h."
- k. The pre-taped message shall be: "There is a fire emergency in the building. You are to leave the building by the nearest exit or exit stair. Do not use the elevators." Visual indication that the message is being delivered to the required zones shall be installed at the control panel.
- l. Failure of the pre-taped message for any reason shall cause the fire alarm signal to sound continuously in the required zones until the system has been restored to normal or is silenced at the control panel.

- m. The alarm signal shall be the slow whoop signal. The alarm signal shall sound for a maximum of 15 seconds followed by the pre-taped message. Both shall sound alternately in sequence until silenced at the control panel or when the fire alarm panel is restored to normal. There shall be no more than a 5 second pause between the alarm signal and the pre-taped message for each revolution.
- n. Upon activation of any manual alarm or automatic fire detection or suppression device, the fire alarm system shall operate on the floor level of origin, the floor levels directly above and below, in all elevators and in all stairwells. Atriums shall be alarmed as one space, including all levels open to the atrium.
- o. The system shall be designed so the fire alarm signal and pre-taped message may be transmitted to any floor while voice messages are being transmitted to other floors. If the voice instructions are required to be transmitted to any floor, the fire alarm signal and pre-taped message shall automatically restart or continue in the required sequence after the voice transmission is completed.
- p. The microphone for the transmission of voice messages shall be hand-held type with a 5 foot cable. The cable shall be permanently connected at both ends with the microphone hanger mounted on the front of the panel.
- q. Visual indicators (flashing lights) with the word "FIRE" shall be installed above each manual fire alarm station, in elevator lobbies, and exit corridors, per IBC 907.3.1. Letters shall be a minimum of ½ inch block letters on a contrasting background.
- r. Alarm tone generators, preamplifiers, power amplifiers and power supplies shall be continuously supervised. Backup units shall automatically provide the required signaling in the event of component failure. 72-07, 4.4.7.2, 4.4.7.3

## 2. Fire Department Communication System

- a. Fixed telephones (NOT jacks) shall be located at the following locations: each elevator car, elevator lobbies, and the entry inside the stair enclosure at each floor level (also Fire Pump Room and Elevator Machine Room). IBC 911, 907.2.12.3, 72-07, 6.10.
- b. Telephone shall be of the press-to-talk type and located in a locked telephone cabinet with breakaway safety glass or plexiglass panel. Cabinets may be wall mounted or recessed. Cable shall be capable of withstanding elevated temperatures.
- c. Each cabinet shall be provided with an engraved or permanently attached sign reading: "FIREFIGHTER'S TELEPHONE – FIREFIGHTER'S USE ONLY." Letters shall be a minimum of 2 inch block letters on a contrasting background. Mounting height 3'-5' A.F.F.
- d. The phone at the Fire Control Room shall be mounted on the front of the control panel without any enclosure.

- e. Removal of any telephone from its cradle will activate an audible and visual indicator which shall remain lit until the telephone is returned to the cradle in a normal position. The firefighter's telephone shall be annunciated by floor level and zone (see Section VI.B.1.f, Voice Alarm and Public Address Systems).
  - f. The control unit and all wiring for the system shall be continuously supervised for power failure, open, shorted or grounded conditions which would affect the intended operation or performance. Detection of any fault in the system shall activate an audible and visual trouble signal. 72-07  
4.4.7
  - g. The system shall be designed to provide power for the simultaneous use of 5 telephones while maintaining an audible level of communication. 72-07, 6.10.1.6
  - h. There shall be provided a minimum of 25 keys to the telephone cabinets which shall be located in the Fire Control Room. Locks shall be uniform and require the use of one key to unlock any telephone cabinet.
3. Fire Detection and Alarm System Annunciator Panels –  
Sprinkler Valve and Water Flow Detector Panels
- a. Panels may be the graphic annunciator type or labeled device type with adjacent fixed building diagram. IBC 907.8.1
  - b. Annunciator panel or individual device panels shall clearly indicate the type of initiating device, the floor level of alarm, and the zone (see Section VI.B.1.f, Voice Alarm and Public Address Systems). IBC 907.8.2
  - c. Stairwells shall be clearly shown and labeled on graphic or building diagram. A "You are here" shall be shown and labeled on graphic or diagram. If stairs discharge at other than entrance level, so indicate.
  - d. All manual or automatic fire detection or suppression devices shall be annunciated including the following: fire alarm manual stations, smoke detectors, heat detectors, elevator lobby smoke detectors, duct smoke detectors, atrium smoke detectors, sprinkler flow switches, standpipe flow switches (1 required at the base of each standpipe riser), fire pump flow switch, and tamper switches. IBC 907.10, 907.8.2
  - e. Activation of any of the above listed devices, with the exception of the standpipe flow switches, duct detectors, fire pump flow switch, or tamper switches, shall cause the activation of the stairwell pressurization systems and the fire alarm signal and pre-taped message to the required zones.
  - f. Activation of the standpipe flow switches, fire pump flow switch, or tamper switches shall initiate an audible and visual supervisory signal at the Fire Control Panel and to a central station or continuously staffed station.
  - g. All wiring and power supply shall be continuously supervised. Detection of any fault shall initiate a visual and audible trouble signal at the control panel and to a location as indicated in Section V.D., Receive and Annunciate Supervisory and/or Trouble Indications.

- h. The system shall be designed and installed so trouble conditions may be readily detected by floor level and/or zone. Visual trouble indicators at the control panel shall indicate type of device.

