FINAL PROPOSED RULE # 25-P022

Final Proposed Filing - Coversheet

Instructions:

In accordance with Title 3 Chapter 25 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated and the "Rule on Rulemaking" adopted by the Office of the Secretary of State, this filing will be considered complete upon filing and acceptance of these forms with the Office of the Secretary of State, and the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules.

All forms shall be submitted at the Office of the Secretary of State, no later than 3:30 pm on the last scheduled day of the work week.

The data provided in text areas of these forms will be used to generate a notice of rulemaking in the portal of "Proposed Rule Postings" online, and the newspapers of record if the rule is marked for publication. Publication of notices will be charged back to the promulgating agency.

PLEASE REMOVE ANY COVERSHEET OR FORM NOT REQUIRED WITH THE CURRENT FILING BEFORE DELIVERY!

Certification Statement: As the adopting Authority of this rule (see 3 V.S.A. § 801 (b) (11) for a definition), I approve the contents of this filing entitled:

2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code

/s/ Landon Wheeler , on 9/17/2025
(signature) (date)

Printed Name and Title:
Landon Wheeler - Deputy Director

RECEIVED BY: _____

- ☐ Coversheet
- ☐ Adopting Page
- ☐ Economic Impact Analysis
- ☐ Environmental Impact Analysis
- ☐ Strategy for Maximizing Public Input
- ☐ Scientific Information Statement (if applicable)
- ☐ Incorporated by Reference Statement (if applicable)
- ☐ Clean text of the rule (Amended text without annotation)
- ☐ Annotated text (Clearly marking changes from previous rule)
- ☐ ICAR Minutes
- ☐ Copy of Comments
- ☐ Responsiveness Summary

1. TITLE OF RULE FILING:
   2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code
2. PROPOSED NUMBER ASSIGNED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE
   25P022
3. ADOPTING AGENCY:
   Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety
4. PRIMARY CONTACT PERSON:
   (A PERSON WHO IS ABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CONTENT OF THE RULE).

   Name: Landon Wheeler

   Agency: Division of Fire Safety

   Mailing Address: 45 State Drive Waterbury, VT 05671

   Telephone: 802-479-7566 Fax: 802-479-7562

   E-Mail: Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov

   Web URL *(WHERE THE RULE WILL BE POSTED)*:
   https://firesafety.vermont.gov/
5. SECONDARY CONTACT PERSON:
   (A SPECIFIC PERSON FROM WHOM COPIES OF FILINGS MAY BE REQUESTED OR WHO MAY ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT FORMS SUBMITTED FOR FILING IF DIFFERENT FROM THE PRIMARY CONTACT PERSON).

   Name: Michael Desrochers

   Agency: Division of Fire Safety

   Mailing Address: 45 State Drive Waterbury, VT 05671

   Telephone: 802-479-7566 Fax: 802-479-7562

   E-Mail: landon.wheeler@vermont.gov
6. RECORDS EXEMPTION INCLUDED WITHIN RULE:
   (DOES THE RULE CONTAIN ANY PROVISION DESIGNATING INFORMATION AS CONFIDENTIAL; LIMITING ITS PUBLIC RELEASE; OR OTHERWISE, EXEMPTING IT FROM INSPECTION AND COPYING?) No

   IF YES, CITE THE STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THE EXEMPTION:

   N/A

   PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE REASON FOR THE EXEMPTION:

   N/A
7. LEGAL AUTHORITY / ENABLING LEGISLATION:
   (THE SPECIFIC STATUTORY OR LEGAL CITATION FROM SESSION LAW INDICATING WHO THE ADOPTING ENTITY IS AND THUS WHO THE SIGNATORY SHOULD BE. THIS SHOULD BE A SPECIFIC CITATION NOT A CHAPTER CITATION).

20 V.S.A. §§ 2677, 2731, 2757, 2882, 2757, 2901

8. EXPLANATION OF HOW THE RULE IS WITHIN THE AUTHORITY OF THE AGENCY:
   The Vermont Department of Public Safety - Division of Fire Safety is the primary State entity charged with the construction and protection of buildings from the risk of fire, explosion, hazardous materials, dangerous structural conditions, carbon monoxide poisoning or structural collapse.
9. THE FILING HAS CHANGED SINCE THE FILING OF THE PROPOSED RULE.
10. THE AGENCY HAS INCLUDED WITH THIS FILING A LETTER EXPLAINING IN DETAIL WHAT CHANGES WERE MADE, CITING CHAPTER AND SECTION WHERE APPLICABLE.
11. SUBSTANTIAL ARGUMENTS AND CONSIDERATIONS WERE NOT RAISED FOR OR AGAINST THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL.
12. THE AGENCY HAS INCLUDED COPIES OF ALL WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS AND SYNOPSES OF ORAL COMMENTS RECEIVED.
13. THE AGENCY HAS INCLUDED A LETTER EXPLAINING IN DETAIL THE REASONS FOR THE AGENCY'S DECISION TO REJECT OR ADOPT THEM.
14. CONCISE SUMMARY (**150 WORDS OR LESS**):
    The 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code establishes the minimum standards to protect the public from the risks of fire, explosion, hazardous materials, dangerous structural conditions and carbon monoxide poisoning within public buildings. These amended rules provide updates and incorporate more recent editions of the same national codes and standards that are currently adopted. These rules include requirements for the addition of carbon monoxide detection in some occupancies, protection of lithium ion batteries, building energy storage systems, escape window clarifications, sprinkler system requirment modifications, and the inclusion of grab bars to prevent slips and falls. These amendments are also intended to provide clarity of the intent of currently adopted codes & standards and to incorporate existing interim operational guidance.
15. EXPLANATION OF WHY THE RULE IS NECESSARY:

Technical codes and standards are being updated to improve coordination of regulations and permits with national standards, and attempt to recognize emerging technology that gives designers and builders more options and alternatives. Updated codes also respond to national fire and loss data to require additional code requirements, create options, or in some cases eliminate requirements that are deemed to be ineffective or unnecessary. These rules include requirements for the addition of carbon monoxide detection in some occupancies, protection of lithium ion batteries, and the inclusion of grab bars to prevent slips and falls. Data has shown that the risks associated with lithium ion battery fires and carbon monoxide, provide a significant risk to the public and first responders. The Division also identified the significant injury rates associated with slips and falls resulting in emergency room visits.

16. EXPLANATION OF HOW THE RULE IS NOT ARBITRARY:

These rules do not single out any particular entity(s), individual or corporation. These rules apply a fair and unbiased application of the Vermont Fire & Building Safety code to all entities within the State of Vermont that are subject to the application of the National Fire Protection Association - Life Safety Code, International Building Code and the Fire Code. All the aforementioned standards are recognized across the United States and are utilized as a minimum basis of protection by many states.

17. LIST OF PEOPLE, ENTERPRISES AND GOVERNMENT ENTITIES AFFECTED BY THIS RULE:

These rules affect several governmental and private entities which include, but are not limited to the following: general contractors, general public, builders, for profit and non-profit developers, business owners, churches, private clubs, state owned/leased buildings, fire and rescue services, engineers & architects, municipal government organizations, Vermont Landlords Association, Vermont Realtors Association, Vermont Human Rights Commission, Vermont Center for Independent Living, Agency of Commerce and Community Development, American Institute

of Architects, Associated General Contractors, Vermont Chamber of Commerce, Department of Buildings & General Services, Department for Children and Families, Department of Aging & Independent Living and The Division for Historic Preservation. Several entities are exempted from this rule and include single family owner occupied homes, small working farms, registered day care facilities and some home businesses.

18. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ECONOMIC IMPACT (150 WORDS OR LESS):

This rule is designed to reduce economic impact while providing built-in protection to reduce loss of life, injury, property and to reduce the economic impact from fire, wind, snow in public places. Many businesses and residential properties that have a fire do not re-open further contributing to the negative economic impact. Loss of residential structures from fire or structural failure further contribute to the increase in housing scarcity across the State. Incorporating modern codes and technologies into building construction creates building resiliency and improves sustainability. This code is adopted to provide minimum safety requirements to include the addition of carbon monoxide detection systems in schools and other occupancies as well as the inlcusion of grab bars to prevent injury from slips and falls. These changes often realize reductions in insurance and reduce owner liability resulting from injury litigation.

19. A HEARING WAS HELD.

20. HEARING INFORMATION
(THE FIRST HEARING SHALL BE NO SOONER THAN 30 DAYS FOLLOWING THE POSTING OF NOTICES ONLINE).

IF THIS FORM IS INSUFFICIENT TO LIST THE INFORMATION FOR EACH HEARING, PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET TO COMPLETE THE HEARING INFORMATION.

Date: 7/25/2025

Time: 09:00 AM

Street Address: Alumni Hall - 20 Auditorium Hill, Barre City, VT

Zip Code: 05641

URL for Virtual:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/ap/t-

59584e83/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fteams.microsoft.com%2Fl%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%253ameeting_NmYyODkzMTktOGFmZi00YTU2LWIxODMtMmRjNzhhOTk4NmVi%2540thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%252220b4933b-baad-433c-9c02-70edcc7559c6%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%253a%2522f2a98f94-150c-4576-a4a7-ed322ca44fa1%2522%257d&data=05%7C02%7CBenjamin.Moffatt%40vermont.gov%7Cc2354f3c8ed449d1b80708ddaa73192b%7C20b4933bbaad433c9c0270edcc7559c6%7C0%7C0%7C638854133527319781%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Z1Tv%2Fh8US66WJ4icPu%2FtrnViOaIdj7NmyNfmVButddY%3D&reserved=0

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21. DEADLINE FOR COMMENT (NO EARLIER THAN 7 DAYS FOLLOWING LAST HEARING):
8/5/2025

KEYWORDS (PLEASE PROVIDE AT LEAST 3 KEYWORDS OR PHRASES TO AID IN THE SEARCHABILITY OF THE RULE NOTICE ONLINE).

Fire Code

Vermont fire safety

Building codes

National Fire Protection Association

International Building Code Vermont

Smoke alarm requirements

Carbon monoxide alarms

Division of Fire Safety

Grab bars

building energy storage

Adopting Page

Instructions:

This form must accompany each filing made during the rulemaking process:

Note: To satisfy the requirement for an annotated text, an agency must submit the entire rule in annotated form with proposed and final proposed filings. Filing an annotated paragraph or page of a larger rule is not sufficient. Annotation must clearly show the changes to the rule.

When possible, the agency shall file the annotated text, using the appropriate page or pages from the Code of Vermont Rules as a basis for the annotated version. New rules need not be accompanied by an annotated text.

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1. TITLE OF RULE FILING:
   2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code
2. ADOPTING AGENCY:
   Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety
3. TYPE OF FILING (*PLEASE CHOOSE THE TYPE OF FILING FROM THE DROPDOWN MENU BASED ON THE DEFINITIONS PROVIDED BELOW*):

   - **AMENDMENT -** Any change to an already existing rule, even if it is a complete rewrite of the rule, it is considered an amendment if the rule is replaced with other text.
   - **NEW RULE -** A rule that did not previously exist even under a different name.
   - **REPEAL** - The removal of a rule in its entirety, without replacing it with other text.

   This filing is **AN AMENDMENT OF AN EXISTING RULE .**

4. LAST ADOPTED (*PLEASE PROVIDE THE SOS LOG#, TITLE AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE LAST ADOPTION FOR THE EXISTING RULE)*:

   2015 VERMONT FIRE AND BUILDING SAFETY CODE, SOS Log # 16-036, Effective 10/10/2016

Economic Impact Analysis

Instructions:

In completing the economic impact analysis, an agency analyzes and evaluates the anticipated costs and benefits to be expected from adoption of the rule; estimates the costs and benefits for each category of people enterprises and government entities affected by the rule; compares alternatives to adopting the rule; and explains their analysis concluding that rulemaking is the most appropriate method of achieving the regulatory purpose. If no impacts are anticipated, please specify "No impact anticipated" in the field.

Rules affecting or regulating schools or school districts must include cost implications to local school districts and taxpayers in the impact statement, a clear statement of associated costs, and consideration of alternatives to the rule to reduce or ameliorate costs to local school districts while still achieving the objectives of the rule (see 3 V.S.A. § 832b for details).

Rules affecting small businesses (excluding impacts incidental to the purchase and payment of goods and services by the State or an agency thereof), must include ways that a business can reduce the cost or burden of compliance or an explanation of why the agency determines that such evaluation isn't appropriate, and an evaluation of creative, innovative or flexible methods of compliance that would not significantly impair the effectiveness of the rule or increase the risk to the health, safety, or welfare of the public or those affected by the rule.

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1. TITLE OF RULE FILING:

   2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code

2. ADOPTING AGENCY:

   Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety

3. CATEGORY OF AFFECTED PARTIES:

   LIST CATEGORIES OF PEOPLE, ENTERPRISES, AND GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES POTENTIALLY AFFECTED BY THE ADOPTION OF THIS RULE AND THE ESTIMATED COSTS AND BENEFITS ANTICIPATED:

   The Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code provides minimum safety in public buildings including multi-family and rented dwellings. This code does not apply to single family owner occupied dwellings or most agricultural buildings, registered child care homes, accessory apartments that are not rented, or small in-home businesses.

Some examples of affected parties include, but are not limited to: general contractors, general public, builders, for profit and non-profit developers, business owners, churches, private clubs, state owned/leased buildings, fire and rescue services, engineers & architects, municipal government organizations, Vermont Landlords Association, Vermont Human Rights Commission, Vermont Center for Independent Living, Division of Historic Preservation, American Institute of Architects, Associated General Contractors, Vermont Chamber of Commerce, Department of Buildings & General Services, Department of Children & Families, Department of Aging & Independent Living, Under these rules architects, contractors and developers are afforded the use of the most current codes available. It allows the most current changes in technologies for materials and design/building practices. This code is adopted to provide minimum requirements for new public buildings and requirements for building operation and maintenance of existing buildings. The proposed codes are updated codes currently in use (currently 2015 editions moving to 2021). There are some deletions and additions in the proposed rule as well as clarifying language to better facilitate the administration of the rules

Some updated sections of this rule are designed to clarify requirements for the user/designer, such as the matrix near the front of the rule to assist in the design of a project as well matrix's to assist owners to identify the needs for smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and the locations where they need to be installed. We also added a reference standards section to better outline changes made to our adopted standards as referenced by the life safety code, fire code and building code.

4. IMPACT ON SCHOOLS:

INDICATE ANY IMPACT THAT THE RULE WILL HAVE ON PUBLIC EDUCATION, PUBLIC SCHOOLS, LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS CLEARLY STATING ANY ASSOCIATED COSTS:

Impacts on schools will be minimal with the only major change being the addition of Carbon Monoxide detection.

Carbon monoxide poisoning and the associated long term effects of low-level exposure, can be detrimental to the developing brain. The rule change seeks to add an additional alarm in common areas adjacent to mechanical spaces containing fuel fired equipment and in any rooms where students may occupy where there is fuel burning equipment present. Single station Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) range in cost from $50-70.00 per device.

5. ALTERNATIVES: *CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES TO THE RULE TO REDUCE OR AMELIORATE COSTS TO LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHILE STILL ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVE OF THE RULE*.

   The addition of carbon monoxide detection devices is the only effective measure to detect and alert individuals to the presence of carbon monoxide. No reasonable alternatives can be made to the installation of a detection device in the additional locations.

6. IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES:
   INDICATE ANY IMPACT THAT THE RULE WILL HAVE ON SMALL BUSINESSES (EXCLUDING IMPACTS INCIDENTAL TO THE PURCHASE AND PAYMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES BY THE STATE OR AN AGENCY THEREOF):

   Small businesses will not be adversely affected by the adoption of these updated rules. The adoption of the updated codes and standards under these rules make no significant changes to existing business occupancies. Updated codes and standards allow additional safeguards and alternatives to compliance which can reduce costs to owners. New businesses, or existing businesses undergoing significant renovations, will be required to add additional fall safety measures in showers and bathrooms to reduce slips and falls. Many businesses do not provide bathing facilities, and as a result will not be affected by the implementation of these rules. Business will also be affected by the installation of additional carbon monoxide detection devices. However, we expect the economic impact to be minimal as devices are permitted to be stand-alone are not required to be monitored by a fire alarm system.

7. SMALL BUSINESS COMPLIANCE: *EXPLAIN WAYS A BUSINESS CAN REDUCE THE COST/BURDEN OF COMPLIANCE OR AN EXPLANATION OF WHY THE AGENCY DETERMINES THAT SUCH EVALUATION ISN'T APPROPRIATE.*

   Many businesses do not provide bathing facilities, and as a result will not be adversely affected by the implementation of these rules. Bathing facilities (tubs & showers) are also not mandated by the plumbing codes for business occupancies and thus owners can simply omit showers and tub installations in lieu of the additional costs. Current ADA regulations currently mandate the installation of grab bars in bathrooms surrounding toilets. Existing business owners will not be financially affected by these changes as they will only apply to new occupancies if the owners wishes to provide bathing facilities.

8. COMPARISON:

   COMPARE THE IMPACT OF THE RULE WITH THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF OTHER ALTERNATIVES TO THE RULE, INCLUDING NO RULE ON THE SUBJECT OR A RULE HAVING SEPARATE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL BUSINESS:

   There are no comparable alternatives to the installation of grab bars in tubs and showers. Grab bars can be easily installed in new tubs and showers, many of which are provided with integral blocking installed by the manufacturers in the surrounds. Since the blocking is provided from the factory, the installation costs are relatively minor. Conversely the costs of emergency room healthcare visits, can create a significant expense for owners and insurance providers.

9. SUFFICIENCY: *DESCRIBE HOW THE ANALYSIS WAS CONDUCTED, IDENTIFYING RELEVANT INTERNAL AND/OR EXTERNAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION USED.*

   The Division solicited emergency department data from the Vermont Department of Health, which showed a significant number of emergency department visits and/or hospitalizations resulting from slips and falls in showers and tubs.

Environmental Impact Analysis

Instructions:

In completing the environmental impact analysis, an agency analyzes and evaluates the anticipated environmental impacts (positive or negative) to be expected from adoption of the rule; compares alternatives to adopting the rule; explains the sufficiency of the environmental impact analysis. If no impacts are anticipated, please specify "No impact anticipated" in the field.

Examples of Environmental Impacts include but are not limited to:

- Impacts on the emission of greenhouse gases
- Impacts on the discharge of pollutants to water
- Impacts on the arability of land
- Impacts on the climate
- Impacts on the flow of water
- Impacts on recreation
- Or other environmental impacts

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1. TITLE OF RULE FILING:

   2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code

2. ADOPTING AGENCY:

   Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety

3. GREENHOUSE GAS: *EXPLAIN HOW THE RULE IMPACTS THE EMISSION OF GREENHOUSE GASES (E.G. TRANSPORTATION OF PEOPLE OR GOODS; BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE; LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT, WASTE GENERATION, ETC.):*
   The National Codes regulating building and fire protection have sought to integrate the newest technologies aimed at reducing the environmental footprint of both new and existing buildings. For example, the use of non-chloroflourinated refrigerants, reduced water consumption fixtures, and energy efficient wall and window assemblies. Energy storage systems (on-site battery storage) are also being integrated into many buildings and are being recognized and permitted by the model codes adopted under these rules. These rules should have the effect of further

reducing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with building construction, and should not cause any increases.

4. WATER: *EXPLAIN HOW THE RULE IMPACTS WATER (E.G. DISCHARGE / ELIMINATION OF POLLUTION INTO VERMONT WATERS, THE FLOW OF WATER IN THE STATE, WATER QUALITY ETC.):*
   These rules pertain to the construction of new buildings and the maintenance and protection of existing buildings. As such, they do not have an effect on water discharge or affect water quality or stream/river flows.

5. LAND: *EXPLAIN HOW THE RULE IMPACTS LAND (E.G. IMPACTS ON FORESTRY, AGRICULTURE ETC.):*
   These rules do not alter or affect land use, development or negatively impact the forestry or agricultural industry. These rules do not apply to forestry operations and specifically exempt most on-farm agricultural operations.

6. RECREATION: *EXPLAIN HOW THE RULE IMPACTS RECREATION IN THE STATE:*
   There is no impact on recreation created by the adoption of these rules.

7. CLIMATE: *EXPLAIN HOW THE RULE IMPACTS THE CLIMATE IN THE STATE:*
   These rules adopt modern standards and technologies aimed at reducing the impacts on climate created by our State's building infrastructure. The adoption of the most recent codes and standards should create a significant reduction in the emission of climate damaging greenhouse gasses.

8. OTHER: *EXPLAIN HOW THE RULE IMPACT OTHER ASPECTS OF VERMONT'S ENVIRONMENT:*
   There will be no additional impacts on Vermont's environment created by the implementation of these rules.

9. SUFFICIENCY: *DESCRIBE HOW THE ANALYSIS WAS CONDUCTED, IDENTIFYING RELEVANT INTERNAL AND/OR EXTERNAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION USED.*
   Division of Fire Safety personnel routinely monitor and are trained on emerging trends and new technologies in the building industry. The considerations made with regards to the climatic impact of these rules were

informed by our industry partners as well as trade magazines and external stakeholders.

