

BFPD Code Amendment Quick References

This document is meant to be a tool to assist contractors and designers quickly find the most common questions regarding our Fire Code and Building Code amendments and specific requirements that are unique to the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District. Any questions can be sent to Fire Marshal Michael Gross at michaelg@bloomingdalefire.com

Fire Alarm Systems

- All new fire alarm systems shall be the addressable type.
- When a fire alarm panel becomes inoperative and is required to be replaced, the Fire Marshal may require the fire system for the entire building to be brought up to current code.
- Manual pull stations located in areas of businesses normally accessible to the general public shall be provided with listed sounder covers.
- The main fire alarm control panel (FACP) shall be located by the sprinkler system riser/fire pump. A remote annunciator shall be provided at the main entrance. Annunciators shall be the keyed type to prevent unauthorized tampering.
- Interior notification shall be able to be silenced on waterflow alarms. Exterior bell & strobe w/blue lens over the sprinkler fire department connection (FDC) shall not be able to be silenced while water is flowing.
- Multi-tenant buildings (strip malls) shall be set for ring-by-tenant and be provided with an outside strobe to activate on any alarm condition originating from that specific tenant space. Strobe shall be set to minimum of 75cd.
- Remote test stations/indicating lights for duct detectors shall be located near the unit they serve, and shall be provided with red hard plastic labels with engraved or raised white lettering indicating the RTU/AHU they serve.
- Supervisory signals shall be set to latching.
- Fire alarm systems backup batteries shall be sized to provide 60 hours of backup.
- Any time a fire alarm panel or connected equipment thereof becomes inoperable due to age or other reasons and is required to be replaced, the fire code official having jurisdiction may require the fire alarm system for the entire building to be brought up to current code requirements.
- Fire alarms shall utilize a mesh network radio, such as AES or Keltron, as the means of communication. Monitoring shall be done by DuComm or a UL listed 3rd party central station. Buildings within the Village of Hanover Park must report directly to DuComm.
- A framed zone legend map shall be mounted by the FACP.
- Framed operating instructions for the FACP shall be provided. Indicate the following in simple to understand language:
 - How to silence
 - How to reset
 - How to review alarm history

Sprinkler Systems (Commercial)

- New underground piping must be flushed and witnessed by the Fire District prior to connection to the sprinkler system. This includes undergrounds for residential sprinkler systems.
- The inspectors test connection shall be located at the hydraulically most remote location and located no more than 6ft above the finished floor. Buildings with multiple riser shall be clearly labeled to indicate which system the test connection serves.
- Speculative warehouse/manufacturing buildings shall be designed for the storage of Class IV commodities up to the maximum available height.
- All new warehouse/manufacturing areas exceeding 30,000 sq. ft., and where storage exceeds 12ft in height, inside 2½” NST hose valves with 1½” NST reducers shall be provided at each door entrance to the warehouse/storage area. Addition hose valves shall be located so that no portion of the warehouse/storage area is more than 120ft maximum travel distance to a hose valve. Hose valves shall be supplied by a separate piping system with no less than 4” piping and 2½” drops to each valve.
- Sprinkler protection shall be provided for exterior balconies and decks of dwelling units and sleeping units.
- A minimum of 10% or 5 psi (whichever is greater) minimum safety factor shall be provided in the fire protection system hydraulic calculations.
- Thin wall piping is not permitted.
- New fire department connections (FDC) shall be a 5” Storz connection and located with 100ft of a fire hydrant.
- A mechanical bell and weatherproof strobe w/blue lens shall be provided over the fire department connection (FDC) to activate when water is flowing. Strobe shall be set to minimum of 75cd.
- Sprinkler riser rooms & fire pump rooms shall be provided with an outside access door and an interior access door that swings in the direction of egress. The exterior door shall be clearly labeled.

Sprinkler Systems (Residential13D)

- A single dry horizontal sidewall sprinkler shall be provided in attached garages near the entry door to the home.
- Interior notification horns set to temporal three shall be provided on each level of the home that has sleeping areas.
- A horn/strobe (clear lens) set to temporal three shall be provided on the exterior of the home facing the street.

Smoke Evac Systems

- A manual smoke evac system shall be provided for buildings with more than 30,000 sq.ft. of undivided area. System shall be sized to exhaust the building at a rate of three to four air exchanges per hour.
- Smoke evac fans shall be set to only be operated manually by Knox key switches.
- Knox key switches shall be located by the FACP, or a location approved by the Fire Marshal.

- Smoke evac fans shall not be tied to the building fire alarm system unless approved by the Fire Marshal.