4. Status Indicator for Elevators

- a. Status indicators shall be provided for each elevator car. IBC 911.1(4),  
A green light for normal operations, red light for power off, IBC 3003  
and a yellow light for emergency recall shall be provided.
- b. Activation of any elevator lobby smoke detector shall 72-07, 6.16.3  
initiate elevator recall (Machine Room Detector included).
- c. The elevator emergency recall system shall be  
programmed to return all elevators to the main lobby floor  
level of return. There shall be a secondary floor level of  
return in the event the primary floor is in alarm. The  
secondary floor shall be as directed by the Fire Marshal.
- d. The elevator emergency controls are to be located at the  
main lobby. This shall be a three position switch – normal  
operation – manual over-ride – emergency recall. It is  
recommended that an additional control be located in the  
Fire Control Room which shall have a permanently  
attached key.

5. Status Indicators and Controls for the Fire Pump, Emergency Generator, Air Handling Systems, Smoke Removal Systems, Stairwell Pressurization Systems. IBC 911

- a. Status indicators, green light – on, red light – off, and  
operational controls shall be provided for each of the  
above in the Fire Control Room.
- b. Where there is more than one system; i.e., air-handling  
systems, smoke removal systems or stairwell  
pressurization systems, status indicators and controls  
shall be provided for each separately, on a per floor basis  
(H-O-A's) or per stair basis. Labeling shall clearly show  
any system integrated with smoke control.

6. Stairway Door Unlocking Systems

- a. Controls shall be provided to unlock all stairwell doors IBC 403.12  
simultaneously from the Fire Control Room (no door may  
be locked in the direction of egress travel except under  
provisions of IBC 1008).
- b. Call out telephones shall be provided inside the stairwell IBC 403.12.1  
at a minimum of every 5th floor for occupant use. They  
shall provide direct communication to the Fire Control  
Room, and to an approved emergency monitoring  
service.
- c. Telephone communication wiring and power supplies  
shall be continuously supervised for open, short, or  
ground conditions. Detection of any trouble fault shall  
initiate a visual and audible trouble signal at the Control  
Panel and at the central station.

7. Public Telephone

- a. A public telephone shall be provided inside the Fire Control Room. The telephone shall not be coin operated. It is suggested that the telephone be an extension of the building owner or management telephone rather than a separate telephone number. IBC 911.1(10)

**VI. Emergency Power Requirements**

A. Standby Power

Emergency/The following systems or equipment shall be connected to the standby power system: IBC 2702.2, 403.10

1. All fire alarm equipment.
2. All stairwell pressurization systems.
3. Elevator designated for firefighter's use.
4. Emergency lighting and exit lights.
5. Fire pump

Note: Stairwell pressurization systems DO require standby power. Likewise, atrium and floor opening smoke control do require standby power. IBC 404.6

B. Emergency Systems

IBC 403.11, 72-07, 4.4.1.6.1

Egress lighting, exit signs, elevator car lighting, emergency voice, fire alarm, and door unlocking are emergency systems and shall be supplied with backup power within 10 seconds of primary power failure.

C. Load Acquisition for Standby Power

IBC 2702.2.14, NFPA 110: 4.1

The following systems shall be supplied with standby power within 60 seconds of loss of primary power. Fire pump, firefighter's elevator, stairwell pressurization.

Note: Neither standby nor emergency power for a high-rise building may be provided by connection ahead of the main disconnect. Options 700-12(f)/701-11(g) of NEC are not permitted for high-rise buildings. Both are level 1, class 2 systems per NFPA 110.

**VII. Test and Inspection Requirements**

- A. No inspection or tests shall be made without approved stamped plans and all submittals on the job site.
- B. Tests and inspections shall be made by appointment only.
- C. Each component shall be tested.
- D. Spot checks of the system shall be made while operating on the emergency power system.
- E. A representative of the equipment supplier shall be present during all tests and inspections of the system.
- F. A sound pressure level meter shall be provided by the contractor for use in testing the system.

- G. The system shall be pre-tested by the contractor to assure proper operation prior to requesting inspection by the Fire Marshal.
- H. Tests and inspections of the system should commence no later than 30 days prior to anticipated or desired occupancy. Past experience indicates the time required to complete inspections and tests takes four inspectors approximately one week.
- I. The supplier shall furnish complete operating instructions and personnel necessary to instruct and train fire department personnel in the operation of the system.
- J. Areas with smoke detectors shall be free of dirt, dust, and sanding residue.
- K. Stairway labels shall correspond with zone labeling; i.e., Stairway A will be in Zone A, etc. If numbers are used for zone labels, they shall also correspond; i.e., Stairway A will be in Zone 1, etc. Stairways must be labeled using letters (see pages 42-44).

## FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION HIGH-RISE ANNUNCIATOR PANEL LAYOUT

THIS IS A SAMPLE ONLY

<u>DEVICE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
(RED)	(RED)
○ Manual Station	○ PH
○ Smoke Detector	○ 20th Floor
○ Heat Detector	*
○ Atrium Smoke Detector	○ 10th Floor
○ Elevator Lobby/ Machine Room Smoke Detector	*
○ Sprinkler Flow	*
○ Clean Agent (or) Pre-Action System	○ 1st Floor
○ Kitchen Hood	○ Atrium
	○ Basement
	○ Cellar
	○ Garage Level P1
	○ Garage Level P2
(YELLOW)	
○ Duct Detector	
○ Standpipe Flow	○ System Trouble (with buzzer)
○ Stair A	
○ Stair B	
○ Stair C	■ Trouble Silence
○ Fire Service Line	
○ Valve Tamper	■ Reset
○ Dry Pipe Hi/Lo Air	○ Lamp Test
Fire Pump Remote Start	
■ ON (GREEN) ○ Fire Pump Run	Stair
AUTO (YELLOW) ○ Fire Pump Fault	Door
	Locks
	■ Unlocked (GREEN)
	Locked (RED)
Generator Remote Start	
■ ON (GREEN) ○ Generator Run	
AUTO (YELLOW) ○ Generator Fault	