Public Input Maximization Plan

Instructions:

Agencies are encouraged to hold hearings as part of their strategy to maximize the involvement of the public in the development of rules. Please complete the form below by describing the agency's strategy for maximizing public input (what it did do, or will do to maximize the involvement of the public).

This form must accompany each filing made during the rulemaking process:

1. TITLE OF RULE FILING:

   2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code

2. ADOPTING AGENCY:

   Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety

3. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE AGENCY'S STRATEGY TO MAXIMIZE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED RULE, LISTING THE STEPS THAT HAVE BEEN OR WILL BE TAKEN TO COMPLY WITH THAT STRATEGY:

   The Division of Fire Safety has been working to develop the proposed rule for many years soliciting and implementing significant input from our construction and fire protection stakeholders. The Division has presented these rules to the Vermont Fire Service, our municipal inspection partners, partner State agencies and interdepartmental staff to ensure these rules achieve the desired outcomes of providing a minimum level of public safety while maintaining a cost effective approach to construction within the State. The proposed rule documents will also be published on our Division website, and shared on our multiple social media channels/platforms. Hard copies of the proposed rules will be provided at each of our four (4) regional offices for members of the public to review.

4. BEYOND GENERAL ADVERTISEMENTS, PLEASE LIST THE PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN OR WILL BE INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED RULE:

Public Input

The Vermont Fire Service, Vermont Fire Alarm Installers, Vermont Sprinkler Installers, American Institute of Architects (AIA Vermont), Department of Public Service, Vermont Fuel Dealers Association, VT Coalition of Fire & Rescue Services, Division of Historic Preservation, American Institute of Architects, Associated General Contractors, Vermont Chamber of Commerce, Vermont Department of Buildings & General Services, Department for Children and Families Agency of Commerce and Community Development, Agency of Transportation.

Incorporation by Reference

THIS FORM IS ONLY REQUIRED WHEN INCORPORATING MATERIALS BY REFERENCE. PLEASE REMOVE PRIOR TO DELIVERY IF IT DOES NOT APPLY TO THIS RULE FILING:

Instructions:

In completing the incorporation by reference statement, an agency describes any materials that are incorporated into the rule by reference and how to obtain copies.

This form is only required when a rule incorporates materials by referencing another source without reproducing the text within the rule itself (e.g., federal or national standards, or regulations).

Incorporated materials will be maintained and available for inspection by the Agency.

1. TITLE OF RULE FILING:

   2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code

2. ADOPTING AGENCY:

   Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety

3. DESCRIPTION (*DESCRIBE THE MATERIALS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE*):

   The national model codes regulating life safety, building construction, boiler & pressure vessel inspection and the building codes regulating existing buildings are used as the framework for the development of these rules. Modifications to each of the adopted standards are made using the rulemaking process to better align with the building construction industry in Vermont.

4. FORMAL CITATION OF MATERIALS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE:
   Life Safety Code, NFPA 101, 2021 Edition

   Fire Code, NFPA 1, 2021 edition

   National Board Inspection Code, (NBIC) 2021 edition

   International Building Code, (IBC) 2021 edition

International Existing Building Code, (IEBC) 2021 edition

5. OBTAINING COPIES: *(EXPLAIN WHERE THE PUBLIC MAY OBTAIN THE MATERIAL(S) IN WRITTEN OR ELECTRONIC FORM, AND AT WHAT COST)*:

   Paper copies of the adopted codes and standards are available for review at each of our four (4) regional offices upon request by the public. NFPA and ICC Documents may also be purchased or reviewed for free electronically.

   Free Online Viewing: ALL National Fire Protection Association Codes (NFPA) codes and standards adopted under these rules: https://www.nfpa.org/for-professionals/codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards/free-access

   Free Online Viewing: ALL International Codes Council (ICC) codes and standards adopted under these rules: https://codes.iccsafe.org/codes?category=I-Codes.

   National Board Inspection Code - 2021: This standard is not available for free viewing online. Copies can be purchased for: $325.00 for a set.

   Hard Copies Of the adopted codes can be purchased for the following amounts: Life Safety Code, NFPA 101 - 2021 edition: $168.00, Fire Code, NFPA 1 - $163.00, International Building Code - 2021: $203.00

   Websites for purchasing: National Fire Protection Association Codes:https://www.nfpa.org/For-Professionals/Codes-and-Standards/Buy-Codes-and-Standards, International Building Codes: https://shop.iccsafe.org/international-codes/2021-international-building-coder.html

6. MODIFICATIONS (*PLEASE EXPLAIN ANY MODIFICATION TO THE INCORPORATED MATERIALS E.G., WHETHER ONLY PART OF THE MATERIAL IS ADOPTED AND IF SO, WHICH PART(S)ARE MODIFIED)*:

   The referenced standards adopted under these rules are modified part as listed in Sections 3 through 7 of these rules. Modifications in part to these standards are denoted by "delete & replace". Additions to these standards, are denoted by "add".

State of Vermont
Department of Public Safety
45 State Drive
Waterbury, Vermont 05671-2101
www.dps.vermont.gov

MEMO

To:	Sarah Copeland Hanzas, Secretary of State
From:	Jennifer Morrison, Commissioner - Vermont Department of Public Safety
Date:	June 16, 2025
Subject:	Signatory Authority for Purposes of Authorizing Administrative Rules

I hereby designate Landon A. Wheeler, Deputy Director, Division of Fire Safety as signatory to fulfill the duties of the Commissioner of Public Safety as the adopting authority for the 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code administrative rule as required by Vermont's Administrative Procedures Act, 3. V.S.A § 801 et
seq.

Jennifer Morrison
Commissioner

CC: Michael Desrochers – Executive Director
Landon Wheeler – Deputy Director

Interagency Committee on Administrative Rules (ICAR) Minutes

Date/Time: June 9, 2025, 2:00 PM

Location: Virtually via Microsoft Teams

Members Present: Chair Nick Kramer, Diane Sherman, Jared Adler, Jennifer Mojo, John Kessler, and Natalie Weill

Members Absent: Michael Obuchowski, and Nicole Dubuque

Minutes By: Melissa Mazza-Paquette

- 2:01 p.m. meeting called to order.
- Review and approval of minutes from the May 12, 2025 meeting.
- No additions/deletions to agenda. Agenda approved as drafted.
- Public comments made by Sylvia Knight pertaining to the first proposed rule.
- Presentation of Proposed Rules with recommended changes on pages to follow.
    1) Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides, Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets
    2) 2023 Vermont Electrical Safety Rules, Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety, Vermont Electricians' Licensing Board
    3) The 2025 Vermont Plumbing Rules, Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety, Vermont Electricians' Licensing Board
    4) 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code, Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety
    5) Health Benefits Eligibility and Enrollment Rule, General Provisions and Definition (Part 1), Agency of Human Services
    6) Health Benefits Eligibility and Enrollment Rule, Eligibility Standards (Part 2), Agency of Human Services
    7) Health Benefits Eligibility and Enrollment Rule, Nonfinancial Eligibility Requirements (Part 3), Agency of Human Services
    8) Health Benefits Eligibility and Enrollment Rule, Special Rules for Medicaid Coverage of Long-Term Care Services and Supports- Eligibility and Post-Eligibility (Part 4), Agency of Human Services

9) Health Benefits Eligibility and Enrollment Rule, Financial Methodologies (Part 5), Agency of Human Services

10) Health Benefits Eligibility and Enrollment Rule, Eligibility-and-Enrollment Procedures (Part 7), Agency of Human Services

- Other business: This is Melissa Mazza-Paquette's last ICAR meeting as she'll be leaving State government in July. Members thanked her for her time on ICAR, organization, and wished her well.
- Next scheduled meeting is July 14, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.
- 4:02 p.m. meeting adjourned.

To receive this information in an alternative format or for other accessibility requests, please contact:

Agency of Administration
ADM.Secretary@vermont.gov, 802-828-3322

Proposed Rule: Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides, Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

Presented By: Zachary Szczukowski, David Huber, and Steve Dwinell

Motion made to accept the rule by John Kessler, seconded by Jared Adler, and passed unanimously with the following recommendations:

1) Economic Impact Analysis: Include information from #12 in the Proposed Filing Coversheet.
2) Public Input Maximization Plan #4: Include the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
3) Incorporation by Reference: Clarify specifically what's being incorporated.

Proposed Rule: 2023 Vermont Electrical Safety Rules, Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety, Vermont Electricians' Licensing Board

Presented By: Dennis Blair and Landon Wheeler

Motion made to accept the rule by Diane Sherman, seconded by Jen Mojo, and passed unanimously with the following recommendations:

1) Choose either ‘this rule’ or ‘these rules’ and use the term consistently throughout the proposed rule filing.
2) Proposed Filing – Coversheet:
    a. #8: Move the last paragraph to the beginning to distinguish what the rule generally does and the subset of key changes being made.
    b. #12:
        i. Include in the Economic Impact Analysis.
        ii. Clarify the language in the following sentence “Changes have been made to the Vermont Electrical Safety Rules to reduce costs where there is not an adverse effect.”
    c. #14: Add ‘electrical’ and ‘electricity’.
3) Economic Impact Analysis #9: For clarity in the last sentence, move the word ‘injuries’ to after ‘…lost property,’ and add ‘of’ between ‘loss’ and ‘lives’.
4) Environmental Impact Analysis #4: Correct spelling of ‘polutants’.
5) Public Input Maximization Plan:
    a. #3: Change ‘listen’ to ‘listened’ in the first sentence.
    b. #4:
        i. Include the Vermont Department of Health regarding any environmental impact (and include in the Environmental Impact Analysis if appropriate).
        ii. Remove the word ‘had’ in the third sentence.

Proposed Rule: The 2025 Vermont Plumbing Rules, Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety, Vermont Electricians' Licensing Board

Presented By: John Hammer and Landon Wheeler

Motion made to accept the rule by John Kessler, seconded by Natalie Weill, and passed unanimously with the following recommendations:

1) Choose either 'this rule' or 'these rules' and use the term consistently throughout the proposed rule filing.
2) Proposed Filing – Coversheet:
    a. #3: Include the city and state in the mailing address.
    b. #7: Include the statute of authority (perhaps Title 26, §2173).
    c. #8: Highlight key changes.
    d. #10: Add a period after "…any one entity" before "This rule applies a fair…" to separate the first and second sentences.
    e. #11:
        i. Change "Agency of Commerce & Community Council" to "Agency of Commerce and Community Development".
        ii. Change "Division of Historic Preservation" to "Division for Historic Preservation".
        iii. Remove "etc." at the end and change the beginning to read "This rule would mainly have an effect on…".
    f. #12: Clarify language.
3) Economic Impact Analysis #7: Include further explanation for clarity.
4) Public Input Maximization Plan #4:
    a. Clarify who initially provided comments.
    b. Complete the last sentence.
5) Proposed Rule, Section 21 (A): Correct web links and contact information in the 4th paragraph on Page 19 to the following:
    a. Drinking Water & Groundwater Protection Division - https://dec.vermont.gov/drinking-water-and-groundwater-protection
    b. Stormwater - https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater, 802-828-1115 (general Watershed Management Division phone number)

Proposed Rule: 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code, Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety

Presented By: Landon Wheeler

Motion made to accept the rule by Jen Mojo, seconded by John Kessler, and passed unanimously with the following recommendations:

1) Proposed Filing Coversheet:
   a) #8: Include the list of changes.
   b) #11:
      i) Change “Division of Historic Preservation” to “Division for Historic Preservation”.
      ii) Change “Department of Children & Families” to “Department for Children and Families”.
   c) #12:
      i) List the economic impacts to those listed in #11.
      ii) Be consistent with the Economic Impact Analysis.
   d) Enivronmental Impact Analysis #8: Change “creed” to “created”.

Proposed Rule: Health Benefits Eligibility and Enrollment Rule, General Provisions and Definition (Part 1), Agency of Human Services

Presented By: Dani Fuoco, Robin Chapman, and Emily Belanger

Motion made to accept the rule by Diane Sherman, seconded by Jen Mojo, and passed unanimously except for Natalie Weill who abstained, with the following recommendations:

1) Proposed Filing – Coversheet:
    a. #8: Spell out “FPL” and put the acronym in parentheticals.
    b. #12: Identify and summarize the impact of those listed in #11.
2) Public Input Maximization Plan #3: Clarify that everybody that is subscribed to the register will get information, including members of the Medicaid and Exchange Advisory Committee.

Proposed Rule: Health Benefits Eligibility and Enrollment Rule, Eligibility Standards (Part 2), Agency of Human Services

Presented By: Dani Fuoco, Robin Chapman, and Emily Belanger

Motion made to accept the rule by Diane Sherman, seconded by Jared Adler, and passed unanimously except for Natalie Weill who abstained, with the following recommendations:

1) Proposed Filing – Coversheet:
    a. #8: Spell out “FPL” and put the acronym in parentheticals.
    b. #12: Identify and summarize the impact of those listed in #11.
2) Public Input Maximization Plan #3: Clarify that everybody that is subscribed to the register will get information, including members of the Medicaid and Exchange Advisory Committee.

Proposed Rule: Health Benefits Eligibility and Enrollment Rule, Nonfinancial Eligibility Requirements (Part 3), Agency of Human Services

Presented By: Dani Fuoco, Robin Chapman, and Emily Belanger

Motion made to accept the rule by John Kessler, seconded by Jen Mojo, and passed unanimously except for Natalie Weill who abstained, with the following recommendations:

1) Proposed Filing – Coversheet:
    a. #8: Spell out “FPL” and put the acronym in parentheticals.
    b. #12: Identify and summarize the impact of those listed in #11.
2) Public Input Maximization Plan #3: Clarify that everybody that is subscribed to the register will get information, including members of the Medicaid and Exchange Advisory Committee.

Proposed Rule: Health Benefits Eligibility and Enrollment Rule, Special Rules for Medicaid Coverage of Long-Term Care Services and Supports- Eligibility and Post-Eligibility (Part 4), Agency of Human Services

Presented By: Dani Fuoco, Robin Chapman, and Emily Belanger

Motion made to accept the rule by Jen Mojo, seconded by Diane Sherman, and passed unanimously except for Natalie Weill who abstained, with the following recommendations:

1) Proposed Filing – Coversheet:
    a. #8: Spell out “FPL” and put the acronym in parentheticals.
    b. #12: Identify and summarize the impact of those listed in #11.
2) Public Input Maximization Plan #3: Clarify that everybody that is subscribed to the register will get information, including members of the Medicaid and Exchange Advisory Committee.

Proposed Rule: Health Benefits Eligibility and Enrollment Rule, Financial Methodologies (Part 5), Agency of Human Services

Presented By: Dani Fuoco, Robin Chapman, and Emily Belanger

Motion made to accept the rule by Jared Adler, seconded by Jen Mojo, and passed unanimously except for Natalie Weill who abstained, with the following recommendations:

1) Proposed Filing – Coversheet:
    a. #8: Spell out “FPL” and put the acronym in parentheticals.
    b. #12: Identify and summarize the impact of those listed in #11.
2) Public Input Maximization Plan #3: Clarify that everybody that is subscribed to the register will get information, including members of the Medicaid and Exchange Advisory Committee.

Proposed Rule: Health Benefits Eligibility and Enrollment Rule, Eligibility-and-Enrollment Procedures (Part 7), Agency of Human Services

Presented By: Dani Fuoco, Robin Chapman, and Emily Belanger

Motion made to accept the rule by John Kessler, seconded by Jared Adler, and passed unanimously except for Natalie Weill who abstained, with the following recommendations:

1) Proposed Filing – Coversheet:
    a. #8: Spell out “FPL” and put the acronym in parentheticals.
    b. #12: Identify and summarize the impact of those listed in #11.
2) Public Input Maximization Plan #3: Clarify that everybody that is subscribed to the register will get information, including members of the Medicaid and Exchange Advisory Committee.

	Rulemaking Public Comment Response Log (Fire Safety)						
	Name:	Agency/Affiliation:	Description:	Date Received:	Rule Change? (Y or N):	Date of Reply:	Reviewed? (Y or N):
1	Jack Mandeville Evans	Local Motion Inc.	Meeting scheduled July 16, 2025 2:00pm; After Jack stated his concerns on the proposed rule change, DD Wheeler explained that the commentor's concern had nothing to do with any proposed changes, as the concerns he vocalized were based on rules and requirements that are already in our existing rules. After thoroughly explaining the exisitng rules on the requirements for storage sheds,and explaining that 'Bike Storage Rooms' has been added to that list, the concern had been fully addressed. No further questions specific to proposed rule changes were presented.	14-Jul-25	NO	15-Jul-25	YES
2	Scott Crocker	VGS- Manager of Facilities and Procurement	The risk being captured was through wall vents, the wording change was initiated to capture fuel burning through wall vents. This was initiated as DFS has found that other appliances such as “decorative” Gas fired fire places had been installed but not protected with signage along with direct vent hot water heaters. The wording was changed to capture those items as identified risks and the intent. The items you have mentioned are CO producing items and if obstructed would carry the same risk as a heating plant.	9-Jul-25	NO	15-Jul-25	YES

3	Scott Crocker	VGS- Manager of Facilities and Procurement	The DFS intent is to follow the code as it has progressed along with manufactures designs, testing and listings of equipment. The code does not prohibit additional safe guards as long as it does not void the installation instructions of the listing of the equipment.	15-Jul-25	NO	15-Jul-25	YES
4	Michael Blais	Countryside Alarms	The TQP program is clear and independent of the electrical rules and statute. All TQP fields require training and proof of qualification prior to a TQP being issued. Sprikler, FA, dry chemical, sprinkler design, and wet chemical are examples. No changes are being made to any electrical license requirements. The added section to the 2025 rules is intended to provide clarity that it is the DFS position that a TQP is required in all occupancy types that are public buildings as defined in 20VSA173.	22-Jul-25	NO	22-Jul-25	YES
5	Michael Blais	Countryside Alarms	Same as response #6	22-Jul-25	NO	22-Jul-25	YES
6	Jesse Robbins	Freeman French Freeman, Inc	This is currently outside of the Division of Fire Safety's jurisdiction.	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
7	Jesse Robbins	Freeman French Freeman, Inc	This is currently outside of the Division of Fire Safety's jurisdiction.	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
8	Jesse Robbins	Freeman French Freeman, Inc	This is currently outside of the Division of Fire Safety's jurisdiction.	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
9	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	I understood you to say that occupant load is a sum of patrons and staff, by calculatng patrons by seats or area served, and staff by the number of people that actually working a given shift. * Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES

10	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	I think the intent of NFPA 101 (2015 and 2021) Section A.24.2.2.3.3 is that the 3.3 SF is sufficient for an occupant to exit the opening, but not sufficient for a fully equipped firefighter to enter from the exterior, thus using an ax to break the window into the larger opening would work for entry from the exterior. And today's double-hung windows are readily available such that both sashes can be easily removed without tools from the interior. * Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
11	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
12	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
13	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	Those sections are intended to be deleted	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
14	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
15	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	In the 'grace period' between codes, an applicant applying under the 2015 version would at least have to meet the requirements for existing buildings under the 2025 version, with the expectation that that would very rarely be problematic. * Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
16	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES

17	Jack Evans	Local Motion Inc.	I believe you have raised 2 issues, 1 being the rating of bike storage rooms. All areas outside of a dwelling unit are classified as requiring protections from hazards as they are seen as more hazardous then a single dwelling unit and the unit owner have control over items within the dwelling unit. When items are stored in common areas and the activities within those common areas is a higher risk, that risk is required by codes and standards to be protected. The single line item added to the table is intended to bring and provide consistency to the requirement so that designers, the public and inspectors are not gauging the space and applying codes based on the risk evaluated in each individual case or scenario; this would create confusion. The intent of DFS adding bike storage rooms is to clarify the requirement for the room, as you will see all other spaces outside of the dwelling unit would be identified or require the risk be evaluated in accordance with NFPA 101 Chapter 8.7. This would be the alternative code	25-Jul-25	NO	28-Jul-28	YES
18	Peter Tucker	Vermont Association of Realters	This was a statutory change outside of rules which was completed by legislature in the 2023 time frame	28-Jul-25	NO	28-Jul-25	YES
19	Peter Tucker	Vermont Association of Realters	If the facility is rented it follows NFPA 101 Chapter 24, the chapter does not have a blanket sprinkler requirement. It does have code requirements that if they cannot be met would require sprinkler systems installed.	28-Jul-25	NO	28-Jul-25	YES
20	David Roberts	Drive Electric Vermont Electric	Landon Wheeler responded with context of the codes and standards that will be newly adopted that impact EV vehicles charging, repair, and parking * Please see attachment	31-Jul-25	NO	1-Aug-25	YES

21	Chris Cochran	State of Vermont	Landon Wheeler responded with an explanation of the adoption of the 2021 code cycle and provided information in regards to the height and area inquiry. * Please see attachment	4-Aug-25	NO	4-Aug-25	YES
22	Julie Marks	Vermont Short Term Rental Alliance	Response to letter provided speaking to all concerns *Please see attachment	28-Jul-25	NO	16-Sep-25	YES
23	William Nash	ICC	Thank you response sent * Please see attached	28-Jul-25	NO	16-Sep-25	YES