### LEGEND

- = Keyed Switch
- = Annunciation Light

1. **The above drawing is a sample.** Fan control panel must be adjacent to this panel and both, plus FACP and VOICE/PAGING/FIREFIGHTER's PHONE panels, must be in 1-hr rated fire control room at the main lobby. See IBC 911 for all equipment, including elevator panel.
2. Maximum annunciation zone size = 22,500 sq. ft. (IBC 907.8). Sprinklers zoned by floor only, except for atriums. All sprinklers in atrium must annunciate as atrium sprinklers.
3. Floor, zone and type of device must annunciate, except see note 2.
4. Ring back required on trouble & reset, if not a momentary (spring loaded) switch.

## MARKING OF BUILDING STAIRWELLS AND FLOORS

REFERENCE: Fire Prevention Code of the County of Fairfax  
Section F-504 – Access to Building Openings & Roofs  
IBC 1020.1.6 Stairway floor number signs.

This is to advise you of the requirement for you to identify each stairwell located within your 4-stories and above building. All buildings shall be required to display, in the lobby and fire control room, a simplified schematic of the building's footprint and also a sign in each stairway containing the information as follows:

- The footprint shall be an overhead view of the building's exterior and general layout of the first floor or lobby floor. Stairwells shall be denoted by a letter, starting next to the main entrance with "A" and continuing in a clockwise or left to right pattern.

(See attached drawing #1)

- Additionally, a sign shall be provided, as approved by the Fire Prevention Division, at each floor landing in all interior stairwells, identifying the stairwell by letter, designating the floor level, the level of exit discharge and stating if there is no access to the roof from that stairway (i.e., roof access means door to roof regardless of locked or unlocked). The sign shall be located five (5) feet above the floor landing in a position that is readily visible in the stairwell when the door is in the open or closed position. This information may be stenciled directly onto the wall.

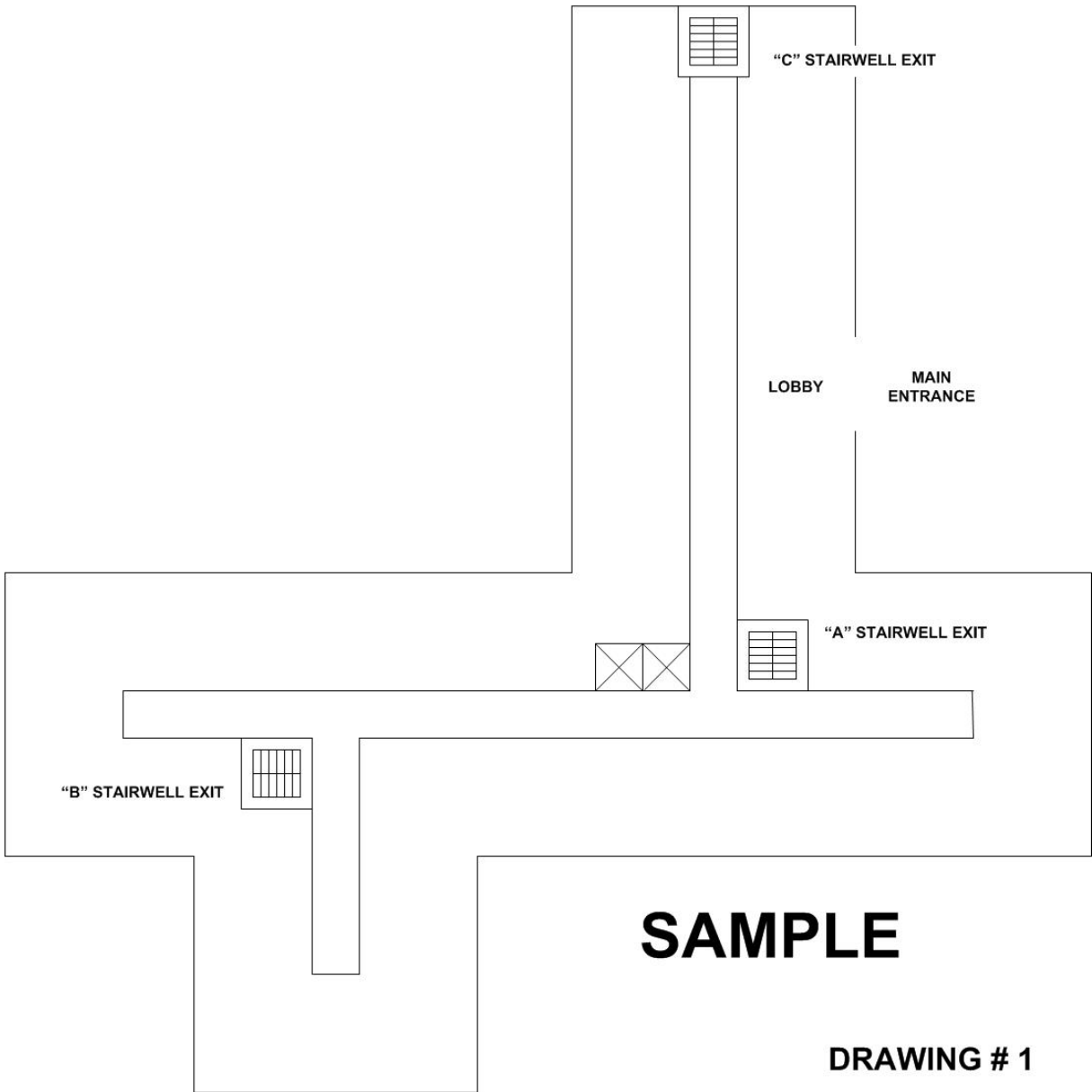
(See attached drawing #2)

- Two copies of the foot print and stairway signage shall be submitted to the Fire Prevention Division for approval before installation and will be verified by fire inspectors.

Submit the above information to the following address:

Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department  
Fire Prevention Division – Plans Review  
10700 Page Avenue  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030  
Attention: Sign

This procedure will aid fire and rescue personnel in mitigating a fire emergency in your building. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact the Systems Branch at 703-246-4821.



# SAMPLE

**DRAWING # 1**

**A 12**

**EXIT ON FLOOR 1**

**NO ACCESS TO ROOF**

**Drawing #2**

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS SYSTEM**

The Fairfax County Fire Prevention Code, F-506, requires the installation of an approved emergency building entrance system (key box) for all buildings with the exception of single family dwellings. Key boxes manufactured by the Knox and Supra companies are currently approved.

- The key boxes must be installed at the primary fire department entrance (main entrance or entrance nearest to the fire control room).
- The key boxes must be visible and accessible.
- The key boxes must be installed 42 inches to 54 inches above finished grade.
- Boxes shall be installed prior to occupancy.

Literature on the boxes can be obtained from the Fire Prevention Division Revenue & Records Branch as 703-246-4800, or picked up at the lobby area located at:

10700 Page Avenue  
Fairfax, Virginia. 22030

## FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION OCCUPANCY (NON-RUP) – NEW BUILDINGS REQUIREMENTS OUTLINE

Prior to occupancy, the following must be completed:

1. The standpipes shall go up with each floor. A standpipe with valves having N.S.T. and 2½" x 1½" caps shall not be more than one floor below the highest forms or staging. There shall be a fire department connection at the first floor level. This connection shall be marked so it can be readily and easily accessible at all times.
2. Submit three sets of plans to the Fire Prevention Division for approval of all fire detection and fire suppression systems and special locks.
3. All permits and plans review fees shall be paid before the test is scheduled.
4. Approved plans and complete submittals with original notes, stamps, and signature shall be on the job site before any tests are connected (including site plans with approval and original signature from the Fire Prevention Division).
5. No piping shall be covered up or otherwise made inaccessible for inspection before systems are tested.
6. All systems shall be pre-tested by the contractor before witnessing of the final test by Fire Prevention Division personnel.
7. The following inspections and tests are required. All tests shall be set up with the Fire Prevention Division at least 10 working days before the desired date. Call 703-246-4821 to arrange a scheduled appointment time.
  - a. A visual inspection of an underground fire line is required before it is covered. If line is covered before the hydrostatic test is performed, there shall be no drop in pressure during the test. **Original, signed, approved site plans must be on the job for this test to be witnessed.**
  - b. A 200-pound hydrostatic test on underground fire lines. Approved site plan must be on the job.
  - c. A flush test of an underground fire line, witnessed by the Fire Prevention Division, before it is connected to the fire suppression system, using at least a 4" flushing line.
  - d. All fire alarms, sprinklers, special locks and other systems must be tested and the test witnessed by Fire Prevention Division personnel. Smoke control systems must have testing completed by Special Inspector per IBC (Section 1704) and IFC. Special inspection report for smoke control must be approved by FPD.
  - e. Test stairwell pressurization in high-rise buildings.
  - f. All elevators must be tested for recall and firefighter's use, phase I and phase II, using normal and (if present, e.g. high-rise) backup power sources.
8. Fire lanes shall be installed per Fairfax County standards and approved by the Fire Prevention Division. (See pages 6-8 above).
9. All fire protection systems must be tested and approved before final occupancy inspection is requested.
10. An occupancy inspection request is to be made to this office after all of the above have been completed. Call 703-246-4849 to schedule an appointment.

**FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION  
OCCUPANCY – SHELL AND TENANT  
FIRE PROTECTION AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS**

I. Requirements for Issuance of a Building Shell Nonresidential Use Permit (Non RUP)

Initial tenant occupancy cannot take place until shell approval has been obtained. A building shell occupancy inspection and approval is required by all inspection disciplines including: Building, Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing, and Fire Prevention (Health Department is required for food service establishments, medical buildings, etc.). The following building shell fire and life safety features must be completed, inspected, and approved prior to the issuance of the Shell Nonresidential Use Permit (Non RUP), and **before first tenant occupancy**.

1. Exit stairs
2. Grade exit lobbies
3. Grade exit corridors or passage ways
4. Elevator shaft enclosures
5. Mechanical shaft enclosures
6. Required exit lights and emergency lighting
7. Elevator emergency recall system or elevators must be locked out of service
8. Required fire proofing of structural members in the core and occupied areas must be completed
9. Fire stopping of wiring, piping or other penetrations, both vertical and horizontal, of floors, ceilings and walls
10. Combustible tank and construction debris must be removed
11. Storage shall comply with Section A1 through 4
12. Fire-fighting, fire detection, and suppression systems shall be in compliance with Section II.C. below
13. Fire department access key box in place
14. Fire department access and fire lanes must be approved

II. Requirements for Issuance of a of a Building Tenant Nonresidential Use Permit

The following building fire and life safety feature procedures shall be implemented after the first tenant occupancy.