	Rulemaking Public Comment Log (Fire Safety)						
	Name:	Agency/Affiliation:	Description:	Date Received:	Action Taken? (Y or N)	Date of Reply:	Reviewed (Y or N)
1	Jack Mandeville Evans	Local Motion Inc.	I'd like to connect and discuss the proposed requirement for Bike Storage Rooms to be covered by sprinklers and 1-hour fire rated. I'd like to get an understanding of the reasons for this change, and why it would be applicable for Vermont's context—especially when it is not included in NFPA 101, or widely adopted by other States. Local Motion has been conducting research into the recent regulatory reactions to e-bike fires, and we want to make sure our communities respond with precise and proportionate regulations so that we can take reasonable protections against the risks of lithium ion battery fires, while still supporting our housing and transportation goals as a State.	14-Jul-25	NO	15-Jul-25	YES

2	Scott Crocker	VGS- Manager of Facilities and Procurement	"V" Signs- I would like to better understand this change: section 1:10.11.1.5 Appliance Termination: All through wall vents for fuel burning appliances, located less than 7 feet above ground level, shall be provided with signage permanently affixed a a height of 7 feet above ground level directly above the through the wall vent. The sign shall be a "V" shape, not less than 4-1/2 inches in height, with the principal stroke of the letter "V" not less than 3/4 inch in width, colored black on a white background. The sign shall contain the working "Appliance Vent" using plainly legible letters.	9-Jul-25	NO	15-Jul-25	YES
3	Scott Crocker	VGS- Manager of Facilities and Procurement	On CSST bonding. We have some concerns around giving up the 6 AWG bonding wire on the arc resistant jacketed CSST.	15-Jul-25	NO	15-Jul-25	YES
4	Michael Blais	Countryside Alarms	Rule 25P022 NFPA1:4.5.8.7 TQP change reads as if owner occupied 1 & 2 family would also be included in TQP inspection requirements. TQP requires an electrical license. However a license is not required for 1 & 2 Family electrical.	21-Jul-25	NO	22-Jul-25	YES
5	Michael Blais	Countryside Alarms	I believe in safety, but feel this change is a round about way to require an electrical on work that 26VSA Chapter 15 states no license is required for 1 & 2 family.	22-Jul-25	NO	22-Jul-25	YES

6	Jesse Robbins	Freeman French Freeman, Inc	We have used Section 1207 of IBC 2015 (it's 1206 in IBC 2021)- Sound Transmission- as a basis for our work and having a minimum standard here would help ensure that in larger multifamily buildings, occupants are able to be comfortable, have privacy, and get adequate sleep, all of which will enhance occupant safety.	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
7	Jesse Robbins	Freeman French Freeman, Inc	There are provisions in chapter 12 that can help set minimum standards for habitable rooms and bedrooms without exterior windows. In lieu of compliance with a Burlington ordinance requiring exterior windows in sleeping rooms and habitable spaces, we are providing mechanical ventilation in lieu of operable windows based on commentary on IBC 2015 1203.5.1 and indirect access to daylight based on IBC 1203.5.1.1, and have outlined this “alternate compliance path” with the Burlington Office of Permitting and Inspections. While these provisions weren’t specific to interior bedrooms, they provided a framework we could use and that the city could agree to.	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES

8	Jesse Robbins	Freeman French Freeman, Inc	We are also seeing areas where the provisions of IBC 2015 1208.4 (IBC 2021 Efficiency Dwelling Units may come into play to set a minimum size for a dwelling unit.	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
9	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	Definition of aggregate load (bottom of pg 7 * Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
10	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	New Section 101:24.2.2.3.3.1: I really appreciate the addition of this section, as I think it is helpful for historic buildings in particular, and any existing buildings whose window openings meet the criteria, including overall size of the opening. I'd like to point out that the term "mullion" specifically refers to a divider between windows, whereas it is the "check rails" that are the dividers between both operating sashes of a double hung window. Perhaps the language could be changed to "not less than 5 SF when the window check rails or both sashes are removed". * Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
11	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	Pg 12, section 101:30.3.5.1 (1): I think there's a typo in the 3rd line where it says "with OR". Please clarify your intent here * Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
12	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	Pg 20, 1:13.6.3.1.1.4: the word "unit's" is a typo; should be "units". * Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES

13	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	Pg 26, sections 506.3.1 and 507.2: I questioned the amount of 'strikethru' text * Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
14	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	Pg 25: Boiler room exiting requirements are different from the definition on Pg 6 * Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
15	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	Pg 39, last sentence of item 2 * Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES
16	Bob Duncan	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture	Pg 42, deletion of the list of municipal agreements: I suggest that either at this location, or perhaps at the beginning of the document, that you alert users that certain municipalities have cooperatice agreements with the state, and the updated list of those municipalities is maintained on the Division's website. As we know, some towns exceed state requirements, so knowing that at the outset can be very helpful. * Please see attachment	25-Jul-25	NO	25-Jul-25	YES

17	Jack Evans	Local Motion Inc.	On behalf of Local Motion, I submit this concern about the proposed State Fire Code amendment requiring a sprinkler and 1-hour rating for all bike storage rooms in multi-unit buildings. This amendment goes beyond the requirements described in NFPA 101. This change imposes cost, design, and space constraints on developers, discouraging the inclusion of essential bike parking - especially when few municipalities require it by zoning. Bicycle storage is an essential element of sustainable transportation systems; limiting its presence in a community undermines mode shift goals. We ask that the rule be revised to align with NFPA 101, and that the department work collaborate with the Vermont Ageny of Transportation, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and their partners in sustainable transportation to create a comprehensive approach to fire safety and bicycle storage. Local Motion expresses our concern with current restrictions for bike storage in State Fire Code. In our conversations, we understood that practical, low-cost options like wall mounts and racks in lobbies or alcoves are prohibited. Biking is critical to Vermont's climate and transportation goals. Let's ensure fire safety rules support, not obstruct, that progress.	25-Jul-25	NO	28-Jul-25	YES
18	Peter Tucker	Vermont Association of Realtors	1) Is the addition of ADU's to require a DFS Construction Permit adopted from NFPA or is that a state change?	28-Jul-25	NO	28-Jul-25	YES
19	Peter Tucker	Vermont Association of Realtors	Can you tell me what the requirements are for sprinkler systems for single family homes that are available for rent?	28-Jul-25	NO	28-Jul-25	YES
20	David Roberts	Drive Electric Vermont Electric	DFS received comment on EV charging, repair and parking from David Roberts	31-Jul-25	NO	1-Aug-25	YES

21	Chris Cochran	State of Vermont	Chris Cochran asked why we are not adopting the 2024 code cycle along with inquiring about changes in height and area between newer codes and existing ones. * Please see attachment	4-Aug-25	NO	4-Aug-25	YES
22	Julie Marks	Vermont Short Term Rental Alliance	Full letter submitted with request for meeting * See Attachment	4-Aug-25	NO	16-Sep-25	YES
23	William J. Nash, Jr.	ICC	Letter of Support * Please see attached	28-Jul-25	NO	16-Sep-25	YES

Duncan Wisniewski
ARCHITECTURE

July 25, 2025

Landon A Wheeler
Deputy Director
Department of Public Safety-Division of Fire Safety
via email

re: comments on 2025 Code Update

Dear Landon,

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the proposed rules, and thanks for your hard work to update them. I know it's been a long process, stalled by a pandemic, annual floods, etc. My only wish is that we could have jumped to the 2024 series, but I know a lot of time was invested in the 2021 series over a period of years.

The comments below include what I mentioned at the public hearing and my understanding of your responses.

1. Definition of aggregate load (bottom of pg 7): I understood you to say that occupant load is a sum of patrons and staff, by calculating patrons by seats or area served, and staff by the number of people actually working a given shift.
2. New Section 101:24.2.2.3.3.1: I really appreciate the addition of this section, as I think it is helpful for historic buildings in particular, and any existing buildings whose window openings meet the criteria, including overall size of the opening. I'd like to point out that the term "mullion" specifically refers to a divider between windows, whereas it is the "check rails" that are the dividers between both operating sashes of a double hung window. Perhaps the language could be changed to "not less than 5 SF when the window check rails or both sashes are removed". I think the intent of NFPA 101 (2015 and 2021) Section A.24.2.2.3.3 is that the 3.3 SF is sufficient for an occupant to exit the opening, but not sufficient for a fully equipped firefighter to enter from the exterior, thus using an ax to break the window into the larger opening would work for entry from the exterior. And today's double-hung windows are readily available such that both sashes can be easily removed without tools from the interior.
3. Pg 12, section 101:30.3.5.1 (1): I think there's a typo in the 3rd line where it says "with OR". Please clarify your intent here.
4. Pg 20, 1:13.6.3.1.1.4: the word "unit's" is a typo, should be "units".
5. Pg 26, Sections 506.3.1 and 507.2: I questioned the amount of 'strikethru' text, and you clarified for me that what is intended is to delete those Sections entirely from the 2015 version. Got it, thanks.
6. Pg 25: Boiler room exiting requirements are different from the definition on pg. 6.
7. Pg 39, last sentence of Item 2: you clarified that in the "grace period" between codes, that an applicant applying under the 2015 version would at least have to meet the requirements for existing buildings under the 2025 version, with the expectation that that would vary rarely be problematic.
8. Pg. 42, deletion of the list of municipal agreements: I suggest that either at this location, or perhaps at the beginning of the document, that you alert users that certain municipalities have cooperative agreements with the state, and the updated list of those municipalities is maintained on the Division's website. As we know, some towns exceed state requirements, so knowing that at the outset can be very helpful.

Even though I've officially retired from active practice, I am staying involved in the profession through active engagement on public policy through AIA-VT, and remain interested in code updates, including building & life safety codes, energy codes and the future addition of a basic building code for single-family homes.

Sincerely,

Bob Duncan, RA, AIA-VT

110 West Canal St., Suite 302
Winooski, Vermont 05404
802.864.6693

Outlook

RE: 2025 Code update comments

From Wheeler, Landon <Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov>
Date Fri 8/1/2025 10:15 AM
To bobd <bobd@duncanwisniewski.com>
Cc Martino, Alison <Alison.Martino@vermont.gov>

Hello Mr. Duncan

Please see the following responses to your identified items discussed at public comment.

1. Yes, the sum off all occupants is calculated this would include Staff and patrons as part of the calculated occupant load.
2. Second Means of Escape- It is not the DFS intent to adopt the Annex material or reduce the window size below 5 SQ Ft if the entire window is removed. The standard in the context of the code is 5.7, the DFS has reduced that to 5sq ft in existing buildings and added the provision to allow for replacement windows to meet that requirement. Other implicated stakeholders along with commentary on the use of second means of escape in non sprinkler protected buildings was taken into account in this evaluation of minimum size requirement for existing second means of escape. The DFS is currently evaluating the updated wording for replacement of the word mullion, as this has been identified as a confusing term and context.
3. The intent is to allow new apartment buildings to be constructed without sprinkler protection by meeting the required items listed. This will be evaluated and reformatted to be a list instead of an or in that section to provide clarity, this has been identified by additional stakeholders and will be adjusted to be a 1, 2 instead of the (OR).
4. The typo on page 20 for unit's for units will be adjusted
5. The second removed 506.3.1 and 507.2 have been removed to allow the standard to remain in the code as written without amendment to that section. (the IBC language will stand)
6. The boiler room language will be adjusted to be consistent between pages 25 and page 6
7. Sun Set date: all buildings are required to meet the existing chapters of the code. This section is intended to state that a building designed to the new requirement of the 2015 rules must meet at a minimum the existing requirements outlined in the 2025 rules. The reasoning for this is a all buildings are required to comply with the existing chapter of the code as a minimum standards no matter the year the building was constructed. (existing chapters are designed to change very little throughout time.)
8. MOU- this information changes and in some cases changes more frequently then the rules. To correct this issue the MOU information and list will be maintained on the DFS web site. Additional information will be added to the rules explaining this and the location the MOU list can be found to better assist the public in awareness.

I would like to say thank you for your participation and comments, If you have additional comments please do not hesitate to reach out and I will respond in kind.

Thank you again

Landon A Wheeler
Deputy Director
Department of Public Safety-Division of Fire Safety

Cell: 802-369-0949
Office: 802-479-7566 (Waterbury)

Landon.Wheeler@Vermont.gov

Smoke detectors and Carbon Monoxide detection save lives

From: Bob Duncan <bobd@duncanwisniewski.com>
Sent: Friday, July 25, 2025 10:11 AM
To: Wheeler, Landon <Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov>
Subject: 2025 Code update comments

Hi Landon,

Please see my comments on the attached.

Thanks,

Bob

Bob Duncan
DUNCAN•WISNIEWSKI ARCHITECTURE
110 West Canal Street, Suite 302
Winooski, Vermont 05404
Cell: 802.598.0242
www.duncanwisniewski.com

"The world has enough resources to provide for humanity's needs, but not its greeds." Mahatma Gandhi

As of 1/1/2025, I have retired from regular employment at Duncan Wisniewski Architecture.

Outlook

RE: Comments on Rule 25P022- Response

From Wheeler, Landon <Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov>
Date Mon 7/28/2025 8:40 AM
To jack@localmotion.org <jack@localmotion.org>
Cc Martino, Alison <Alison.Martino@vermont.gov>; Moffatt, Benjamin <Benjamin.Moffatt@vermont.gov>

Hello,

I have received your notice of comment and ask what sections you are identifying as being commented on? I have taken an initial response to this to provide information on the subject, our conversation and the code section I believe you are contesting.

Comment and Response:

I believe you have raised 2 issues, 1 being the rating of bike storage rooms. All areas outside of a dwelling unit are classified as requiring protections from hazards as they are seen as more hazardous then a single dwelling unit and the unit owner having control over items within the dwelling unit.

When items are stored in common areas and the activities within those common areas is a higher risk, that risk is required by codes and standards to be protected.

The single line item added to the table is intended to bring and provide consistency to the requirement so that designers, the public and inspectors are not gauging the space an applying codes based on the risk evaluated in each individual case or scenario, this would create confusion.

The intent of DFS adding Bike storage rooms is to clarify the requirement for the room, as you will see all other spaces outside of the dwelling unit would be identified or require the risk be evaluated in accordance with NFPA 101 Chapter 8.7

Table 30.3.2.1.1 Hazardous Area Protection

Hazardous Area Description	Separation/Protection*
Boiler and fuel-fired heater rooms serving more than a single dwelling unit	1 hour and sprinklers
Employee locker rooms	1 hour or sprinklers
Gift or retail shops	1 hour or sprinklers
Bulk laundries	1 hour and sprinklers
Laundries ≤100 ft^2 (≤9.3 m^2) outside of dwelling units	1 hour or sprinklers†
Laundries >100 ft^2 (>9.3 m^2) outside of dwelling units	1 hour and sprinklers
Maintenance shops	1 hour and sprinklers
Storage rooms outside of dwelling units	1 hour or sprinklers
Trash collection rooms	1 hour and sprinklers

This would be the alternative code utilized and it would provide the AHJ with the authority to evaluate the hazards and require the protection.

8.7.1.1 *
Protection from any area having a degree of hazard greater than that normal to the general occupancy of the building or structure shall be provided by one of the following means:

(1)Separating the area from other parts of the building with a fire barrier having a fire resistance rating of not less than 1 hour in accordance with Section 8.3 and without windows

(2)Protecting the area with automatic extinguishing systems in accordance with Section 9.7

(3)Applying both 8.7.1.1(1) and 8.7.1.1(2) where the hazard is severe or where otherwise specified by Chapters 11 through 43

These standards have been in the code for decades, as the exit is a protected area that has never been identified as a place for storage or items to be stored. With the added risks of stored power and bikes it would not be permitted to be in the exit as storage for both bikes, Ebikes or any other obstruction outside of bikes.
NFPA 1 and NFPA 101 recognize this.
14.4.1 * Maintenance.
Means of egress shall be continuously maintained free of all obstructions or impediments to full instant use in the case of fire or other emergency. [101:7.1.10.1]

14.4.2 Furnishings and Decorations in Means of Egress.
14.4.2.1
No furnishings, decorations, or other objects shall obstruct exits or their access thereto, egress therefrom, or visibility thereof. [101:7.1.10.2.1]

14.4.2.2
No obstruction by railings, barriers, or gates shall divide the means of egress into sections appurtenant to individual rooms, apartments, or other occupied spaces. Where the AHJ finds the required path of travel to be obstructed by furniture or other movable objects, the authority shall be permitted to require that such objects be secured out of the way or shall be permitted to require that railings or other permanent barriers be installed to protect the path of travel against encroachment. [101:7.1.10.2.2]

In your response you listed out other stakeholder State Agencies, Our rules have been reviewed (guided tour) with other state agency stakeholders.

It is also the DFS belief that this brings consistency to the cost and approach of this design and does not add cost to the project as a storage room or area evaluated in accordance with NFPA 101 Chapter 8.7 provides the authority to require the exact same result. The code section we provide just adds consistency and clarity to the design world, builders and enforcement agencies.

Landon A Wheeler
Deputy Director
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Cell: 802-369-0949
Office: 802-479-7566 (Waterbury)

Landon.Wheeler@Vermont.gov

Smoke detectors and Carbon Monoxide detection save lives

-----Original Message-----
From: noreply@vermont.gov <noreply@vermont.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 25, 2025 4:54 PM
To: Wheeler, Landon <Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov>
Subject: Comments on Rule 25P022

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Comments on Rule 25P022
Reply To:jack@localmotion.org
Public Comment on Proposed Fire Code Change: Bike Storage Rooms

On behalf of Local Motion, I submit this comment expressing our concern about the proposed State Fire Code amendment requiring a sprinkler and 1-hour fire rating for all bike storage rooms in multi-unit buildings. This amendment goes beyond the requirements described in NFPA 101. Before diverging from national standards, the State should provide clear Vermont-specific justification.

This change imposes cost, design, and space constraints on developers, discouraging the inclusion of essential bike parking—especially when few municipalities require it by zoning. Bicycle storage is an essential element of sustainable transportation systems; limiting its presence in a community undermines mode shift goals. Restrictions like this risks unintended consequences on Vermont's transportation and climate goals that we are concerned this update process does not fully appreciate.

We ask that the rule be revised to align with NFPA 101, and that the department work collaborate with the Vermont Agency of Transportation, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and their partners in sustainable transportation to create a comprehensive approach to fire safety and bicycle storage.

Additionally, Local Motion expresses our concern with current restrictions for bike storage in State Fire Code. In our conversations, we understood that practical, low-cost options like wall mounts and racks in lobbies or alcoves are prohibited. These types of solutions are necessary to bring bike storage to space-constrained redevelopments, such as those occurring in many of Vermont's downtowns and village centers.

Biking is critical to Vermont's climate and transportation goals. Let's ensure fire safety rules support, not obstruct, that progress.

Sincerely,
Jack Evans
Local Motion

Outlook

RE: EV fire safety update at next Drive Electric VT stakeholder meeting on 9/10/2025?

From David Roberts <droberts@veic.org>
Date Fri 8/1/2025 10:57 AM
To Wheeler, Landon <Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov>
Cc tfisher <tfisher@veic.org>; Moffatt, Benjamin <Benjamin.Moffatt@vermont.gov>; Blair, Dennis <Dennis.Blair@vermont.gov>; Martino, Alison <Alison.Martino@vermont.gov>

Hi Landon –

Thanks for the clarifications.

I've forwarded the appointment for the 9/10 DEV gathering, which includes the Teams meeting login details.

Dennis is also welcome to join if interested / available. Dennis – let me know if you'd like to be added to the Drive Electric Vermont stakeholder list and I can send the meeting invite.

I've placed the code update first on the DEV meeting agenda so you can leave afterward or you're welcome to stick around. I was thinking ~15 minutes for this discussion, although we could go a bit longer or shorter depending on questions, etc.

How does this sound for an agenda blurb:
Vermont Fire Safety Code Updates (1:35-1:50)
The Vermont Division of Fire Safety is updating the State Fire and Building Safety Code and the Electrical Safety Rules to align with more recent national code. The proposed rules include a requirement for sprinkler systems in newly constructed repair garages that will be servicing EVs and several additional minor updates that could impact EV charging installations. Landon Wheeler from the Division of Fire Safety will provide an update on the code and plans for the next update cycle.

Best,
Dave

From: Wheeler, Landon <Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 9:20 AM
To: David Roberts <droberts@veic.org>
Cc: Tom Fisher <tfisher@veic.org>; Moffatt, Benjamin <Benjamin.Moffatt@vermont.gov>; Blair, Dennis <Dennis.Blair@vermont.gov>; Martino, Alison <Alison.Martino@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: EV fire safety update at next Drive Electric VT stakeholder meeting on 9/10/2025?

Hello David,

I would be happy to join a meeting and discuss our code updated. If you would like to send me an invite I will fit it into my schedule. I have received your email identifying some of the code updates that the State DFS will be moving forward with.

A few items to clarify- we have amended the section out of NFPA 1 to actually be less stringent than Nationally recognized codes and standards. Meaning: NFPA 1 requires ALL EV repair garages to be protected with sprinkler protection. The state of Vermont has taken the position that we will require this only in newly constructed EV repair garages.

NFPA 1 does have some additional requirement for repair garages such as fire alarm, separation and construction type. 2021 NFPA 1 will also be the driver code for the vast majority of items that may impact EV charging and repair. (I have added that section to this email)

NFPA 88A is changing, you referenced the 2023 document, the DFS will be adopting the 2019 edition in this adoption cycle as it is referenced in 2021 NFPA 1. The AI was only a little wrong in regards to the identified items it provided. In the 2019 the requirement for sprinkler is for enclosed parking structures and this carries forward from previous editions and would not be a new requirement. In the next update of DFS Rules it will be the DFS intent to adopt through reference the 2023 edition of NFPA 88A.

Free read only Versions of the above standards can be found at www.NFPA.org [nfpa.org]

I have CC Mr. Dennis Blair on this email he is the Chief Electrical inspector for the state. Items or questions covered in the Vermont Electrical Rules or NFPA 70

2021 NFPA 1

30.3.4 Battery-Powered Electric Vehicles.

30.3.4.1 Occupancy Classification.

The occupancy classification of a repair garage shall be a special purpose industrial occupancy as defined in NFPA *101* [codesonline.nfpa.org], or as determined in accordance with the adopted building code.

30.3.4.2 Means of Egress.

In a repair garage, the required number, location, and construction of means of egress shall meet all applicable requirements for special purpose industrial occupancies, as set forth in NFPA *101* [codesonline.nfpa.org], or as determined in accordance with the adopted building code.

30.3.4.3 Construction.

Walls, floors, and structural supports shall be constructed of masonry, concrete, steel, or other approved noncombustible materials.

30.3.4.4 Fixed Fire Protection.

30.3.4.4.1

Automatic sprinkler protection installed in accordance with the requirements of Section 13.3 [codesonline.nfpa.org] shall be provided throughout the fire area containing the repair garage.

30.3.4.4.2

An automatic smoke detection system shall be installed throughout the fire area containing the repair garage in accordance with *NFPA 70* [codesonline.nfpa.org], *NFPA 72* [codesonline.nfpa.org], and Section 13.7 [codesonline.nfpa.org] of this *Code*.

30.3.4.4.3

Emergency forces notification shall be in accordance with 13.7.1.10 [codesonline.nfpa.org].

30.3.4.5

Charging equipment shall be installed in accordance with *NFPA 70* [codesonline.nfpa.org].

30.3.4.6 Used Electric Batteries. (Reserved)

30.4 Operational Requirements.

Operations conducted in motor fuel dispensing facilities and repair garages shall comply with Section 42.7 [codesonline.nfpa.org].

2021 NFPA 1

52.1.17 Reused or Repurposed Equipment.

Storage batteries previously used in other applications, such as **electric vehicle** propulsion, shall not be permitted unless the equipment is repurposed by a UL 1974 compliant battery repurposing company when reused in ESS applications and the system complies with 4.2.1 of NFPA 855 [codesonline.nfpa.org]. [**855:**4.2.10.1]

2019 NFPA 88A

7.1.5

The installation of **electric vehicle** charging equipment shall comply with *NFPA 70* [codesonline.nfpa.org].

I believe this provides context to the items you have listed and identified outside of NFPA 70 and the Electrical rules.

If you have questions or comments that can be responded to, please let me know and I will respond as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time

Landon A Wheeler
Deputy Director
Department of Public Safety-Division of Fire Safety
Cell: 802-369-0949
Office: 802-479-7566 (Waterbury)

Landon.Wheeler@Vermont.gov

Smoke detectors and Carbon Monoxide detection save lives

From: David Roberts <droberts@veic.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 31, 2025 2:58 PM
To: Wheeler, Landon <Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov>
Cc: tfisher <tfisher@veic.org>; Moffatt, Benjamin <Benjamin.Moffatt@vermont.gov>; Desrochers, Michael <Michael.Desrochers@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: EV fire safety update at next Drive Electric VT stakeholder meeting on 9/10/2025?

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.
Hi Landon –

Following up on the email thread below, I see the draft fire safety rule updates are posted on your website [firesafety.vermont.gov] and noticed a few electric vehicle specific changes in the rules:

1. 2023 Electrical Safety Rules – Page 10 includes an exemption to GFCI protection requirements for hardwired EV charging with integral GFCI and proper grounding.
    a. 2023 VESR Submittal Edit.pdf [firesafety.vermont.gov]
2. 2025 VT Fire & Building Safety Code – Page 22 includes sprinkler requirement for newly constructed EV repair and maintenance facilities.
    a. VFBSC 2025 Rules Annotated.pdf [firesafety.vermont.gov]

There are also some changes impacting EV charging installations in the underlying NFPA codes between the 2021 and 2023 editions which I asked Copilot to summarize below (take this AI response with a dose of skepticism).

From what I understand the 2023 edition of NFPA 88A requires new parking garages to have sprinklers installed in accordance with NFPA 13 Ordinary Hazard Group 2. Some jurisdictions and insurance companies are requiring higher potential sprinkler flow rates in accordance with the NFPA 13 Extra Hazard Group II classification in EV charging areas, although I didn't see this called out in the draft VT rule updates.

I'm wondering if there are any other EV-related updates that people should be aware of?

Also, I dropped the ball on the 6/11 Drive Electric stakeholder meeting presentation so would like to invite you to join the next meeting on 9/10/2025 at 1:30 PM if you're available?

Best,
Dave

===

Copilot summary of EV-related changes to NFPA 70 between the 2021 and 2023 editions:

The 2023 NEC changes have several important implications for **electric vehicle (EV) charging equipment installers**. Here's a breakdown of what installers need to know:

Technical Implications

1. **Dedicated Circuits Required**
    - EVSE must be installed on **individual branch circuits** with appropriate overcurrent protection.
    - Installers must ensure **no shared circuits**, which affects panel space and load calculations.
2. **Load Calculations Are Stricter**
    - EVSE loads must be calculated at **100% demand**—no diversity factors allowed.
    - This may require **panel upgrades** or **service capacity increases**, especially in older homes or commercial buildings.
3. **Wireless Charging Support**
    - Installers must now be familiar with **wireless EVSE** (inductive charging), including placement, grounding, and safety clearances.
4. **Energy Management Systems (EMS)**
    - EMS can be used to **control charging times**, **shed loads**, or **rotate charging** between multiple EVs.
    - Installers may need to integrate EVSE with **smart panels**, **load centers**, or **building automation systems**.
5. **Commissioning Requirements**
    - Installers must **verify and document** that EVSE systems are installed and functioning correctly.
    - This includes **testing**, **labeling**, and **providing documentation** to the AHJ (Authority Having Jurisdiction).
6. **Qualified Personnel Emphasis**
    - Only **qualified electricians** should install or service EVSE.

- Installers must follow **NFPA 70E** safety protocols, especially when working on energized systems.

From: Wheeler, Landon <Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 4:17 PM
To: David Roberts <droberts@veic.org>
Cc: Tom Fisher <tfisher@veic.org>; Moffatt, Benjamin <Benjamin.Moffatt@vermont.gov>; Desrochers, Michael <Michael.Desrochers@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: EV fire safety update at next Drive Electric VT stakeholder meeting on 12/11?

Hello David,

I am sure we can accommodate joining the next meeting and providing an overview and a few slides.

Landon A Wheeler
Deputy Director
Department of Public Safety-Division of Fire Safety
Cell: 802-369-0949
Office: 802-216-0501 (Springfield)
Office: 802-479-7566 (Waterbury)

Landon.Wheeler@Vermont.gov

Smoke detectors and Carbon Monoxide detection save lives

From: David Roberts <droberts@veic.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 3:45 PM
To: Wheeler, Landon <Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov>
Cc: Tom Fisher <tfisher@veic.org>; Moffatt, Benjamin <Benjamin.Moffatt@vermont.gov>; Desrochers, Michael <Michael.Desrochers@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: EV fire safety update at next Drive Electric VT stakeholder meeting on 12/11?

Hi Landon –

I understand it may be tricky to balance the risk and costs of fire safety rules associated with EVs and charging.

If you're available, I'd welcome you to join the next stakeholder meeting on Wed, June 11, 2025 starting at 1:30 pm to provide an update if you're at a point where you can share elements that might apply to EVs? Alternatively the next meeting after that would be September 10th.

Typically that would involve a few slides and about 15-20 minutes of time on the agenda for you to provide an overview and have some time for discussion.

The meetings are held via Teams.

If you have questions in the meantime I'd be happy to try to follow-up and/or put you in touch with stakeholders who may have more expertise in this area. I know Tesla has followed these issues closely in other states.

Thanks for the quick response!
Dave

From: Wheeler, Landon <Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 3:18 PM
To: David Roberts <droberts@veic.org>; Desrochers, Michael <Michael.Desrochers@vermont.gov>
Cc: Tom Fisher <tfisher@veic.org>; Moffatt, Benjamin <Benjamin.Moffatt@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: EV fire safety update at next Drive Electric VT stakeholder meeting on 12/11?

Hello,

We are moving forward with our process, we are currently in Draft form and internal review.

Once our draft/annotated document is completed and reviewed internally it will be forward facing as a draft on the link you provided. (www.firesafety.vermont.gov [firesafety.vermont.gov])

We would expect our public comment sessions to be held between June/July and September time frame, with a submittal to begin the legislative process the end of April beginning of May. (ICAR-LCAR)

Do you have specific comments in regard to EV items that you or the stakeholders would like to discuss? I am open to setting up a teams meeting if the stakeholders are interested?

We do have an understanding of the code cycles we will be adopting (2021 NFPA 1 and referenced standards) along with (2021 IBC and reference standards)

Landon A Wheeler
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Office: 802-479-7566 (Waterbury)

Landon.Wheeler@Vermont.gov

Smoke detectors and Carbon Monoxide detection save lives

From: David Roberts <droberts@veic.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 3:10 PM
To: Desrochers, Michael <Michael.Desrochers@vermont.gov>; Wheeler, Landon <Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov>
Cc: Tom Fisher <tfisher@veic.org>
Subject: RE: EV fire safety update at next Drive Electric VT stakeholder meeting on 12/11?

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Hi Michael and Landon –

Wondering if there are any updates on the state fire safety rulemaking?

We had our quarterly Drive Electric Vermont stakeholder meeting this afternoon and someone asked when/whether a public comment period would be offered.

I haven't seen a mention of the process on the DFS codes and standards web resource, but not sure that's where notice would be provided?
Codes and Standards | Division of Fire Safety [firesafety.vermont.gov]

Thanks for any information!
Dave

From: Desrochers, Michael <Michael.Desrochers@vermont.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 3, 2024 12:03 PM
To: David Roberts <droberts@veic.org>; Terry Francis <tfrancis@southburlingtonvt.gov>; Matt Stone Burlington Fire Marshal <mstone@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brad Biggie <bbiggie@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Tom Fisher <tfisher@veic.org>; Wheeler, Landon <Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: EV fire safety update at next Drive Electric VT stakeholder meeting on 12/11?

Hi David- hope all is well- from a state perspective we are making excellent progress on our rules (annotated version) and should have this completed soon. Once we present this version for public comment and we solicit input from our stakeholders we will assemble a final rule document. In house we have not initially contemplated a restriction of EV Charging Stations in Parking structures as a blanket prohibition. Even if we do not propose any changes from the prescriptive code requirements, it does not prevent locals from passing ordinances. Some out of state jurisdictions only allow them on the roofs while others require them to be parked near the entrance so they can be removed more quickly. There are also some suggestions regarding separation between the EV Charging Stations like a noncombustible 1-hour fire rated horizontal assembly, but full enclosure or segregation has not been

really grabbed onto because it would contain the heat to a determined area possibly causing more damage to the concrete ceiling.

There really is a tremendous amount of work/ fire research being done at the national level on this specific issue. I have copied Landon Wheeler our newly appointed Deputy Director he has been instrumental in moving our rules forward.

Michael Desrochers, Executive Director
Department of Public Safety - Division of Fire Safety
State of Vermont
45 State Drive
Waterbury,Vermont 05671
(802) 479-7539

From: David Roberts <droberts@veic.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 3, 2024 10:39 AM
To: Terry Francis <tfrancis@southburlingtonvt.gov>; Desrochers, Michael <Michael.Desrochers@vermont.gov>; Matt Stone Burlington Fire Marshal <mstone@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brad Biggie <bbiggie@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Tom Fisher <tfisher@veic.org>
Subject: RE: EV fire safety update at next Drive Electric VT stakeholder meeting on 12/11?

Hello All –

We have a Drive Electric Vermont stakeholder meeting next Wednesday at 1:30 pm and I thought it'd be good to touch base to see if there are any updates on EV fire safety issues from your group.

I believe the last we heard earlier this year there were ongoing conversations and a moratorium on EV charging in parking structures for at least a few Chittenden County communities pending further investigation of long-term policy development (including update of State fire safety rules).

Happy to have someone from the fire safety community join to provide an update, or I can pass along any information.

Best,
Dave

From: Terry Francis <tfrancis@southburlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 6, 2024 9:37 AM
To: Desrochers, Michael <Michael.Desrochers@vermont.gov>; Aaron Collette <acollette@willistonfire.com>; Matt Stone Burlington Fire Marshal <mstone@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brad Biggie <bbiggie@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: David Roberts <droberts@veic.org>
Subject: RE: 'EXTERNAL'FW: Drive Electric Vermont March 13, 2024 Stakeholder Meeting Agenda

Thank you Director. I have registered for the program. It will be interesting to see how they intend to address NFPA 855.

From: Desrochers, Michael <Michael.Desrochers@vermont.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 6, 2024 8:39 AM
To: Aaron Collette <acollette@willistonfire.com>; Terry Francis <tfrancis@southburlingtonvt.gov>; Matt Stone Burlington Fire Marshal <mstone@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brad Biggie <bbiggie@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: David Roberts <droberts@veic.org>
Subject: 'EXTERNAL'FW: Drive Electric Vermont March 13, 2024 Stakeholder Meeting Agenda

Good morning sirs,
David Roberts contacted me last week and was interested in knowing what the prohibitions or concerns are regarding EV installs in parking garages. We spoke for a few minutes, and I discussed generally the fire safety concerns, but I also want to put David in contact with you as he has valuable information and insight into the EV initiatives. Can you share this with the EV group and connect with David so you can have a conversation with him. You can see below there is a lot of information being dispersed. Many thanks

Michael Desrochers, Executive Director
Department of Public Safety - Division of Fire Safety
State of Vermont
45 State Drive
Waterbury,Vermont 05671
(802) 479-7539

From: David Roberts <droberts@veic.org>
Sent: Friday, March 1, 2024 3:58 PM
To: DriveElectric VT <info@driveelectricvt.com>
Subject: Drive Electric Vermont March 13, 2024 Stakeholder Meeting Agenda

Hello Drive Electric Vermont Stakeholders –

We're looking forward to the next meeting on Wednesday, 3/13. The meeting agenda and Teams login information is included below. The calendar appointment is updated with the agenda for those who've requested them.

Also, some of you may be interested in a workplace charging webinar hosted by Plug-in America on March 6, 2024 at 2:00PM to learn about EV infrastructure incentives, the role of workplace charging in EV adoption nationwide, and the US DOE-funded EV Adoption Leadership certification [evalcertification.org] program. Register here to attend [us02web.zoom.us].

Hope to see you on the 13th!

Dave

Drive Electric Vermont Stakeholder Meeting
Wednesday, March 13, 2024, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Microsoft Teams Meeting (login information below)

1. **Introductions** (1:30-1:35)

2. **EV Charging Planning & Funding Updates** (1:35-2:00)
   The Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development Department of Housing and Community Development [accd.vermont.gov] has contracted with Blink and Norwich Technologies to build out 17 additional DC Fast Charging locations across the state using VW settlement funds. Stakeholders will receive an update on these installations.

   ACCD has also contracted with Green Mountain Power to support administration of the $7 million in FY23 state funding available for multifamily, workplace and public attraction EV charging. Funding for level 1 and level 2 installations is available on a first-come, first served basis at https://www.vermontevchargers.com/ [vermontevchargers.com] . Funding for DC Fast Charging was announced on 1/24, with preapplications due 2/29/2024.

   VTrans' National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) 2023 plan [vtrans.vermont.gov] for EV charging along federally designated EV corridors in the State was approved by the federal Joint Office of Energy and Transportation this fall. VTrans will provide an update on next steps for Vermont's roughly $20 million share of National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) funding as well as the federal Charging and Fueling Infrastructure discretionary grant [fhwa.dot.gov] program plans for a 2024 application.

3. **Solaflect Solar Powered Off-grid EV Charging** (2:00-2:20)
   Solaflect [solaflectev.com], a Norwich VT based company, has developed a quad port level 2 EV charging hub powered by a solar PV tracker. They will discuss the technology, ease of installation, intended markets, and incentive/financing opportunities for this off-grid device.

4. **Legislative Updates** (2:20-2:35)
   Stakeholders will be invited to share information on 2024 legislative issues of interest, including: EV road user charge fees; incentive programs; Right to Charge rules for multifamily charging. EV-related provisions in the FY2025 Transportation Bill (H.868 [legislature.vermont.gov]) and Right to Charge (S.271 [legislature.vermont.gov]) legislation will be discussed.

5. **EV Parking Structure Fire Safety Update** (2:35-2:50)
   Stakeholders will have an opportunity to share and discuss information related to EV charging fire safety requirements in parking structures. This topic was briefly covered at the December 2023 stakeholder meeting. Fire safety officials are invited to join to provide additional information.

6. **VEIC EV Equity Program Updates** (2:50-3:00)
   VEIC will provide a brief update on work to support EV adoption in disadvantaged communities, including the initial focus areas of Rutland, Swanton, St Albans, Enosburg, and Brattleboro.

7. **EV Marketing and Act 44 Updates** (3:00-3:10)
   DEV Stakeholders will receive updates on the DEV marketing activities and the pending relaunch of Efficiency Vermont's EV dealer supply chain programs under Act 44 (formerly Act 151) as well as any updates on BED activities.

8. **Renewable Energy Standard Tier 3 Updates** (3:10-3:15)

Tier 3 of the Vermont renewable energy standard allows utilities to develop programs to reduce customer fossil fuel use. Plans for 2024 are available in docket 23-3715-INV [epuc.vermont.gov]. Utilities are invited to provide updates on their offerings, which are listed on the DEV purchase incentives page.

9. **Other Updates** (3:15-3:30)
   Stakeholders have a variety of EV related activities underway, this is an opportunity to offer updates, coordinate and celebrate successes.

Next meeting Wed, June 12, 2024, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-

Meeting Login Information

Please remember to mute your line when not speaking

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

Click here to join the meeting [teams.microsoft.com]

Meeting ID: 284 105 089 056

Passcode: j2M35s

Download Teams [microsoft.com] | Join on the web [microsoft.com]

Or call in (audio only)

+1 802-490-7686,,973052322# United States, Brattleboro

(833) 484-5263,,973052322# United States (Toll-free)

Phone Conference ID: 973 052 322#

Find a local number [dialin.teams.microsoft.com] | Reset PIN [dialin.teams.microsoft.com]

Learn More [aka.ms] | Meeting options [teams.microsoft.com]

David Roberts (he/him)

Managing Consultant / Drive Electric Vermont Coordinator

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Let's make an impact together >

VTSTRA
VERMONT SHORT TERM RENTAL ALLIANCE

PO Box 282, Richmond, VT 05477 | 802-829-4024 | www.vtstra.org

From:
Julie Marks
Executive Director
Vermont Short Term Rental Alliance (VTSTRA)
director@vtstra.org
802-829-4024

To:
Landon Wheeler
Department of Public Safety
Division of Fire Safety
landon.wheeler@vermont.gov

Re: Public Comment Submission related to 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code

Dear Mr. Wheeler,

I am writing on behalf of members of the Vermont Short Term Rental Alliance regarding a growing concern about the inconsistent interpretation and enforcement of Vermont's fire safety code as it relates to short-term rentals (STRs).

The current approach is producing requirements that are not only unacheiveable for homeowners and property managers—but also fail to meaningfully improve public safety. In fact, this inconsistency risks undermining safety by pushing many good-faith operators out of the regulated system entirely.

At the heart of the issue is a double standard: Vermont's current fire code treats short-term rental properties as if they are inherently more dangerous than long-term rentals, when in fact the risk profile is often similar or even lower. Guests in STRs stay for short durations (less than a month)

and properties are cleaned and inspected by the owner or manager between every stay. Yet STRs face stricter fire safety requirements—particularly for properties hosting 9 or more people—while long-term rentals and owner-occupied dwellings with the same occupancy are held to a far lower threshold.

This creates a system where the same exact home can be deemed "safe" when used as a primary residence, but "unsafe" when rented for a weekend, even to the same number of people. It also fails to accommodate the lived reality of many Vermont homes, which are used by the owner as a primary residence for part of the year and rented to guests the rest of the time. Additionally, it is common for owners, when not in residence, to rent for periods of 30-days or more (long term) and also rent on a short-term basis (29-days or fewer) within the same year.

The current definition of "owner-occupancy" appears to require year-round, full-time residency–requiring a 4+ bedroom home to be sprinklered if the owner wants to rent it short-term just for a season. Recognizing owner-occupied homes as those where the owner resides for part of the year, could be a way to achieve higher compliance and safer short-term rentals.