A. Construction Material Storage

1. Noncombustible storage (see definition) shall be unlimited; however, storage shall not exceed the structural load design of the floor.
2. Combustible storage (see definition) shall be limited to 2,500 cubic feet or 10 percent of the floor area. Storage exceeding 2,500 cubic feet will require a Fire Prevention Code Permit in accordance with the Fire Prevention Code.
3. Storage, combustible or noncombustible, shall be arranged in neat piles with the floor kept broom clean and free of trash and construction debris. Storage shall be kept to a minimum of 2 feet below ceilings or the lowest member of the floor/ceiling or roof/ceiling assembly.

4. Combustible storage areas located on an occupied floor shall be separated from the occupied areas by a 1-hour fire rated partition.

Definitions (Examples of)

<b>NONCOMBUSTIBLE STORAGE</b>	<b>COMBUSTIBLE STORAGE</b>
Dry Wall  Metal Studs or Fire-retardant lumber  Steel or Other Metal Doors Solid Core Wood Doors including package aids without voids  Sheet Metal Duct  Masonry Products  Noncombustible insulation  Plumbing Fixtures  Light Fixtures Wrapped in light plastic	Hollow core wood doors  Wood studs, paneling and other wood products  Carpet and padding  VCT and Base  Insulation with Combustible Vapor Facing  Flammable/Combustible liquids  Adhesives and Paints, etc.  Any item of "noncombustible storage" where the quantity of combustible packaging or storage aids are deemed excessive by the building or fire official.

**B. Sprinkler Requirements**

1. In fully sprinklered buildings, sprinkler protection shall be maintained at all times.
2. In non-sprinklered buildings, an approved limited area sprinkler system shall be provided for combustible storage if an adequate water supply is available; i.e., standpipe system.
3. Sprinkler heads shall be located within 12 inches of the underneath side of the floor or roof deck above in either the pendent or upright position. If the ceiling grid and tile are in place, the sprinkler shall be installed in the pendent position at the ceiling level.
4. The use of commercial rapid response sprinkler heads, located at the future ceiling line without tiles in place, except at the sprinkler head location, will be considered as an acceptable alternative to #3 on a case-by-case basis. Minimum 4' x 4' tile must be in place at head location.
5. Where, in the opinion of DPWES Building Inspections or the Fire Prevention Division, the type or quantity of combustible storage exceeds the limitations of the existing sprinkler design, the sprinkler system in these areas shall be modified to conform with the fire hazard posed by the combustible storage.

C. Operational Maintenance of Fire Protection Systems, Exit Ways, and Occupancy Permit Requirements

1. With the exception of residential apartments and condominiums, the Fire Prevention Division occupancy inspection occurs *after* tenant move in. In buildings of Use Group A, E, I and H, occupancy inspections must be performed prior to issuance of the Non-Residential Use Permit (occupancy permit) by the Zoning Administration Division.
2. In all other Use Groups, the Non Residential Use Permit may be issued prior to the Fire Prevention Division occupancy inspection. The following approvals must be obtained prior to issuance of the Non Residential Use Permit:

Building Final, Electrical Final, Plumbing Final, Mechanical Final  
Health Final (if applicable)  
Fire Protection Systems Final

Occupancy inspections must be scheduled within 5 days of the issuance of the Non-Residential Use Permit.

3. No inspections will be made unless the approved construction drawings are on the job site for all inspection disciplines. This includes FMO approved shop drawings for any sprinkler, fire alarm, or other fire protection systems.
4. The entire core, including exit corridors, passageways, stairs and elevator shafts and doors must be maintained throughout the building. Any work required in any part of the exit way system, after the first tenant move-in, shall be conducted after normal business hours or the building will be ordered evacuated.
5. The Public Safety Communications Center (PSCC) shall be notified when any fire suppression, detection, or fire-fighting system is placed out of service and when placed back in service. The telephone number for making these notifications is 703-691-2131.
6. All sprinklers, standpipes, fire alarm systems and other required fire suppression or fire-fighting systems shall be activated throughout the entire structure for first tenant occupancy. Under no conditions shall any fire suppression or fire-fighting system be shut off to any occupied area unless the valve or other activation control mechanism is continuously staffed, during the period the system(s) are shut off. If this provision is deemed unworkable, any work shall be done after normal business hours. A documented fire watch shall be instituted during the time any fire suppression or firefighting system is out of service. Call 703-246-4821 for fire watch procedures.
7. See Sections A and B above for construction materials storage requirements.
8. If any system must be taken out of service during normal business hours, a documented fire watch shall be instituted during this time period. (See item 6 above). The number of persons required will be such that the entire building can be checked every hour with the exception of Residential (Use Groups R-1 or R-2) Institutional (I-1, I-2 and I-3) and Education (Use Group E) which must be checked every half hour. A written record, including date, time, and the person(s) conducting the fire watch is required.

The criteria set forth in this document should cover the majority of field conditions. It is conceivable that individual situations may arise which must be evaluated for compliance on a case-by-case basis. Please call the Inspections Section for any related questions at 703-246-4849.

## **BUILDINGS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS**

During any construction or remodeling operation, it is important that the fire protection system remain operable. An existing system scheduled for removal shall not be removed until the new system is installed, tested and approved. When it becomes necessary to disable any system, it shall only be allowed after normal business hours and under the following conditions.

1. The Department of Public Safety Communication (DPSC) dispatcher at 703-691-2131 shall be notified prior to disabling any system. The following information will be provided:
  - The name of the person calling.
  - A telephone number where they can be reached
  - The reason the system is disabled.
  - The anticipated time and date the system will be returned to service.
2. Establishment of a documented fire watch (call 703-246-4821, or DPSC after hours) which will tour the building continuously, recording the date, time, and area checked in a notebook that can be visually inspected.
3. Notification to the DPSC dispatcher when the system is returned to service.
4. Repairs or modifications to existing systems in individual tenant spaces will be allowed during normal business hours, provided there are supervised control valves for each space, and there is no combustible storage in that space. In addition, responsible personnel shall remain in that area until the system is restored to service. Exceptions to the above shall be allowed for emergency repairs only, and those repairs shall be diligently pursued.

## **UNDERGROUND AND ABOVEGROUND STORAGE TANKS INSTALLATION, ABANDONMENT, REMOVAL AND TESTING PROCEDURES**

Under the provisions of Title 36, Chapter 6 of the Code of Virginia, underground storage tank installation, removal, closure, and testing shall be performed in accordance with the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (VUSBC). Section 415.1.1 of the VUSBC requires that the installation, upgrade or closure of any underground storage tank containing an accumulation of regulated substances shall be in accordance with underground storage tank regulations adopted by the Virginia State Water Control Board.

Aboveground storage tank installations shall comply with Section 415.1.1 of the 2006 Edition of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code and Section 3404 of the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (The 2006 Edition of the IFC).

NO PRODUCT SHALL BE INTRODUCED INTO TANKS OR LINES UNTIL A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION HAS WITNESSED THE REQUIRED TEST(S) OR INSPECTION(S) AND GRANTED WRITTEN APPROVAL.

A. **PRE-INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS OF NEW ABOVEGROUND OR UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS** shall be in accordance with the following procedures. Submit to the "Plans Review Section" of the Fire Prevention Division:

1. Three (3) copies of the completed site plan for review and approval, showing the location of the tank(s), distances from the tank(s) to all above or underground structures, monitor well locations, and location and layout of all piping and dispensing units associated with the tank(s).
2. Three (3) copies of complete elevation plans of the tank(s) shall also be submitted, showing depth of burial, fill material, overtop slab if present, ballast slab if present, fill and vent piping, and vapor recovery. Tank specifications including manufacturer's cut sheets shall also be included. Information on spill and overflow protection shall be shown. For aboveground tanks, complete plans of tank and supporting structure shall be provided. Include details and cut sheets for leak detection where required.
3. Three (3) copies of buoyancy calculations from the tank manufacturer or submitter (for underground tanks).

Petroleum storage tank and distribution piping system plans review fee are per the published fee schedule.

B. **INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS OF NEW ABOVEGROUND OR UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS:** Only after the above plans have been reviewed and approved can the installation of tanks, product lines and equipment begin. Prior to pit closure and covering of product lines, the following steps shall be taken by the installer.

1. A strength test (by manufacturer) – a label on the tank to verify ASME, UL, API, or ULC.
2. An air test (before placing in pit for underground tanks, or for aboveground tanks, before any product is introduced) at 5 psig.
3. A visual inspection witnessed by a Fire Prevention Division inspector of the hold down pad or deadman anchors, bedding and straps is required prior to backfilling the pit.

4. An air test of the tank(s) after placing in pit or after mounting on its foundation, prior to introduction of product – 10 inches by mercury gauge or 5 psig (gauge shall have a maximum reading of 15 psi and be graduated in 1 psi increments) for a minimum of 60 minutes. If applicable, the interstice on double-walled tanks shall be tested as per the manufacturer's instructions for a minimum of 60 minutes. These shall be witnessed by a Fire Prevention Division inspector.
5. A hydrostatic test – when static head on bottom of tank is over 10 psig.
6. An air test of the product lines (suction system) – shall be done when the tank is air tested. Product lines shall be installed to the tank and capped off at connection to the device.
7. An air test of the product lines (with day tank) – 5 psig every 10 feet of elevation for a minimum of 10 minutes witnessed by a Fire Prevention Division inspector.
8. An air test of the product lines (submersible systems) – 50 psig for a minimum of 10 minutes witnessed by a Fire Prevention Division inspector.
9. An air test of secondary containment piping – 5 psig for a minimum of 10 minutes witnessed by a Fire Prevention Division inspector.
10. A visual inspection, witnessed by a Fire Prevention Division inspector, of the product line trenches is required when the backfill is even with the top of the product lines.

New petroleum storage tank inspection fee(s) per visit per tank and piping distribution system are per the published fee schedule.

(Note: Multiple tank installations located on the same site which can be tested simultaneously will be counted as one tank for fee charge purposes.)

The installer shall call the Fire Prevention Division, Inspections Section, at 703-246-4849 to schedule an inspection appointment at least 24 hours in advance.

**AST's for Dispensing shall be Fire-Resistive TANKS or TANKS in Vaults.  
See 30A-03, 4.3.3, 4.3.4(All), F-3404.2.7(All), and 2206.2.3.**

- C. **PRE-INSTALLATION/REPLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW PRODUCT LINES ONLY** shall be in accordance with the following procedures. Submit to the "Plans Review Section" of the Fire Prevention Division:

1. Three (3) copies of the completed site plan for our review and approval, showing the location of the tank(s), distances from the tank(s) to all above or underground structures, and location and layout of all piping and dispensing units associated with the tank(s); and including manufacturer's cut sheets for non-metallic piping.
2. Three (3) copies of complete elevation plans showing depth of burial and fill material.