We are concerned that when safety policies are applied unevenly, without regard to use patterns or real-world risk, it disincentivizes participation in the regulated system. Worse, it fails to focus limited public safety resources where they are needed most.

We urge the Division to consider the following recommendations to improve safety compliance of rental properties across Vermont:

1. **Adopt a Consistent Standard for Existing Residential Structures Sleeping 9-16:** Cease the internal distinction between "new" and "existing" rental activity. Apply a single, consistent standard to all existing single-family homes seeking a Change of Use permit for homes sleeping 9–16.

2. **Formally Accept the Equivalency for Existing Homes Sleeping 9-16:** For existing structures not undergoing major renovations, formally recognize the following combination as an equivalently safe alternative to full sprinkler retrofits:

    - Monitored Fire Alarm System (NFPA 72): Immediate, 24/7 notification to fire departments ensures rapid emergency response—the most critical factor in saving

lives, especially for unfamiliar guests.

- Proper Egress (NFPA 101): Safe, unobstructed exits are non-negotiable and form the foundation of life safety.

- Self-Closing Bedroom Doors: These prevent smoke and fire spread, offering critical time for evacuation and reducing fatalities.

This alternative combination achieves the goal of life safety without the extreme structural limitations that retrofitting sprinkler systems into older homes often encounters—burdens that often make legal compliance impossible. Recognizing this equivalency encourages widespread compliance and ensures more properties are equipped with robust, monitored life safety systems.

3. **Update the Definition of Rooming & Lodging to Focus Sprinkler Requirements on Commercial Buildings**
   Recognize structures as commercial lodging (aka Rooming & Lodging) only when separate sleeping accommodations are rented to and occupied by transient residents with no affiliation or have engaged in independent reservation transactions. Commercial codes should only apply to buildings with public areas (such as lobbies, restaurants, etc.) or to buildings renting three or more short-term rental units on a single lot, per the definition of a Lodging Establishment 18 V.S.A. §§ 102, and 4303. Reserve the requirement for full sprinkler systems for commercial lodging properties.

4. **Update the Definition of Owner-Occupancy:**
   Owners who reside at their property for part of the year should satisfy an "owner-occupied" designation. A strict year-round requirement excludes responsible Vermont residents and misrepresents actual housing use, unfairly penalizing snowbirds, rural homeowners and homeowners who live in their homes seasonally.

Our intent behind the above suggestions is not to suggest any concession on safety. It is a strategic move that will result in *more* homes meeting robust life safety standards. By providing clear, attainable pathways to compliance, the Division of Fire Safety can bring more property owners into the fold, ensuring a transparent, accountable, and truly safer rental market for renters of all types.

A final point of note–Vermont's current fire code stands out as an outlier among New England states. Neither New Hampshire nor Maine require sprinkler systems in single-family vacation home rentals with occupancies below 17. If Vermont is to justify a higher bar, there must be a clear and evidence-based rationale for why our homes pose a greater safety risk than those across the Connecticut River. To date, that rationale has not been made clear—and without it, these outlier policies risk appearing arbitrary and punitive rather than protective.

With limited resources at the hands of regulators, Vermont has traditionally lead with policies that encourage compliance, and align with the lived realities of regulated groups. We respectfully ask the Division to consider solutions that will accomplish the Department's goals while allowing homeowners to make pragmatic investments in the safety of their properties and their guests.

Respectfully,

Julie Marks
Founder & Executive Director
Vermont Short Term Rental Alliance, Inc.

About VTSTRA

The Vermont Short Term Rental Alliance, Inc. (VTSTRA) is a statewide member-based nonprofit corporation with tax-exempt status under IRS tax code 501(c)(6). We advocate for fair, balanced, and sustainable short-term rental policies on behalf our members—the 320+ property management companies, homeowners, and other businesses that support a vibrant vacation rental tourism economy in Vermont. For more, visit www.vtstra.org.

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To:
Julie Marks
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From:
Landon Wheeler
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Division of Fire Safety
Dept. of Public Safety
Landon.Wheeler@Vermont.gov

Hello,

This email is intended as formal response to your public comment that was received during the open public comment period.

Long-term rentals vs. short-term rentals: Vermont DFS utilizes the same codes and standards for long-term rentals and short-term rentals that sleep up to 8 transient individuals. This is currently an amendment in the 2015 Vermont Fire and Building safety code which increases the number of outsiders/ transient individuals from the National Fire Protection Association standard of 3 to 8. The DFS has taken this position after evaluating the common risks associated with small transient facilities along with the large population of short-term rentals within the State of Vermont.

When a short-term rental has arrangements for larger groups (9-16 persons) it is an identified risk, as having more occupants within the structure increases the risk of the occupancy. The transient occupants do not have the same awareness or control as an occupant would have of a long-term rental or an owner occupied home, its life safety equipment or other hazards associated with the occupancy.

The code language/term for a short-term rental is transient, as the occupants are transient in nature. Transient occupancies have been identified in nationally recognized codes and

standards as having risks associated with the occupancies that are identifiably different than other occupancies. NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) and ICC (International Code Council) have identified the risks associated in the occupancy and usage of transient facilities and both have specific codes and standards associated with those transient lodging facilities.

In 2015, with our stakeholder's involvement, the DFS identified a reasonable occupant load of transient lodging facilities that we believe most resemble single-family longer-term rentals. We evaluated life safety requirements and the risks associated with the transient occupancies. In 2015, the Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code permitted a transient lodging facility that has an occupant load of 8 or less to be evaluated the same way as a One- and Two-Family Dwelling would be evaluated. This process did traverse the rule making process, and as part of that process, public comment was provided.

The proposed rules (2025 Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code) do not make changes to transient lodging, or as the adopted codes would refer to them, One- and Two-family dwellings (8 or less), Lodging and Rooming House (9-16) and Hotel and Dorm (17 or more).

Codes and standards are driven by use of a building, occupancy type, and occupant load. As occupant load increases, the standards identify the additional risk created.

Occupancies that are housing (9-16) people have been identified as higher risk occupancy by both nationally recognized code organizations (NFPA and ICC). In Vermont it is typical that a building originally constructed as a single-family home is transitioned into a Lodging and Rooming House. It is important to understand that the codes and standards are different for a single-family home vs. a Lodging and Rooming House, and that most, if not all, single-family homes are not designed, constructed or maintained to meet the requirements or address the identified risks associated with a Lodging and Rooming House. Since the nationally recognized codes and standards separate codes by occupancy type based on identified risks, an equivalency cannot be made between existing home stock as meeting codes and required standards, because owner-occupied single-family homes are not constructed with codes and standards. Single-family, owner-occupied homes are outside of the jurisdiction of the Division of Fire Safety until such time as the property transitions into a public building in accordance with 20VSA173.

1. The DFS does adopt consistent standards that are applicable for short-term rentals/transient lodging facilities. They are broken down into categories in nationally recognized codes and standards that are amended and adopted at the state level through the rule making process. The distinction in your letter between new and existing is an important item as described above; most single-family homes are built outside of the regulatory process. The distinction between New and Existing buildings is important. New buildings are held to a new standard; this is typically more stringent as it encompasses code changes throughout time that are identified as being required for new occupancies. Existing codes are in place to lessen the impact to code changes throughout time by making small changes in the existing requirements within the codes and standards for existing structures.

2. A fire alarm system is not considered an equivalency for a sprinkler system. Sprinkler systems and fire alarm systems have vastly different capabilities and functions and benefit life safety in different ways. Sprinkler systems requirements have been written into the code for specific hazards that have been identified in the code development process. In most situations sprinkler systems are required in the context of the code when other codes and standards cannot be met or when a risk is identified that cannot be addressed with other life safety features.
   Some examples:
   - High occupant load, new transient lodging facilities more than 8
   - Windowless bedrooms
   - Bedrooms with windows that are over 20 feet from grade
   - Lack of required number of exits or means of escape

   A fire alarm system does add benefit, and those systems are utilized greatly within DFS processes and codes and standards, but they do not take the place of and are not interchangeable with sprinkler systems. Fire alarm systems provide protection in the form of early detection and notification when installed, maintained, and tested in accordance with current rules, codes and standards. Sprinkler systems are designed, installed and required to be maintained to suppress a specific risk and hazard.
3. A Lodging and Rooming facility as described in your comment #3 would be greater risk than a conventional hotel, motel, or bed and breakfast.
   - A single-family home that was constructed with no permits or code compliance inspections and was then converted to a Lodging and Rooming facility, would not have or offer the same protections as a Lodging and Rooming facility that did have permits at the time of construction, was built to a recognized code and standard, and was required to maintain life safety features.

   In the 2015 Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code, the DFS and our stakeholders attempted to capture a reasonable occupant load to be considered a one- and two-family home; this required amendment of nationally recognized codes through the rule making process. The 2015 and the 2021 rules amend this to state 8 occupants.

   The un-amended language: NFPA 101: **24.1.1.2:**

   > *One- and two-family dwellings shall be limited to buildings containing not more than two dwelling units in which each dwelling unit is occupied by members of a single family with not more than <u>three outsiders</u>, if any, accommodated in rented rooms.*

4. The driving definition of a public building was created to identify risk and liability. Risk and liability are created when an individual is residing in a property that they do not own and control. An individual does not have the ability to control the risks associated with the rental property. The Division of Fire Safety is afforded jurisdiction over properties that are rented in any capacity. This would be applicable with transient and long-term housing. The risk to the occupants that would reside in a property on a transient basis is great and has been identified as higher risk than

an owner-occupied single-family home. Changing the definition of a public building would be well outside of the rule making process as this is statutory as identified in 20VSA173.

5. Reference to other states' codes and standards: Each state is different throughout the country; in Vermont we adopt codes and standards at the state level and enforce them at the state level (with exception to our 9 municipal partners). The states you have referenced do have applicable codes and standards and do have enforcement at different levels: state, county, and local government. The Vermont Division of Fire Safety does, in fact, adopt the same standards as the states mentioned in your public comment and we are looking to adopt the same code cycle years of our neighboring states.
6. I have attached supporting information to this response in the form of other jurisdictions' code requirements, identifying the use and hazards associated with the transient nature of short-term rentals. I have also provided documentation presented by NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) that provides insight on the risks and hazards associated with transient lodging arrangements, also known as short-term rentals.
7. Statistical Data: The Nation is currently transitioning from a national incident reporting system that is decades old and has limited capabilities in regard to identifying very specific information fields. This system is being replaced with a new system called NERIS (National Emergency Response Information System). The Division of Fire Safety will support, implement and utilize this data to capture analytical information in the future in areas that the current national incident reporting system cannot.

Link to New Hampshires Codes and Standards:
https://www.firemarshal.dos.nh.gov/laws-rules-regulatory/state-fire-building-codes

Link to Maines Codes and Standards:
https://www.maine.gov/dps/fmo/fire-service-laws/nfpa

Link to the soon to be implemented National Emergency Response Information System:
https://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfirs/neris/about-neris/

Link to State Statute definitions (public building- non public building)
https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/20/173/02730

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The Airbnb Challenge

As Airbnb and other short-term rental services expand to include a range of property types, regulatory challenges create uncertainty over the level of safety those spaces should provide

By Angelo Verzoni
02-Jul-2018

Four years ago, Medina Eve wrote about a frightening Airbnb stay. In an article for the online publishing platform Medium, she detailed how she and her partner had used the online marketplace, where homeowners rent their properties to guests seeking an alternative to a hotel or other accommodations, to book a cabin in the remote woods of Ontario, Canada. After trudging through snow, they followed the host's instructions to retrieve the key and let themselves into the cabin, which she described as "a treehouse, only firmly planted on the ground."

Right away, Eve felt nervous about the property. The cabin had a wood-burning stove on the first floor, and its chimney snaked through the ceiling into the second-floor bedroom, passing within a foot of the bed before disappearing into the roof. Eve and her partner took note of a fire extinguisher hanging on the wall. She texted a friend, jokingly, that she would die there, and included a string of fire emojis.

That night, the couple woke to find their bed smoking and, seconds later, on fire. "Our blankets act like kindling, flames licking upwards," Eve wrote, adding that it became difficult to breathe and see. Her partner rushed to grab the fire extinguisher, attacking the fire with what little remained inside the tank. "There are two, just two, brief spurts left in it," she said. "But it's enough to get us the hell out of there."

According to airbnb.com, on any given night, 2 million people stay in properties rented by the service in some 65,000 cities around the globe. There are more than 4 million active Airbnb listings in 191 countries. "What makes all of that possible?" the website reads. "Trust."

That's not very reassuring in light of a new study, published in May in the journal Injury Prevention, that found a lack of fire and life safety features in Airbnb properties in 16 United States cities, including New York, Los Angeles, Boston, and San Francisco. Researchers analyzed about 121,000 of the roughly 600,000 Airbnb listings in the U.S., finding that 20 percent of the property owners did not report having smoke alarms, 42.5 percent didn't report having carbon monoxide (CO) alarms, 58 percent didn't report having fire extinguishers, and 64 percent didn't report having first aid kits. "This is really surprising because most fire deaths and carbon monoxide poisonings happen in residential housing," study co-author Vanya Jones of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health told Reuters.

The study comes at a time when cities nationwide are moving to more tightly regulate Airbnb and other short-term rental properties. But as some communities have learned, regulation of such a new and unique building use is easier said than done.

"All of a sudden, we're sending building officials out and they're seeing things they've never seen before," said Keith Burlingame, director of the Rhode Island Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review. "Classification of these properties is the biggest challenge that we are facing at the outset."

Classifying something new

What are these properties? That's the question building and fire code officials have struggled to answer since short-term rental companies like Airbnb began launching several years ago. Are they hotels? Are they residential properties? Or are they something else altogether?

Not much insight can be gained from digging into widely used building codes. The International Building Code (IBC), for example, applies to what it calls "transient" residential occupancies, or places where occupants stay no longer than 30 days. That broad definition seems to fit the bill for Airbnb rentals and similar properties. But it also lists hotels and boarding houses as examples, and an argument could be made that most Airbnb properties aren't similar enough to a hotel to be regulated as such.

That's the logic Burlingame subscribes to. He told me in May that building code officials in the small coastal city of Newport, Rhode Island, have been classifying short-term rental properties under the IBC, instead of classifying them under the International Residential Code that applies to one- and two-family homes. That means, like hotels, they're required to have fire sprinklers and meet other life safety requirements for accessibility and egress. In reality, though, that's not happening. A search of Airbnbs in Newport using the company's website showed over 300 available properties, some of which didn't even report having smoke alarms. (There is no option for reporting sprinklers.)

There are too many of these properties scattered throughout the tourist-dense town, some in houses that are well over 100 years old, to enforce the IBC classification, Burlingame said, which is why he and other members of the fire code board don't support it. "We've always taken the position that if you rent a single-family house to anyone for any period of time it's still a single-family house," he said. "There is a fire safety concern out there by some people, but you have to look at the global picture.

How different is renting an Airbnb to someone for under 30 days from renting that same structure to someone seasonally for six months?"

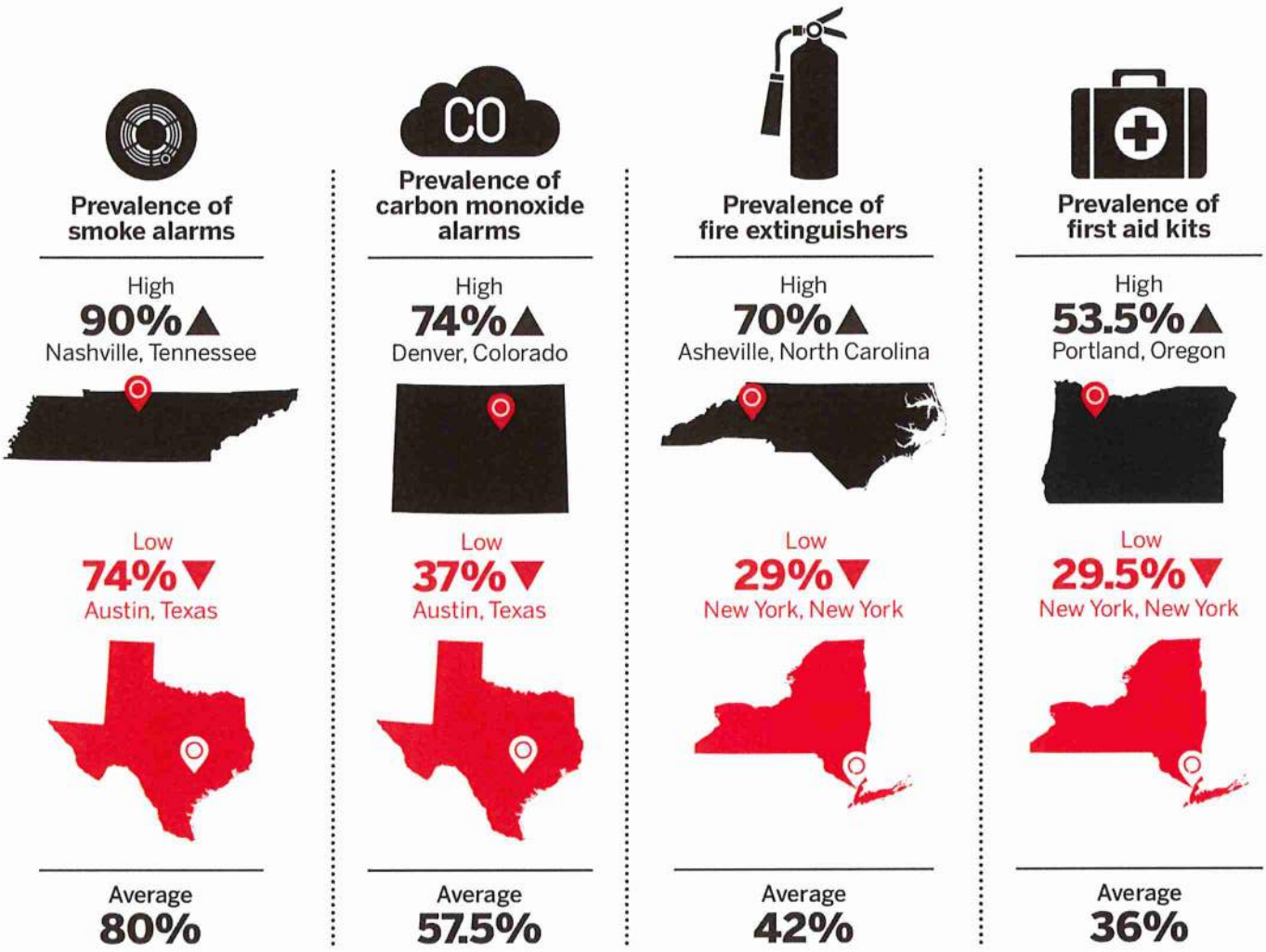
HOTEL CALIFORNIA?

Housing activists in San Francisco protest the conversion of an apartment building into Airbnb rentals. Safety advocates have cited fire and other hazards among their concerns as the number and type of residential properties devoted to short-term rentals increases nationwide. Photograph: Justin Sullivan/Getty Images

Like the International Code Council codes, NFPA codes, including NFPA 5000®, Building Construction and Safety Code®, and NFPA 101®, Life Safety Code®, leave it up to the jurisdiction to decide whether they want to classify short-term rental properties like hotels, residential properties, or something else. "It's not currently a distinct type of occupancy in the codes, nor do I see it becoming a type of occupancy," said Robert Solomon of NFPA's Building Fire Protection and Systems division. He compared the situation to when condominiums became more popular in the 1970s. Some viewed that as a type of occupancy when in reality it is just a form of legal ownership of a particular type of building space, Solomon said.

Further complicating the issue of classifying short-term rental properties using codes is the breadth of scenarios that present themselves through the Airbnb business model. There are hosts who rent out one or two bedrooms in a single-family home, or rent an entire single-family home. Others rent an apartment or condo in a larger building. Most recently, entire apartment or condo buildings have been devoted to short-term rentals to multiple renters.

It's the last scenario that concerns building and fire code officials the most. "If you have a 15-unit apartment building and you rent out all 15 units short-term, you've just created a hotel and skipped all the regulations that go along with hotels," said Adam Miceli, assistant fire chief in Rockland, Maine, a small seaside town where Airbnb hosts have been competing for guests with inn and bed-and-breakfast owners for about four years. "The only difference is with the apartment building you're going to have a kitchen in every unit, so for us that's more dangerous, not less dangerous, than a hotel."



Source: Kennedy, Hudson R., et al. 2018. "Reported fire safety and first-aid amenities in Airbnb venues in 16 American cities." *Injury Prevention.*

Aware of the potential danger, the city passed an ordinance in 2016 in part prohibiting the short-term rental of more than one unit in an apartment building. Other cities—including San Francisco, the birthplace and current headquarters of Airbnb—have recently imposed similar restrictions, citing a more ethical concern: landlords illegally evicting tenants so they can rent out all of their units on sites like Airbnb to turn a higher profit.