- D. **INSTALLATION/REPLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW PRODUCT LINES ONLY:** Only after the above procedures have been reviewed and approved can the installation of product lines begin. Prior to covering the lines, the following steps shall be taken by the installer.
1. Suction systems – Air test of 5 psig for a minimum of 10 minutes shall be witnessed by a Fire Prevention Division inspector.
  2. Submersible systems – Air test of 50 psig for a minimum of 10 minutes shall be witnessed by a Fire Prevention Division inspector.
  3. Secondary Containment Piping – Air test of 5 psig for a minimum of 10 minutes witnessed by a Fire Prevention Division inspector.

New product lines inspection fee(s) per visit are per the published fee schedule.

(Note: Multiple line installations located on the same site which can be tested simultaneously will be counted as one tank for fee charge purposes.)

The installer shall call the Fire Prevention Division, Inspections Section at 703-246-4849 to schedule an inspection appointment at least 48 hours in advance.

All new installations shall meet NFPA 30, 30A, 31 and 407 and Article 34 of the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code and the County of Fairfax Fire Prevention Code, as amended.

- E. **REMOVAL OR CLOSURE OF UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS** shall be in accordance with the following:

1. Compliance with Chapter 7 of DEQ's requirement – see document VR 680-13-02.
2. All requests for abandonment in place need to be justified with a letter and site diagram. A site inspection will be conducted before approval of abandonment.
3. A Fire Prevention Code Permit shall be obtained from this office for Section 3404.2.13 – Abandonment, and status of tanks. This permit shall be obtained in person at 10700 Page Avenue, Fairfax, Virginia.  
  
A check made payable to the "County of Fairfax" shall be presented at the time of application. Three (3) site drawings shall be submitted showing the location of the tank(s) in relationship to buildings, lot lines and underground utilities.
4. All tanks and tank pits shall be inspected by a Fire Prevention Division inspector after tank removal or permanent closure. Call 703-246-4849 to schedule an inspection appointment at least 24 hours prior to closure or removal of the tank(s).
5. A minimum of two soil samples shall be taken from each tank pit for analysis by a certified laboratory. The results of the analysis, along with the tank closure form, shall be mailed to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.
6. The pit(s) may be backfilled for safety reasons with the understanding that the DEQ may order the pit(s) to be reopened and cleaned out if tests show gross contamination of the soil. Soil remediation shall comply with the Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Waste Management, and Department of Air Pollution Control regulations.

7. Tanks permanently closed in ground shall comply with the following:
  - a. All liquids shall be removed from the tank lines.
  - b. Tanks shall be thoroughly cleaned to remove any vapors or sludge.
  - c. Suction, inlet, gauge and vent lines disconnected.
  - d. Fill pipe removed.
  - e. Tank shall be filled with a solid inert material.
8. The tank(s) and contaminated soil shall be disposed of at a site for such waste. Consult the yellow pages of your local telephone directory under "Scrap Metal".

Testing and recordkeeping of underground and aboveground storage tanks shall be in accordance with regulations adopted by the Department of Environmental Quality and Article 34 of the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code and the County of Fairfax Fire Prevention Code, as amended.

Should you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the "Inspections Section" of the Fire Prevention Division, Monday through Friday during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 703-246-4849.



**COUNTY OF FAIRFAX  
FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION**  
10700 Page Aveune  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030  
(703) 246-4800

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Permit(s) Expire: \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupancy Load: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION FOR FIRE PREVENTION CODE PERMIT**

Application is hereby made by the undersigned for a Permit(s) to conduct the following industry, trade, occupation, storage or use.

**Fire Prevention Code(s) Applying For**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**AMOUNT DUE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN WITH PAYMENT, MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: "COUNTY OF FAIRFAX"**

**Business / Headquarters:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Billing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ *Zip Code +4*

**All conditions, surroundings and arrangements are to be in accordance with the Fire Prevention Code.**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby accept full responsibility for the adherence to all requirements of the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code and the County of Fairfax Fire Prevention Code pertaining to the above.

*Signature*

**Inspection Location Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Inspection Location:** \_\_\_\_\_ *Zip Code+4*

**NON-RUP (REQUIRED, PERMIT WILL NOT BE PROCESSED)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Person Making Application:** \_\_\_\_\_ *Printed Name*

**Telephone No.:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Emergency Telephone No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Mail To:** \_\_\_\_\_ **F S Number:**  **Batt. Number:**   
**Inspector:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



FIRE AP # \_\_\_\_\_

DPWES AP # \_\_\_\_\_

# FPD Permit Application Plans Review & Billing Information

Initials \_\_\_\_\_

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/prevention/

\_\_\_\_\_ New submittal

\_\_\_\_\_ Resubmission of previously rejected plans (FIRE AP # \_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_\_ Revised previously approved Plans (FIRE AP # \_\_\_\_\_)

Job Address \_\_\_\_\_ Bldg# \_\_\_\_\_ Floor \_\_\_\_\_ Suite \_\_\_\_\_

Job Name \_\_\_\_\_

Is the location of the work in the **Town of Herndon limits?**      NO                  YES  
(If yes, a permit from Herndon must be obtained after the plan approval and fee payment at Fairfax County FPD.)

Please complete the information below so that your application may be processed in a timely manner. Your application will not be processed if complete information is not provided. **This sheet in itself is not a complete permit application.** This sheet must be attached to a completed Fairfax County DPWES Standard Permit Application (except jobs in Town of Herndon, which must have a Herndon application attached).

### PERMIT BEING APPLIED FOR (check only one)

- F COMMERCIAL      This permit is needed for all fire **SPRINKLER** systems installed according to NFPA 13.
- F RESIDENTIAL      This permit is needed for all fire **SPRINKLER** systems installed according to NFPA 13 R or 13 D.
- F LIMITED AREA      This permit is needed for all fire **SPRINKLER** systems defined as limited area per the VUSBC.
- F UNDERGROUND      This permit is needed for all underground portions of a fire sprinkler water service system.
- F FIRE ALARM      This permit is needed for all installations to or modifications of a fire alarm system, door lock system, clean agent system, etc.
- F FIRE LANE      This permit is needed for installation of or modification to Fire Lanes.
- F RANGE HOOD & SP PROJECTS      This permit is needed for installation or modification of a range hood, paint spray booth or other specialized fire suppression system
- HERNDON (305)      Tenant plans reviewed for the Town of Herndon are considered this type.

### INFORMATION NEEDED FOR ALL PERMIT TYPES

\_\_\_\_\_ Associated Parent AP # (Building Permit Number)

\_\_\_\_\_ Use of building (see choices on rear of sheet) (Dept of Commerce)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Declared value of work      \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Declared value of equipment

\_\_\_\_\_ FIDO ID # of Primary Contractor/Company (Responsible for FPD fees)

\_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ FIDO AC # of Applicant/Contact

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Which Code and Code Year work is to be done under IBC IMC IPC IRC IFC 2003 2006

Description of work to be done, please be explicit: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**F COMMERCIAL SPRINKLER PERMITS ONLY**

NFPA Standard & Year work is to be done under: (circle one each) Standard 13 (F13) 20 (F PUMP)  
Year: 1999 2007

**F RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLER PERMITS ONLY**

NFPA Standard & Year work is to be done under: (circle one each) Standard 13R (F 13R) 13D (F 13D) 20 (F PUMP)  
Year: 1999 2007

\_\_\_\_ Are there multiple addresses? List additional addresses on rear.

**F UNDERGROUND PERMITS ONLY**

\_\_\_\_ This permit is for the underground piping from the Public Water Supply to the Building (F LINE)

\_\_\_\_ This permit is for the underground portion of a free-standing Siamese connection. (F FDC)

Have Plans been approved for this work? YES NO If yes, please indicate Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Review \_\_\_\_\_ Site Plan

Number \_\_\_\_\_

**F FIRE ALARM PERMITS ONLY**

Type of system to be installed or modified (check only one)

\_\_\_\_ FIRE ALARM (F ALRM) \_\_\_\_ DOOR LOCKS (F LOCK) \_\_\_\_ CENTRAL STATION (F CENS)  
\_\_\_\_ CLEAN AGENT SYSTEM (F ALRM) \_\_\_\_ SMOKE EVACUATION (F SMKE)

Will the contractor be doing any other electrical work in the building? Describe \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**F FIRE LANES PERMITS ONLY**

Have Plans been approved for this work? YES NO If yes, please indicate

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Review \_\_\_\_\_ Site Plan

Number \_\_\_\_\_

Please list ALL streets and addresses that this permit will cover.

(EXAMPLE: 200-210 ALL Main Street; 8510-8520 EVEN Red Street; 8527, 8531, & 8535 Blue Street, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**LINKED ADDRESSES**

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**USE OF BUILDING CHOICES**

ACCSRY	ACCESSORY STRUCTURE
AGRCLT	AGRICULTURAL NURSERIES
ANTNNA	TOWER OR ROOF MOUNTED ANTENNA
CIVIC	CIVIC/SOCIAL/FRAT ORGANIZATION
CONVST	CONVENIENCE STORE
DUPLEX	DUPLEXES, VERTICAL OR HORIZONT
GENMCH	GENERAL MERCHANDISE-NOT SHPCNT
GROCRY	GROCERY/FOOD STORE
GRPHSG	GROUHOUSE/NURSINGHOME/DAYCARE
GRPQTR	NURSINGHOME/DORM/BOARDINGHOUSE
HOSPTL	HOSPITAL/URGENT CARE
HOTEL	HOTEL/MOTEL TRANSIENT LODGING
INDUST	INDUSTRIAL OTHERTHAN WAREHOUSE
INDWHS	INDUSTRIAL INCULDING WAREHOUSE
LIBRRY	LIBRARY
MOBILE	MOBILE
MODULR	MODULAR/MANUFACTURED HOMES
MULTFM	APARTMENT/MANUFACTURED HOMES
MUSEUM	MUSEUM/ART GALLERY
OFFICE	OFFICE BUILDING
PUBLIC	PUBLIC SERVICE USE/FIRE/POLICE
RECRTN	RECREATION/SWIM POOL/GOLF FAC
RESTRT	RESTAURANT/CARRY OUT
SCHOOL	EDUCATION-INCLUDE PORT CLASSES
SFD	SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING
SHOP	SHOPPING CENTER
SIGNS	SIGNS
SVCSTA	SERVICE STATION-VEHICLE/MARINE
TELCOM	TELECOM EQUIP TOWER STRUCTURE
THEATR	THEATHER/STADIUM
TOWNHS	TOWNHOUSES
TRAILR	COMMERICAL SALES TRAILER
TRNPRT	TRANSPORTATION/UTILITY/COM FAC
WAREHS	WAREHOUSE/SELF STORAGE
WORSHP	CHURCH/SYNAGOGUE/TEMPLE