The Rockland ordinance also requires all short-term rental properties to meet minimum city requirements for one- and two-family homes, such as having smoke alarms, but the city doesn't inspect all of these properties. Like Burlingame, Miceli said he understands the limitations of the fire service to start imposing strict, non-traditional requirements on properties such as old one-family homes, especially in a city like Rockland that has minimal inspection resources. "With or without Airbnb, there's still the sense that homeowners are the king of the castle" and won't let someone come in and tell them what to do, Miceli said.

Educating the guest and the host

Since jurisdictions haven't come up with clear answers for the emergence of short-term rentals, NFPA and others stress the importance of education for both consumers and hosts who choose to rent and rent out units on sites like Airbnb. "Consumers need to be more than mindful of the safety features," said Lisa Braxton, a public education specialist at NFPA. "They need to know what safety features are in place before committing to an Airbnb."

On the service's website, prospective renters can filter available properties by amenities including smoke and CO alarms—which the site refers to as "detectors," a term commonly and inaccurately used to describe residential alarms. While users can't filter by fire extinguishers or first-aid kits, they can check properties individually to see if they list them as amenities before booking. There's no way to see if a property has fire sprinklers, but users can send a message to the host asking any question they wish about fire and life safety before booking.

Miceli agrees that public education is key to keeping people safe in the new world of short-term rentals. "Someone who's short-term renting may never become familiar with the peculiarities of a house," he said. "So we really need to be regulating common sense."

GUEST, PROTECT THYSELF

In the absence of uniform standards and practices, safety officials urge users of services like Airbnb to act as their own safety advocates when selecting and occupying accommodations. Photograph: Jens Kalaene/Picture-Alliance/DPA/AP Images

The experience has been similar in Cambridge, Massachusetts. About a year ago, the city, located across the Charles River from
n, passed an ordinance regulating short-term rental properties. But Chris Towski, one of the fire prevention staff members a
e Cambridge Fire Department, said that doesn't mean the properties are all being inspected. The onus falls on the Airbnb

hosts to be compliant with the same building codes they would have to be if their property wasn't being used as a short-term rental, as well as some additional measures like providing fire escape route maps in the same way hotels need to. Towski doesn't suspect—or even expect—every owner to be doing that, though.

For the city's fire department, Towski said the concern revolves less around the built environment and more around occupant load and behavior, especially as firefighters respond to incidents like residential structure fires. "As a firefighter, you see a classic three-decker building and you're thinking, OK, you have three families in there—but now you have others taking up those spaces, so it could be a higher volume of occupancy," Towski said. Overcrowding in short-term rentals is a concern many cities have expressed since businesses like Airbnb began emerging. Like Miceli, Towski also said there's a concern over guests not taking the time as they enter a short-term rental property to note the exits and safety features. And unlike an event like a house party, which may have a similar higher-than-usual occupant load, there's potentially nobody in the property who "knows the lay of the land" and can help direct occupants to safety, he said.

When it comes to educating Airbnb hosts about the importance of being compliant with necessary building codes and providing fire and life safety features, Miceli said he's faced a lot of pushback but in some cases has been able to persuade hosts by bringing up the potential legal implications of renting out an unsafe space. "Once you start talking about risk, the lightbulb comes on," he said. "The more we talk about it, the more we can move the dial a bit in some people, the more risk-averse people, but there are still people who say it's their home, it's their right" to do as they please with their property.

Some Airbnb hosts don't need that nudge. In May I sent messages using Airbnb's website to several hosts who reported having smoke and CO alarms, fire extinguishers, and first-aid kits. While no one took me up on a request to visit their property, a couple sent messages back explaining why they chose to include these features. One host in the Cambridge area said he chose to include the features because it was the responsible thing to do. "I totally believe [in] safety first," said another in Newport. "I am in the medical field, and anyone can get hurt."

Airbnb itself has taken actions to make its properties safer by working with its hosts. "We routinely run safety workshops with hosts and leading local experts and provide hosts with online safety cards with important local information for their guests," Airbnb's website says. "Hosts can also request a free smoke and carbon monoxide [alarm] for their home."

Still, after her fire scare in Canada, Eve has decided to take safety matters into her own hands when staying in Airbnbs—and hers is good advice for any consumer.

"When it comes to your safety, don't assume anything is taken care of," she wrote in the Medium article. "Pack the nerdiest first aid kit you can find, make a mental note of where to find safety items (e.g. fire extinguisher), check the batteries on the smoke [alarms], etc. Don't be shy about having the necessary conversations with your host about safety features. Do this especially ... when the place is off-[the-]grid and quirky, which is a big selling point for Airbnb properties but potentially risky for you. Airbnb experiences are generally excellent, and in many cases rival the hotel experience ten times over, but they definitely don't have the same safety regulations. Or any."

Top Photographs: Thinkstock, IStockphoto

EMERGING ISSUES

Renter Beware

As the popularity of short-term rentals continues to grow, so do the deaths and injuries associated with these properties. According to the author—an international vacation rental safety expert—it's time to introduce a commercial approach to safety in short-term rentals.

By Justin Ford

07-Dec-2023

TOP PHOTO CAPTION: Seven people perished in a fire that destroyed a historic building in Old Montreal in March. Some of the victims had rented short-term accommodations in the building from Airbnb, even though short-term rentals were illegal in the neighborhood. According to reports, the building was cited for multiple fire code violations between 2009 and 2018, including blocked and dead-end secondary exits and a noncompliant fire alarm system. GETTY IMAGES

These days, the most dangerous form of leisure travel is staying in a short-term rental. This industry segment is also referred to as vacation rentals, along the lines of what you find through popular websites such as Airbnb or Vrbo. Home, after all, is where the most safety-related incidents occur.

According to the National Safety Council, nearly 57 percent of all safety-related incidents in 2021 that occurred in the United States occurred in homes. Similarly, short-term rentals saw an increase in the number of deaths and injuries. While there are no official records kept of safety related incidents in short-term rentals, media reports have increasingly highlighted these incidents. Among the fatalities in short-term rentals in 2022 were more than 100 children who drowned in pools associated with these properties.

Today there are more than 2 million short-term rentals in the U.S., properties that collectively generated an estimated $62 billion in revenue in 2022, a 25 percent year-over-year increase from 2021, according to AirDNA. Short-term rental revenues are rapidly approaching hotel revenues, which were $93 billion last year, according to eTurbo News. Short-term rental revenue numbers are predicted to double by 2030.

This growth, however, comes with challenges related to insurance, government oversight, the impulses of property owners, and other factors that can have a detrimental impact on renter safety. As an expert in short-term rental safety, I can say with confidence that all of these issues could be addressed if we took the necessary step of regarding vacation rentals as the commercial enterprises that they are. By doing so, we would bring to bear the regulatory and enforcement tools provided by NFPA codes and standards that currently are mostly absent from the short-term rental landscape.

Most states and localities still categorize these properties as residential use. With a hotel or motel, guests are considered part of the general public and pay a lodging tax that is used to fund, among other things, regular government inspection of the accommodation to check for safety issues. Short-term renters of vacation homes also pay a local lodging tax, but they aren't getting a property that has been inspected by government officials, and there is typically no record of safety issues that have (or haven't) been addressed. We've been willing to regulate hotels and motels in the name of safety while all but ignoring short-term rentals, even as their popularity has exploded.

As a number of recent incidents involving short-term rentals demonstrates, this is a recipe for disaster. But it doesn't have to be this way.

Short-term Wild West

Not that long ago, hotels and motels faced similar safety issues. Safety features could vary widely from building to building, as could safety requirements from one community to the next. For decades, the industry was periodically rocked by deadly hotel fires. In the 1940s, the La Salle Hotel fire in Chicago killed 61, and 119 perished in the Winecoff Hotel fire in Atlanta, which remains the nation's deadliest hotel fire. In 1963, a fire at the Hotel Roosevelt in Jacksonville, Florida, killed 22. In 1980, the MGM Grand Hotel blaze on the Las Vegas Strip killed 85. Weary of the drumbeat of death and destruction, the federal government in 1990 moved to make paid accommodations safer by creating the Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act, the purpose of which was to "save lives and protect property by promoting fire and life safety in hotels, motels, and all places of public accommodation affecting commerce."

But short-term rentals, then a much smaller segment of the hospitality industry, were left out of this act. They certainly existed, as they had for centuries—George Washington slept in short-term rentals—but in 1990 there were fewer than 100,000 vacation rentals in the country, a fraction of the millions of hotel and motel rooms. Short-term rentals at the time were typically a condo at a ski resort or someone's family home in a coastal location; fewer than one in 200 Americans stayed in short-term rentals. As a host of effective tools, including codes and standards, was developed to achieve the safety goals expressed by the
nment for commercial accommodations, no such safeguards were articulated for short-term rentals.

This challenge is compounded to some degree by the insurance industry, which has been less interested in whether it should insure short-term rentals than it has been in requiring safety features to prevent claims, such as bunk-bed incidents. Some insurers, like vacation rental insurer Proper Insurance, won't insure a short-term rental with bunk beds unless they meet the 2007 U.S. Federal Safety Standards, and even then the insurer charges an additional $100 per year premium per bunk bed. Other insurers may not go to such lengths, however, leaving many short-term rental owners with a false sense of security that their rentals are safe enough, since insurance companies are giving them little feedback to address potential safety issues.

Government also poses challenges. The most common cause of safety incidents in rentals are slips, trips, and falls; Proper Insurance reports that 83 percent of its claims come from these mishaps, compared to 3 percent of claims arising from fire-related incidents in short-term rentals. In most communities, though, rental unit safety is overseen by fire department officials who may be ill prepared or lack the enforcement authority to address more prevalent hazards resulting in slips, trips, and falls.

Property owners themselves also represent a significant challenge for short-term rental safety. Owners seek to offset commissions, cleaning fees, mortgage payments, taxes, and other operating costs by maximizing revenue, in part by limiting the money spent on what they consider to be unnecessary expenses. If a potential addition or upgrade that can improve safety isn't technically required by a jurisdiction or by insurance, many owners feel no obligation to pursue it. A short-term rental owner recently told me that he wouldn't move his gas grill from a low-covered porch to an open space beside the dwelling because he didn't want to put his guests out in the rain to barbecue. Many short-term rental owners believe their insurance will cover them if a safety incident occurs. Meanwhile, these same owners are willing to add costly amenities such as big-screen TVs, pools, and hot tubs in an effort to make their properties more desirable for renters.

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These safety challenges will not be met in a meaningful way until jurisdictions wield the same tools for short-term rentals as they do for commercial enterprises. A spate of recent events illustrates serious problems that could be effectively addressed with more robust regulatory and enforcement tools.

On September 3, 2022, the worst fire in over 20 years in the popular resort town of Ketchum, Idaho, was the result of a grill fire at a short-term rental property. The owner of a short-term rental at the Limelight Condominiums had recently replaced a hose on a propane grill. A report from the fire marshal said that the gas supply hose was likely not completely connected to the propane tank—a "simple mistake," according to the report—which caused fuel to leak and ignite when the grill was lit. The grill had been placed on a second-floor balcony of an apartment used in part as a short-term rental and did not have proper space clearances for operation. The fire destroyed 26 units in the complex, a mix of short-term and longer-term rentals. No fatalities were reported.

NFPA 1, Fire Code, subsection 10.11.7 says that "for other than one- and two-family dwellings, no hibachi, gas-fired grill, charcoal grill, or other similar devices used for cooking, heating, or any other purpose, shall be used or kindled on any balcony or under any overhanging portion or within 10 feet (3 meters) of any structure. Listed electric ranges, grills, or similar electrical apparatus shall be permitted." The focus here is on commercial properties, and the language exempts over 80 percent of all short-term rentals in the U.S. that are considered one- and two-family dwellings.
Other recent incidents underscore the hazards around grills. On Christmas Eve 2022, a short-term rental home in Panama City Beach, Florida, that was being rented by six people burned when a gas grill—located under a stairway and without adequate vertical clearance—ignited the stairway. Fire spread into the unit; one renter was unable to escape and died. Florida's adoption of NFPA 1, Section 10.11.7 did not apply to this property because it is recognized as a single-family dwelling, not a commercial property. On June 16, 2020, a structure fire at the Emerald Bay Condominiums in the Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri, started in a third-floor short-term rental unit as a renter was changing a propane tank; investigators ruled the fire "accidental."

It's difficult to see these incidents as "accidents" when building codes have long stated that open-flame grills require at least nine feet of vertical clearance and 10 feet of horizontal clearance from combustibles. We know grills can be dangerous. Today's gas grills are designed to last five to 15 years with proper cleaning and care, but due to their heavy use, most grills in short-term rentals need replacement in three years—some even less if they're in salty-air coastal environments.

Grill use includes assumptions on both sides of the safety equation: property owners assume renters know how to use a grill, and renters assume that a grill included as part of a short-term rental is safe to use. Most gas grills sold in the U.S. come with instruction manuals that are 25–30 pages long, including several pages of warnings. Even if a manual is included with a grill at a vacation rental, the vast majority of renters will not consult it. They may also move the grill to a spot where it's more convenient for them to use, but which can also present a greater hazard. It's no surprise that grill incidents continue to make up a large percentage of the fires that occur at short-term rentals.

In addition to extending the NFPA 1 requirements for grill placements at commercial properties to short-term rentals, other grill-related safety measures could be considered as well. From my experience, gas grills should be required to operate as the manufacturer intended, including all electronic ignition devices; short-term renters should never have to use a match or lighter stick to ignite a gas grill. Gas grills should be secured in a safe location for operation that meets the requirements of NFPA 1, subsection 10.11.7, including the use of locking cables (such as bike locks or semi-permanent fasteners) to prevent short-term rental guests from moving a grill to a location where it is no longer safe to operate. Gas grills should be inspected annually for leaks and safe operation by a qualified technician, and fire extinguishers should be located, per NFPA requirements, within 30 feet of all grills, unobstructed, in a bracket, and near a path of exit.

A commercial approach to short-term rental safety would also apply to fire extinguishers and their placement. NFPA 10, Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers, defines where fire extinguishers should be placed in a short-term rental—but because that rental is most likely in a single-family home, it is usually not required to include fire extinguishers. Additionally, the placement of fire extinguishers in short-term rentals should be considered differently than in commercial settings. It is currently okay for a fire extinguisher to be placed in a bracket under a sink or in a closet in a kitchen, but this can present problems.

In October 2022, in Sanford, Florida, a grease fire erupted on a stovetop in a short-term rental. A fire extinguisher was inside a pantry near the stove, but accessing the extinguisher would have required the renter to move nearer to the fire source, including heat and smoke—a "no exit" zone away from the path of egress. Instead, the renter tried to put out the grease fire with water, which can superheat and explode when used in these types of fires.

More than a third of short-term rentals in the U.S. are in rural areas that are not quickly reached by fire departments. As a result, fire extinguishers are an important tool to control a fire until the fire department can respond. Extinguishers must be readily accessible and of a size that allows renters to easily and safely use them, giving occupants an exit opportunity if needed. That's why fire extinguishers should be mounted in a bracket where they are highly visible and in a path of egress from the structure, and why they should be placed on each level of the rental property near an exit point.

Alarms, capacity, and egress

For smoke alarms, NFPA 101®, Life Safety Code®, applies different requirements to hotels than to one- and two-family [illegible]ings and lodging or rooming houses. Each guest room and every living area and sleeping room within a guest suite in an [illegible]ing hotel requires at least one approved single-station smoke alarm (29.3.4.5). Those smoke alarms don't need to be

interconnected, and they don't need a secondary power source (29.3.4.5.1, 29.3.4.5.2). NFPA puts a particular emphasis on utilizing manual fire alarm boxes located at the exits to initiate the fire alarm system or notification to the front desk, where staff can manually initiate the fire alarm, as a way to notify all guests that a fire requiring evacuation may exist. There is also a strong reliance on sprinkler systems with additional focus on rooms and suites specifically for hearing-impaired people.

By comparison, most short-term rentals only require smoke alarms in each sleeping room and immediately outside each sleeping room. This leaves a huge gap in protection. Most fires in short-term rentals start in utility spaces or kitchens. One major difference between hotels and short-term rentals is that many rental owners permit renters to park a car in an attached garage, most of which do not include detection. In fact, many short-term rentals have no fire alarm or automatic sprinkler system requirements. The challenge of alerting occupants is compounded by alcohol consumption—in a recent survey, more than 75 percent of short-term renters said they had consumed alcohol to the point of being intoxicated. Many of these people would have a difficult time hearing an alarm or evacuating.

The average three-bedroom short-term rental in the U.S. can generate between $20,000 and $120,000 a year depending on the location. To purchase and install the best dual-detection smoke alarms with a 10-year lifespan for a typical three-bedroom home costs around $270. Having a professional electrician hardwire those smoke alarms could cost as much as $3,000; connecting them wirelessly would run about $500. Even so, assuming the highest cost ($3,270) and the lowest annual income ($20,000) for that rental, the cost of purchasing and hardwiring smoke alarms amounts to 1.6 percent of the total income generated over the 10-year life of the alarms. While most professional managers or agents of rental properties encourage property owners to do this, many property owners don't want to; they haven't been given enough education on why it's so important to look out for their guests' safety. Many don't realize the safety ownership they assume when they offer their short-term rental to the general public. Many more don't want to do anything beyond what they are required to do, assuming that since they aren't required to do it, then it must not be very important.

Regulations also stipulate room capacities for hotels, as well as egress requirements. The maximum number of occupants permitted is predicated on the available number and capacity of means of egress.

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No such occupancy requirement exists for short-term rentals. As a result, occupant capacities in short-term rentals can be significant problems; generally speaking, in most locations around the country, short-term rental owners can advertise for and allow as many people as they want. Search the popular listing sites and you'll easily find thousands of short-term rentals advertised to sleep more—in some cases many more—people than the bedrooms would typically hold in a normal residential setting. I recently saw a short-term rental listing in Maine that advertised a three-bedroom home capable of sleeping more than ople. Such a setup might be safe, but it also might not be.

Compounding the problem of capacity is egress, which is one of the most ignored safety issues in the short-term rental industry. Thousands of rentals have been created in spaces that would never be permitted in commercial settings. Sleeping areas are improvised in attics and lofts that lack legal egress windows; many are set up as places for children to sleep. In a fire, heat and smoke rise to these locations rapidly, making escape even more difficult. Other property owners add bedroom spaces in the basements of their urban homes but don't install egress windows or doors. Commercial properties are required to include stairs or ladders in non-sprinklered sleeping rooms more than 20 feet above the ground, but they aren't required for elevated beach homes in places like Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, or tall and skinny urban rentals in cities including Nashville, Tennessee. Local governments regard these properties as residential and have little oversight to address egress concerns, even though the properties are being used as short-term rentals. The insurance industry contributes to this safety lapse by not addressing it as part of the underwriting process for a rental policy.

These are just a few of the concerns that illustrate the problems we face with safety in short-term rentals—problems that are largely unnecessary. A hotel guest who reported that there was no fire extinguisher in the hall and that they tripped walking up the stairs because there was no handrail would have the immediate attention of hotel management, and the problems would be promptly addressed and followed up with inspection by local safety officials. If a passenger on a commercial aircraft reported that their seat belt didn't buckle and something appeared to be wrong with the seal around the window, the flight would be delayed until the problems were inspected; if they couldn't be fixed, a different aircraft would be summoned. In the short-term rental world, though, packing 20 people into a three-bedroom home—one with no working smoke alarms, a rotten deck, a grease-caked gas grill, and a basement with no egress—is somehow acceptable.

Defining that a short-term rental constitutes commercial use of a dwelling will not cause the short-term rental industry to collapse, nor will it put an unnecessary burden on property owners. In most situations, it will require a small investment to bring these properties up to the safety standards required for commercial establishments. There are over 140,000 professional managers acting as agents for short-term rental owners in the U.S., according to PhocusWire. The majority of these agents welcome safety regulations not only to protect their customers, but to force the hand of property owners who have been unwilling to invest in addressing safety issues in their properties. Litigation from injured short-term rental guests is a growing segment of the legal world. Professionals would prefer to not be sued for negligence in safety and desire to have additional requirements to help them avoid costly lawsuits. Using a combination of in-person inspections and remote safety inspection tools, government agencies could efficiently sort through inspecting these properties for compliance.

One way to drive a new focus on safety in short-term rentals is through an awareness campaign, aimed at both owners and renters, illuminating the kinds of concerns I have shared. Everyone needs to know what they are responsible for in order to improve. Owners need to understand the importance of capacity and egress, and renters can benefit from reminders on kitchen safety and how to spot slip, trip, and fall hazards. Owners need to know that yellowed plastic smoke alarms have likely outlived their past-due dates and need replacement, and renters need to know that the gas grill is positioned where it is for a reason. Insurers, with the support of government agencies and standards developers including NFPA, can also contribute a valuable voice for applying commercial regulations to short-term rentals. It will require a collective, harmonized effort, but the lives and property that will be saved will make it well worth it.

Plans Review

Applications & Permits

About Construction Permits

Above Ground Storage Tanks

Bed and Breakfast Requirements

So you're wondering what you'll have to do to meet State requirements when opening a B & B in Maine?

First determine how many bedrooms will be available for rent. You are allowed to rent to 3 outsiders without needing State approval. At 2 people per bed, that equals 1 bedroom (the 2nd rental bedroom might include a 4th person). Once you are set up to rent more than 8 beds, (16 people), then the occupancy changes from the B&B classification of Rooming & Lodging to Hotel. Hotel use has more stringent requirements than does Rooming & Lodging.

Second, obtain a permit from our office to document that your plans will adhere to State law, and the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, 2018 edition. The application form, fee schedule and a submittal criteria summary form are available on the Applications Page. This permit is called a Construction Permit, even though there may be no new construction or only minor renovations. The permit is still required because the building will be either getting a new use classification, or an expanded use. This permit is in addition to any local permits that the town may require, so check with them to see what their requirements are. The stamp of a design professional, such as an architect, is required on the set of plans if the construction/renovation cost is over $50,000. One set of plans will have to be submitted whether the design professional's stamp is required or not. The plans will include a site plan, elevations, and floor plans.

Third, consider this list of basic requirements for new or expanded use of Rooming & Lodging:

- A **Sprinkler System**. Stored water & a pump may be used for the water supply. A sprinkler system is required to be installed in all new rooming and lodging facilities.
- **Smoke detectors** are required in every bedroom or sleeping room, outside each sleeping area, and on all levels of the building with a den or other room that might be used for sleeping. These smoke detectors may sound independent of each other. In addition, there must be at least 1 smoke detector in a common area of each level that is interconnected to the fire alarm system. In other than existing buildings, the smoke alarms shall be interconnected. All smoke detectors are to be hard-wired to the building electrical system, and have battery back-up in case of power failure, unless existing battery-powered smoke alarms, rather than house electric-powered smoke alarms, shall be permitted where the facility has demonstrated to the authority have jurisdiction that the testing, maintenance, and battery replacement programs will ensure reliability of power to the smoke alarms.
- **Carbon monoxide detection** shall be required in all rooming and lodging facilities.
- **Fire alarm system**, which includes at least 1 pull station on each floor, plus horns to sound throughout, and strobes in common areas. (An exception to requiring the pull stations is when activation of the fire sprinkler system will set off the fire alarm system.) Also, there are to be 2 bedrooms to have strobes unless the owner lives in the building and there are 5 or less rooms for rent.
- **Protection of vertical openings** requires self-closing, rated doors at the top and bottom of stairs. Certain exceptions may apply if there is a sprinkler system and depending upon the nature of escape routes.

This list summarizes only the main points, and is not exhaustive. Once we have your information to review, we will be able to answer more specific questions.

Fourth, in addition to the fire & life safety requirements above, the Division of Health Engineering at **207-287-5675** issues **B & B licenses**, so call them too. Their issues have to do with drinking water, plumbing, and providing food to the public.

Credit

Information

- Site Policies
- Accessibility
- Document Viewers
- Maine.gov
- Fire Marshal's Office Home
- Sitemap

Related Links

- Pine Tree Burn Foundation
- Maine Forest Service
- Department of Public Safety
- U.S. Fire Administration
- Maine Fire Service Institute
- U.S Census Bureau

NEWPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT
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Lodging or Rooming House Requirements

A **Lodging or Rooming House** is defined as a building that provide sleeping accommodations for sixteen (16) or fewer persons on either a transient or permanent basis, with or without meals, but without separate cooking facilities for individual occupants, except as provided in Chapter 24 and/or §§ 26.1.1.1.1 through 26.1.1.1.8 (Bed and Breakfast Homes and Congregate Family Living Facilities)

Lodging or Rooming Houses shall meet the following requirements:

1.) Fire alarm system in accordance with § 9.6. the 2018 RI Life Safety Code shall be provided.

2.) Approved single-station smoke alarms shall be installed in accordance with § 9.6.2.10 in every sleeping room.

3.) Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with §§ 9.12 and 26.3.4.6 shall be provided in lodging or rooming houses where either of the following conditions exists:

    a.) Lodging or rooming houses with communicating attached garages, unless otherwise exempted by § 26.3.4.6.3
    b.) Lodging or rooming houses containing fuel-burning appliances or fuel-burning fireplaces.

4.) All **new** lodging or rooming houses shall be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with § 26.3.6.2.

5.) **Every existing** lodging or rooming house built, or converted to this occupancy, on or after June 29, 1990, shall be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with § 26.3.6.2.

6.) Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in accordance with § 9.9 of the 2018 RI Life Safety Code.

7.) Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ.

8.) All means of egress shall meet the requirements of RI Life Safety Code Chapter.

Any building complying with the above "Lodging and Rooming House" guidelines, with a **capacity in excess of sixteen (16) residents**, shall be required comply with the requirements for a "Hotel and Dormitory" occupancy as outlined in the provisions of Chapters 28 or 29, as applicable (new or existing), of the 2018 RI Life Safety Code.

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Bed & Breakfast Facility Requirements 7-16 Guests

Every "Bed and Breakfast Home" must have originated as a private home and must have at least three hundred (300) square feet of common space (i.e. dining room, living room, etc.) for guest use, and must further provide breakfast.

Finally, the owner and/or innkeeper must occupy the building twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, while guests are utilizing the facility. The owner and/or innkeeper of the "Bed and Breakfast Home" shall have a plan of action, approved by the local official, to assure the safety of the guests in the event the owner or innkeeper is required to temporarily leave the facility unsupervised for limited periods during the day.

All "Bed and Breakfast Homes" with a capacity of **between seven (7) and sixteen (16) guests** shall meet the following requirements:

1.) A "No Smoking" policy, throughout the building, shall be strictly enforced.

2.) With the exception of fireplaces and/or wood stoves, approved by local fire department and/or the local mechanical inspector, there shall be no open flame in the bedrooms of these facilities. Specifically, candles, incense or similar materials shall not be allowed in the bedrooms. All approved fireplaces and/or wood stoves shall further be provided with approved metal screens or glass doors. Any fireplace or wood stove located in the common areas shall also be approved by local fire department and/or the local mechanical inspector with the above safeguards.

3.) All "Bed and Breakfast Homes" require hardwired, interconnected smoke and carbon monoxide alarms installed in accordance with the Regulations and standards of Chapter 24 of the 2018 RI Life Safety Code. There shall be approved detection in each sleeping room.

4.) A fire alarm system installed in accordance with 2018 RI Life Safety Code 26.3.4.1.1 shall be provided.

5.) Hardwired or low power radio wireless interconnected smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 72, 2019 edition.

6.) Solid core doors, maintaining an approximate fire rating of twenty (20) minutes, shall be installed in the existing egress system door jambs with spring-loaded hinges. The local fire authority may approve an alternative plan of action allowing historically significant doors, with an approved Class-A flame-spread finish and spring loaded hinges, to be retained.

7.) Emergency lighting shall be installed in any corridors and/or stairways greater than eight feet (8') in length.

8.) Externally illuminated exit signs shall be installed. (Exit sign illuminated by nearby light source)

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9.) An evacuation plan, containing alternative emergency egress routes, shall be presented to the local fire authority for approval, and upon approval shall be posted in every sleeping room.

10.) The owner and/or innkeeper shall receive comprehensive fire extinguisher training.

11.) It is recommended that the facility be annually inspected by the local fire authority. Any existing curtains, bedding, rugs or similar flammable materials, shall only be replaced, in the future, by fire retardant materials, manufactured and/or treated to the satisfaction of the local fire authority.

12.) Any existing fire detection and/or suppression system shall be maintained as a required system.

Any building complying with the above "Bed and Breakfast Home" guidelines, with a capacity **in excess of sixteen (16) guests**, shall be required comply with the requirements for a "Hotel and Dormitory" occupancy as outlined in the provisions of Chapters 28 or 29, as applicable (new or existing), of the 2018 Rhode Island Life Safety Code.

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Bed & Breakfast Facility Requirements 4-6 Guests

Every "Bed and Breakfast Home" must have originated as a private home and must have at least three hundred (300) square feet of common space (i.e. dining room, living room, etc.) for guest use, and must further provide breakfast.

Finally, the owner and/or innkeeper must occupy the building twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, while guests are utilizing the facility. The owner and/or innkeeper of the "Bed and Breakfast Home" shall have a plan of action, approved by the local official, to assure the safety of the guests in the event the owner or innkeeper is required to temporarily leave the facility unsupervised for limited periods during the day.

All "Bed and Breakfast Homes" with a capacity of **between four (4) and six (6) guests** shall meet the following requirements:

1.) A "No Smoking" policy, throughout the building, shall be strictly enforced.

2.) With the exception of fireplaces and/or wood stoves, approved by local fire department and/or the local mechanical inspector, there shall be no open flame in the bedrooms of these facilities. Specifically, candles, incense or similar materials shall not be allowed in the bedrooms. All approved fireplaces and/or wood stoves shall further be provided with approved metal screens or glass doors. Any fireplace or wood stove located in the common areas shall also be approved by local fire department and/or the local mechanical inspector with the above safeguards.

3.) All "Bed and Breakfast Homes" require hardwired, interconnected smoke and carbon monoxide alarms installed in accordance with the Regulations and standards of Chapter 24 of the 2018 RI Fire Code. There shall be approved detection in each sleeping room.

4.) Hardwired or low power radio wireless interconnected smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 72, 2019 edition.

5.) Emergency lighting shall be installed in any corridors and/or stairways greater than eight feet (8') in length.

6.) Externally illuminated exit signs shall be installed. (Exit sign illuminated by nearby light source)

7.) An evacuation plan, containing alternative emergency egress routes, shall be presented to the local fire authority for approval, and upon approval shall be posted in every sleeping room.

8.) The owner and/or innkeeper shall receive comprehensive fire extinguisher training.

9.) It is recommended that the facility be annually inspected by the local fire authority. Any existing curtains, bedding, rugs or similar flammable materials, shall only be replaced, in the future, by fire retardant materials, manufactured and/or treated to the satisfaction of the local fire authority.

10.) Any existing fire detection and/or suppression system shall be maintained as a required system.

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One- and Two-Family Dwelling Guest House Requirements

One- and Two-Family dwellings containing a maximum of 5 guests per unit, require smoke and CO alarms installed as detailed below based on the year of construction

One- and Two-Family Dwellings built prior to January 1, 2013; only page 1 shall be required. Page 3 is recommended but not required for this time period.

ALL DEVICES ARE REQUIRED TO BE LESS THAN 10 YEARS FROM DATE OF MANUFACTURE

Homes built in 1976 or prior:

(1) Smoke Alarms shall be installed within 21 feet outside sleeping areas and on each level of the dwelling unit(s) (including basements).
(2) Smoke Alarms shall be permitted to be battery operated.
(3) Smoke Alarms are not required to be interconnected.
(4) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be installed within 21 feet outside sleeping areas.
(5) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be permitted to be battery operated.
(6) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors are not required to be interconnected.

Homes built on and after January 1, 1977 through December 31, 2001:

(1) Smoke Alarms shall be installed within 21 feet outside sleeping areas and on each level of the dwelling unit(s) (including basements).
(2) Smoke Alarms shall be hard-wired with battery backup.
(3) Smoke Alarms shall be required to be interconnected.
(4) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be installed within 21 feet outside sleeping areas.
(5) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be permitted to be battery operated.
(6) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors are not required to be interconnected

(May use battery operated and wireless interconnected devices listed at bottom of page 2)

Homes built on and after January 1, 2002 through February 19, 2004:

(1) Smoke Alarms shall be installed within 21 feet outside sleeping areas and on each level of the dwelling unit(s) (including basements).
(2) Smoke Alarms shall be hard-wired with battery backup.
(3) Smoke Alarms shall be required to be interconnected.
(4) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be installed within 21 feet outside sleeping areas.
(5) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be hard-wired with battery backup.
(6) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be required to be interconnected.

(May use battery operated and wireless interconnected devices listed at bottom of page 2)

Homes built on and after February 20, 2004 through December 31, 2012:

(1) Smoke Alarms shall be installed inside each bedroom, within 21 feet outside sleeping areas and on each level of the dwelling unit(s) (including basements)
(2) Smoke Alarms shall be hard-wired with battery backup.
(3) Smoke Alarms shall be required to be interconnected.
(4) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be installed within 21 feet outside each sleeping area.
(5) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be hard-wired with battery backup.
(6) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be required to be interconnected.

(May use battery operated and wireless interconnected devices listed at bottom of page 2)

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One- and Two-Family Dwellings built <u>on</u> or <u>after</u> January 1, 2013; pages 2-3 shall apply.

<u>Homes built on and after January 1, 2013 through September 30, 2016:</u>

(1) Smoke Alarms shall be installed inside each bedroom, outside sleeping areas within 21 ft of bedroom door and on each level of the dwelling unit(s) (including basements)
(2) Smoke Alarms shall be hard-wired with battery backup.
(3) Smoke Alarms shall be required to be interconnected.
(4) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be installed within 21 ft of bedroom door outside each sleeping area and one on every level.
(5) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be hard-wired with battery backup.
(6) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be required to be interconnected.
(7) When floor area of a given level of a dwelling unit exceeds 1000 square feet, smoke alarms shall be installed for every 30 foot travel distance or 1 smoke alarm for every 500 square feet of floor area.

(May use battery operated and wireless interconnected devices listed at bottom of page 2)

<u>Homes built on and after October 1, 2016:</u>

(1) Smoke Alarms shall be installed inside each bedroom, outside sleeping areas within 21 ft of bedroom door and on each level of the dwelling unit(s) (including basements)
(2) Smoke Alarms shall be hard-wired with battery backup.
(3) Smoke Alarms shall be required to be interconnected.
(4) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be installed within 21 ft of bedroom door outside each sleeping area and one on every level.
(5) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be hard-wired with battery backup.
(6) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be required to be interconnected.
(7) When floor area of a given level of a dwelling unit exceeds 1000 square feet, smoke alarms shall be installed for every 30 ft travel distance or 1 smoke alarm for every 500 square feet of floor area.

(May use battery operated and wireless interconnected devices listed at bottom of page 2)

<u>Newly constructed or converted bedrooms or sleeping areas:</u> shall comply with the requirements for new construction at the time of construction or conversion.

<u>Wireless Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms (NFPA 72:29.9.1)</u>

1) 10 Year Sealed Battery
2) Listed and Approved Device
3) Visible "power on" indicator is provided (may be intermittent)

<u>Non-Supervised Wireless Interconnected Devices (NFPA 72: 29.10.8.2)</u>

1) Shall be capable of reliably communicating at a distance of 100ft indoors
2) Listed and Approved Device

<u>Maximum # of Devices (NFPA 72: 29.11.2.1)</u>

1) Maximum number of single station unsupervised interconnected devices is **18** of which a maximum of **12** can be smoke alarms.
2) Maximum number of supervised interconnected devices is **64** of which a maximum of **42** can be smoke alarms.

The above smoke and carbon monoxide alarms may be installed as follows:
(1) Where the above provisions require both smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms or detectors, combination devices shall be permitted and deemed acceptable.
(2) Where smoke alarms are required, household fire alarm systems, in accordance with NFPA 72 (2019 Edition), shall be permitted and deemed to be acceptable

NEWPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF FIRE PREVENTION
21 West Marlborough Street
Newport, RI 02840
Phone: (401) 845-5920
Fax: (401) 845-5940

Specific Locations

Kitchens and Cooking Appliances

1) Smoke alarms and detectors shall not be installed within a **10ft** radial distance along a horizontal flow path from stationary or fixed cooking appliance unless listed for installation in close proximity.
2) All detectors and alarms installed between **10ft** and **20ft** of horizontal flow path from stationary or fixed cooking appliance shall be equipped with an alarm-silencing means or use photoelectric detection.
3) Effective January 1, 2022, smoke alarms and smoke detectors installed between **6ft** (1.8 m) and **20ft** (6.1 m) along a horizontal flow path from a stationary or fixed cooking appliance **shall be listed** for resistance to common nuisance sources from cooking.

Bathrooms

1) Smoke alarms and detectors shall not be installed within a **36 in.** horizontal path from a door to a bathroom containing a shower or tub **unless** listed for installation in close proximity to such locations.

Forced Air

1) Smoke alarms and smoke detectors shall not be installed within a **36 in.** (910 mm) horizontal path from the supply registers of a forced air heating or cooling system and shall be installed outside of the direct airflow from those registers.

Ceiling Fans

1) Smoke alarms and smoke detectors shall not be installed within a **36 in.** (910 mm) horizontal path from the tip of the blade of a ceiling-suspended (paddle) fan **unless** the room configuration restricts meeting this requirement.

Stairways

1) Where stairs lead to other occupiable levels, a smoke alarm or smoke detector shall be located so that smoke rising in the stairway cannot be prevented from reaching the smoke alarm or smoke detector by an intervening door or obstruction.
2) For stairways leading up from a basement, smoke alarms or smoke detectors shall be located on the basement ceiling **near** the entry to the stairs.

Environment Code Considerations

1) Smoke alarms and smoke detectors shall not be located where ambient conditions, including humidity and temperature, are outside the limits specified by the manufacturer's published instructions.
2) Smoke alarms and smoke detectors shall not be located within unfinished attics or garages or in other spaces where temperatures can fall below 40 F (4.4 C) or exceed 100 F (38 C).

Walls

1) Smoke alarms or smoke detectors mounted on walls shall be located **not farther than 12 in.** from the adjoining ceiling surface (measured from the top of the detector).

Ceilings ***(For beam and joists ceilings please contact fire prevention office for assistance)***

1) For tray-shaped ceilings (coffered ceilings), smoke alarms and smoke detectors shall be installed on the highest portion of the ceiling or on the sloped portion of the ceiling within **12 in.** (300 mm) vertically down from the highest point.
2) ***FOR PEAKED OR SLOPED CEILINGS PLEASE SEE PAGE 4 ENTITLED SPECIFIC CEILING LOCATION REQUIREMENTS***

Other

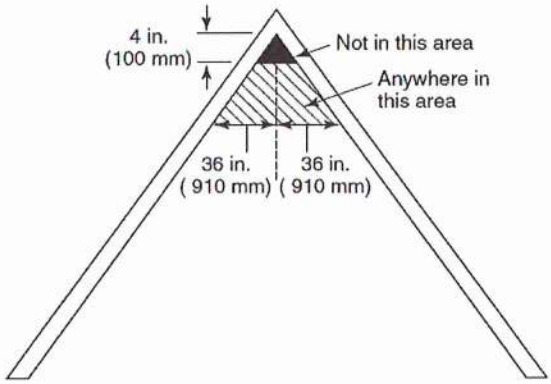
1) Where a sleeping area is separated from the adjacent living areas by multiple doors, a smoke alarm shall be installed in the area between the door and the sleeping rooms, and additional alarms shall be installed on the living area side of the door (NFPA 72:29.8.1.2)

NEWPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF FIRE PREVENTION
21 West Marlborough Street
Newport, RI 02840
Phone: (401) 845-5920
Fax: (401) 845-5940

SMOKE ALARM & SMOKE DETECTOR CEILING INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

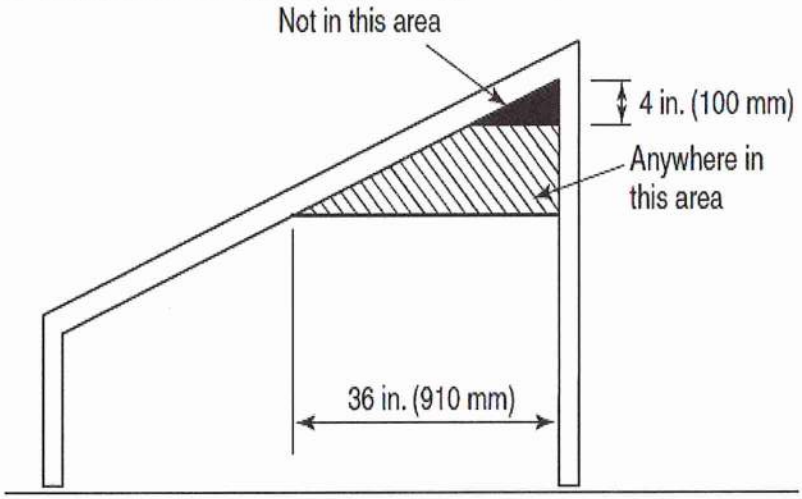
Peaked Ceilings

1) Smoke alarms or smoke detectors mounted on a peaked ceiling shall be located within 36 in. horizontally of the peak, but not closer than 4 in



Sloped Ceilings

1) Smoke alarms or smoke detectors mounted on a sloped ceiling having a rise greater than 1 ft in 8 ft shall be located within 36 in. of the high side of the ceiling, but not closer than 4 in. from the adjoining wall surface.



NEWPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL
21 West Marlborough Street
Newport, RI 02840
Phone: (401) 845-5920
Fax: (401) 845-5940

Three Family Dwelling Guest House Requirements

Three Family dwellings containing a maximum of 5 guests per unit, require smoke and CO alarms installed as detailed below

ALL DEVICES ARE REQUIRED TO BE LESS THAN 10 YEARS FROM DATE OF MANUFACTURE

In Individual Dwelling Units:

(1) Smoke Alarms shall be installed inside each bedroom, outside sleeping areas within 21 ft of bedroom door and on each level of the dwelling unit(s) (including basements)
(2) Smoke Alarms shall be hard-wired with battery backup.
(3) Smoke Alarms shall be required to be interconnected.
(4) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be installed inside bedrooms or sleeping areas containing fuel burning appliances, outside each sleeping area within 21 ft of bedroom door and on all levels.
*(**IF No** dwelling unit contains fuel-burning appliances, fireplaces or attached garage, a CO detector is not required).*
(5) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be hard-wired with battery backup.
(6) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be required to be interconnected.
(7) When floor area of a given level of a dwelling unit exceeds 1000 square feet, smoke alarms shall be installed for every 30 foot travel distance or 1 smoke alarm for every 500 square feet of floor area.

In Common Areas:

(1) Smoke Alarms shall be installed on each floor landing of common stairway, in common corridors, in common basements.
(2) Smoke alarms shall be hard-wired with battery backup.
(3) Smoke alarms shall be interconnected.
(4) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be installed in basements.
(5) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be hard-wired with battery backup.
(6) Carbon Monoxide Alarms or Detectors shall be required to be interconnected.

The above smoke and carbon monoxide alarms may be installed as follows:

(1) Where the above provisions require both smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms or detectors, combination devices shall be permitted and deemed acceptable.
(2) Wireless Smoke and Carbon monoxide alarms meeting the requirements of NFPA 72, 2019.
    a. 10 yr. sealed battery, Visible "power on" indicator, Listed and Approved
(3) Non-Supervised Wireless Interconnected Devices meeting the requirements of NFPA 72, 2019
    a. Reliable 100ft communication, Listed and Approved

Individual dwelling units shall not be interconnected with one another or common areas.

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2) ***FOR PEAKED OR SLOPED CEILINGS PLEASE SEE PAGE 3 ENTITLED SPECIFIC CEILING LOCATION REQUIREMENTS***

Other

1) Where a sleeping area is separated from the adjacent living areas by multiple doors, a smoke alarm shall be installed in the area between the door and the sleeping rooms, and additional alarms shall be installed on the living area side of the door (NFPA 72:29.8.1.2)

SMOKE ALARM & SMOKE DETECTOR
CEILING
INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

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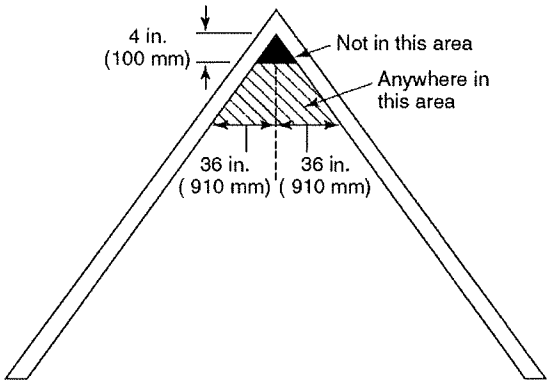

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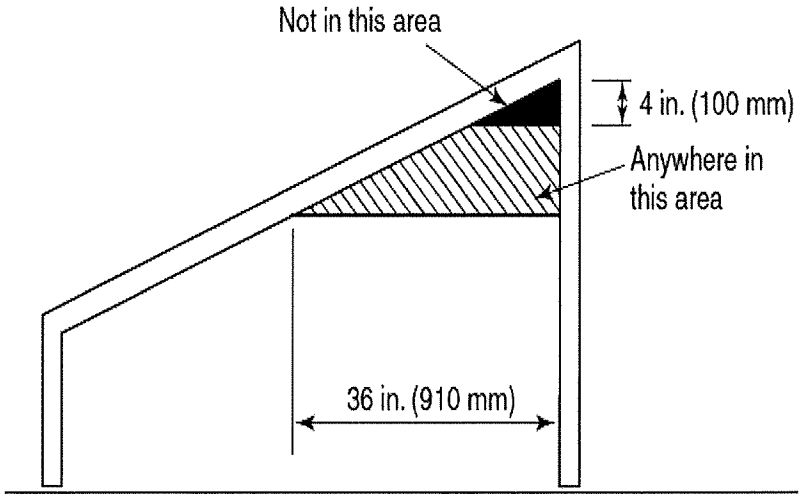

Outlook

Public comment and response

From Wheeler, Landon <Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov>
Date Mon 8/4/2025 4:16 PM
To Martino, Alison <Alison.Martino@vermont.gov>

Chris Cochran asked why we are not adopting the 2024 code cycle along with inquiring about changes in height and area between newer codes and existing ones.

Landon Wheeler responded with an explanation of the adoption of the 2021 code cycle and provided information in regards to the height and area inquiry.

Can you print the email and add it to the (file to be attached) that will provide the entire context and you can utilize the summary as the info for the spread sheets?

From: Wheeler, Landon
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 2:29 PM
To: Cochran, Chris <Chris.Cochran@vermont.gov>
Cc: Brooks, Tayt <Tayt.Brooks@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Rule Updates

Hello Chris,

This is not typically an item that comes up and has not come up in this Rule making process, but my answer to this is as follows:

Codes are adopted by code cycle, so if the 2024 edition of the IBC was adopted DFS would have to adopt the 2024 code cycle for NFPA 1 and NFPA 101 along with all the reference standards that line up with each one of those code cycles. This would have a much greater impact on the stakeholders going from the current 2015 code cycle to the 2024 code cycle, that would be a 3 code cycle jump and would have implications well outside the building code. Reference documents run with code cycles, a few examples of this are 2021 NFPA 1 references 2021 NFPA 54 the gas code and 2020 NFPA 58 LPG code. 2020 NFPA 855 and 2023 NFPA 855 energy storage systems, this example is a good one as this will be the first code cycle that NFPA 855 comes into reference for Vermont, adopting a newer standard such as 2023 NFPA 855 would be jumping ahead before the code was ever utilized.

It would be very difficult to adopt different code cycles for specific items as the codes and reference codes would not line up. They are designed to work together based on the code cycle that is in use. (even the building code references non building code standards)

As for the specific question in regards to numbers of stories, the largest change I am aware of took place between 2015 and 2018 and 2021 and 2024 tables do not have drastic changes. I have provided links to bot and added snip its of the Residential implications (they don't change between 2021 and 2024)

2021 height and area tables: https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IBC2021P2/chapter-5-general-building-heights-and-areas

R-1[h]	NS[d]	UL	11	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	2
	S13R	4	4									4	3
	S	UL	12	5	5	5	5	18	12	8	5	4	3
R-2[h]	NS[d]	UL	11	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	2
	S13R	4	4	4								4	3
	S	UL	12	5	5	5	5	18	12	8	5	4	3

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	S13R	4	4	4								4	3
	S	UL	12	5	5	5	5	18	12	8	5	4	3

Please let me know if you have any additional questions or if I can clarify this for you

Landon A Wheeler
Deputy Director
Department of Public Safety-Division of Fire Safety
Cell: 802-369-0949
Office: 802-479-7566 (Waterbury)

Landon.Wheeler@Vermont.gov

Smoke detectors and Carbon Monoxide detection save lives

From: Cochran, Chris <Chris.Cochran@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 2:01 PM
To: Wheeler, Landon <Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov>
Cc: Brooks, Tayt <Tayt.Brooks@vermont.gov>
Subject: Rule Updates

Thanks again for taking the time last week to walk through the updates with the GMP. I'm sure you're glad to be in the home stretch of the comment period—nearly there!

One concern I've been hearing consistently is around DFS not adopting the most recent version of the building code, which includes greater flexibility for taller buildings. I don't have all the technical details, and I know there may be valid reasons behind that decision, but it's coming up often enough that I thought it was worth flagging.

If there's already a summary or rationale you've shared publicly on this point, I'd be happy to pass that along to help provide clarity to folks who are asking.

Thanks!

International Code Council
73 Allston Avenue
Middletown, RI 02842
t: 888.422.7233, ext. 4876
c: 401.265.0003
wnash@iccsafe.org
www.iccsafe.org

July 28, 2025

Landon A. Wheeler, Deputy Director
Department of Public Safety-Division of Fire Safety
45 State Drive
Waterbury, VERMONT 05671

Re: ICC Comments regarding the proposed updates to the following: **2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code** (25P022), **and 2025 Vermont Plumbing Rules** (25P024), all based on the International Code Council(Code Council) 2021 family of codes.

Dear Mr. Wheeler,

I am William Nash, the Code Council Senior Regional Manager for Governmental Relations in Vermont and your liaison to the Code Council. I am writing to provide comments on updating the existing Vermont Fire & Building Code and the Vermont Plumbing Rules to the above-noted codes, based on the 2021 International Codes (I-Codes).

The Code Council is a member-focused association dedicated to helping the building safety community and the construction industry provide safe and sustainable construction by developing codes and standards for design, building, and compliance. Most US states and communities, Federal agencies, and many global markets choose the I-Codes to set the standards for regulating on and off-site building, plumbing, mechanical, and fuel gas construction, sanitation, fire prevention, and energy conservation in the built environment. The Code Council is proud to count many Vermont code officials and inspectors, and other industry professionals among its 64,000+ governmental members.

The I-Codes comprise 15 different model codes and include several codes that Vermont currently adopts, which are updated and revised every three years through national consensus and standards processes that strike a balance between the latest technology, new building products, installation techniques, economics, and cost while incorporating the most recent advances in public and first responder safety. These processes are open and inclusive, encouraging input from all individuals and groups and allowing Code Council Governmental Members, including many Vermont code officials, to determine the final code provisions. Due to the processes mentioned above, several beneficial changes to the model I-Codes are under consideration for Vermont's update.

Although the Code Council respectfully recommends that Vermont update its codes to the most updated version of the model codes (2021 versions) *without* amendment, we recognize that Vermont's unique character and needs necessitate amendments to these model codes. The I-Codes are correlated to work together without conflicts, eliminating confusion in building design, inconsistent code enforcement, or interpretation among different jurisdictions. Jurisdictions that utilize the most current edition of the I-Codes ensure the highest standards for safety, energy efficiency, sustainability, economic incentive, and long-term resiliency of their built environment.

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73 Allston Avenue
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The Code Council would like to commend the State of Vermont for its consistently outstanding work in reviewing and proposing updates to the Vermont State Fire & Building Code, as well as the Vermont Plumbing Rules. We recognize the significant efforts that leaders in Vermont have made, along with their commitment to a safe built environment, via up-to-date codes for their visitors and citizens. The proposed update of this code will ensure that the Vermont Building Code remains technically viable, promote consistency in code application and enforcement, facilitate economic investment in building construction, and prioritize the greatest safety of the public and emergency responders while embracing modern technology and building practices.

General support, technical assistance, and training from the Code Council are always available to groups that include, but are not limited to, the Vermont Department of Public Safety, the Vermont Division of Fire Safety, the Vermont Building Code & Safety Services, Vermont Design Professionals, State and Local plan review, permit, and inspection staff, and other critical Vermont stakeholders. In addition, they will continue to have access to the following, including but not limited to Code Council training programs and materials, product Evaluation Reports, certification programs, and Code Council technical staff, who will assist with code opinions and interpretations based on the I-Codes.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments. The Code Council is honored to partner with the State of Vermont to support the adoption, update, and administration of the Vermont State Building Code, based on the 2021 I-Codes. We look forward to continuing to serve your needs for many years to come. Please do not hesitate to contact me via email or cell phone (information provided below) if you have any questions, concerns, or comments regarding the 2021 I-Codes adoption/update or any other Code Council-related matter.

Sincerely,

William J. Nash, Jr.
Senior Regional Manager – Government Relations
International Code Council
wnash@iccsafe.org
401-265-0003

VERMONT

Department of Public Safety
Division of Fire Safety
Central Administrative Office
45 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671
Firesafety.vermont.gov

(phone) (802)479-7561
(fax) (802) 479-7562

To:
William J. Nash Jr.
Senior Regional Manager- Government Relations
International Code Council (ICC)
wnash@iccsafe.org
401-265-0003

From:
Landon Wheeler
Deputy Director
Division of Fire Safety
Dept. of Public Safety
Landon.Wheeler@Vermont.gov

Re: This letter is intended as formal response to ICC submission to public comment. (2025 Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code.)

The Division of Fire Safety would like to extend our thanks and acknowledgement of support for the upcoming rule making process. The support that ICC has provided through code development, education of team members and supporting of the code development process has been instrumental in the Division of Fire Safey moving forward in our regulatory process of rulemaking.

Thank you for your continued support and the Division of Fire Safety looks forward to working with you and ICC in the future in all our endeavors.

Landon A Wheeler
Deputy Director
Department of Public Safety-Division of Fire Safety
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Office: 802-479-7566 (Waterbury)
Landon.Wheeler@Vermont.gov

VERMONT

2025

2025 ANNOTATED RULES

FIRE & BUILDING SAFETY CODE

Vermont Department of Public Safety

DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

firesafety.vermont.gov

EFFECTIVE DATE: TBD

Introduction

Since 1972 the State of Vermont has adopted nationally recognized safety standards to protect the public from fire and explosion hazards and establish standards for fire safety. Standards for boiler safety have been in place even longer. Vermont can benefit from the research and fire safety experience of experts nationwide in every area of expertise by using nationally recognized safety standards in this Code. The national standards are amended only when necessary to address conditions specific to Vermont, stay within the limits set by law, or clarify interpretations of certain sections.

The ~~2015~~ 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code establishes the process to obtain a construction or operating permit, lists the codes and standards that are adopted and describes the process used to evaluate and grant a variance or exemption from the Code. The annexes to this Code are designed to help people understand the state laws related to fire, explosion, hazardous materials, structural safety, ~~and~~ carbon monoxide, and enable people to understand and take advantage of the flexibility built into this Code for historic buildings.

This Code establishes separate minimum standards for new and existing buildings and existing buildings that are used for a new purpose. This Code recognizes the need to protect the public when the use of a building changes, putting more people at risk or introducing new hazards to a building. But this Code is also written to facilitate the adaptive reuse of buildings, recognizing certain limitations of existing buildings. This Code has less restrictive requirements for low-risk occupancies and promotes the use of alternative safety solutions.

The Life Safety Code (NFPA 101) is the most widely used standard adopted under this Code and applies to all buildings and premises regulated under this Code. The Life Safety Code regulates construction, fire protection, and occupancy features necessary to minimize danger to life from fire and to allow escape from fire and non-fire emergencies.
The Fire Code (NFPA 1) applies to new and existing conditions including general fire safety provisions, fire protection including sprinkler systems, fire department access to buildings, and special material and process fire hazards. The Fire Code functions as a guide to determine what other specialty codes and state amendments apply to a building, premise, or condition.

The International Building Code (IBC) applies to new construction and structural requirements. It is used to determine the allowable size of new construction, and structural design features such as the snow load, and to ensure compliance with the performance requirements of other adopted standards.

The National Board Inspection Code (NBIC) is focused on the installation, maintenance and inspection of boilers and pressure vessels. The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) standards or European Committee for Standardization referenced in section ~~67~~ ~~(c)~~ regulates the design and manufacture of boilers and pressure vessels. Prior to the 2005 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code there had been a separate set of rules for boilers and pressure vessels. By combining the boiler rules with the fire prevention rules there will be a simplified administrative process and better coordination for inspections regarding heating systems.

~~Information on how to contact the Division of Fire Safety and obtain copies of the adopted codes is in Annex VIII at the end of this Code.~~

Table of Contents

Section 1 Title, Intent and Authority

(a) These rules are adopted under 20 V.S.A. Chapter 173, Subchapter 2 ~~"Fire Safety Division"~~ "Division of Fire Safety", Subchapter 3 "Fire Hazards and Dangerous Substances", Subchapter 5 "Boilers and Pressure Vessels" and Chapter 177 "Explosives and Fireworks" and shall be known and cited as the Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code - ~~2015~~ 2025. These rules intend to provide for public safety as directed by these sections of the law. ~~(see Annex I for Public Building definition)~~

(b) This Code shall be administered and enforced by the Commissioner of Public Safety and staff members of the Division of Fire Safety that are hereby designated to enforce this Code and utilize discretionary authority regarding the details of the application of this Code. Hereafter the Commissioner, or designated representative, or in the case of a cooperative municipal inspection agreement, the approved inspector(s), are designated as the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). For the purpose of NFPA sections 1:1.13, Certificates of Fitness, and 1:20.12.3 & 101:37.7.5, Smoke Alarm & Carbon Monoxide Alarm – Consumer Information, the Commissioner and staff members of the Division of Fire Safety are designated as the AHJ. **(For a list of current municipal inspection agreements visit our webpage at: https://firesafety.vermont.gov/)**

(c) The AHJ may establish priorities for enforcing these rules and standards based on the relative risk to people and property.

(d) These rules apply to "public buildings" as defined by 20 V.S.A Chapter 173.

~~(Note: See Annex 1 for the definition of "public buildings" from 20 V.S.A. Chapter 173. Note that most owner-occupied single-family residences are exempt from the definition of public buildings and are thus not included in the scope of this code; see definition of "public buildings" for exceptions).~~

Section 2 Adoption of National Recognized Codes

The following nationally recognized safety standards, as amended herein, are adopted to make rules regarding the safeguarding of people and property in case of fire, explosion, hazardous materials, dangerous structural conditions, and the generation of carbon monoxide.

LIFE SAFETY CODE – NFPA 101 – ~~2015~~ 2021

FIRE CODE – NFPA 1 – ~~2015~~ 2021

INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE – IBC – ~~2015~~ 2021

INTERNATIONAL EXISTING BUILDING CODE – IEBC – ~~2015~~ 2021

~~**NATIONAL BOARD OF INSPECTION CODE** – NBIC – 2015~~

Boiler and Pressure Vessel Standards, Rules and Code

adoption see Section 7

~~Part 2 – Inspection~~

~~Part 3 – Repair and Alteration~~

~~This Code has been designed to minimize any conflict or difference between adopted codes and standards. Where there is a conflict or difference between the codes the Life Safety Code (NFPA 101) or Fire Code (NFPA 1) shall apply. Where one code has a requirement, and another code does not have a requirement the code with a requirement shall apply.~~

This *Code* has been designed to minimize any conflict or difference between adopted codes and standards.

- Where there is a conflict between an adopted code and its referenced code or standard, the adopted code shall apply.
- Where there is a conflict between the Life Safety Code (NFPA101) and another code or standard, the Life Safety Code shall apply

- Where there is conflict between the Fire Code (NFPA 1) and the International Building Code, or the National Board Inspection Code, the Fire Code shall apply.
- Where one code or standard has a requirement, and another code or standard does not have a requirement, the code or standard with a requirement shall apply.

The provisions of this code shall apply to the construction, alteration, relocation, enlargement, replacement, repair, equipment, use and occupancy, location, maintenance, removal and demolition of every public building or structure or any appurtenances connected or attached to such buildings or structures regulated under this code.

Matrix on next page ~~shall~~ may be used to assist in designing construction projects.

Matrix of Vermont Fire and Building Safety Codes by Project Type

New Construction	Major Rehabilitation, Modification, Reconstruction No Additions	Building Addition	Existing Building with Change of Use/Renovation
IBC & NFPA 1 & 101 apply. All IBC Chapters apply except Chapters; 8, 10, 11, 13, 27, 28, 29, & 33 NFPA 101 ~~Chapters 1 thru 11 and New~~ All appropriate occupancy chapters apply, and all chapters of NFPA 1 as applicable • Purpose of IBC is to safeguard public health, safety and general welfare • Purpose of NFPA 1 & 101 is to provide an environment reasonably safe from fire	IEBC applies to structural requirements only Refer to NFPA 101 Chapter 43 for Building rehabilitation, and appropriate occupancy chapter NFPA 1 applies Refer to NFPA 220 for type of construction (NFPA 101 page 404)	IBC applies to new construction & overall (new + addition) building height & area IEBC applies to existing structural requirements only Refer to NFPA 101 Chapter 43 for Additions ~~Building rehabilitation,~~ and appropriate occupancy chapter NFPA 1 applies Refer to NFPA 220 for type of construction (NFPA 101 page 404)	IEBC applies to structural requirements only (Section 707) Refer to NFPA 101 Chapter 43 for change of use/modifications ~~Building rehabilitation~~, and appropriate occupancy chapter NFPA 1 applies NFPA 101 chapter applies to existing building section not being altered 1- Determine occupancy use 2- Refer to NFPA 220 for type of construction (page 404)

1- Always determine occupancy type first
2- Include a code analysis with plan submittal for all new or large renovation projects
3- Vermont Fire & Building Code Amendments apply to all categories above
4- Vermont Access Rules and ~~2012~~ 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design applies to all categories
5- Vermont Electrical, Plumbing and Elevator Rules applies to all categories
6- NFPA 1 applies to all categories, in addition to referenced standards in IBC, NFPA 1 & 101
7- When a conflict between codes is identified, NFPA governs for all categories, or where one code or standard has a requirement, and another code or standard does not have a requirement the code or standard with a requirement shall apply.
8- Some communities have adopted rules and regulations that exceed State codes. Please contact them directly to learn what their requirements are and how they may affect your project. ~~**See Annex I**~~

-delete & replace in part- section 101:2.2 **National Electrical Code & Residential Electrical Safety Code**: Any reference to NFPA 70 and 73 in this Code shall be to the edition adopted by the Vermont Electricians Licensing Board.

-delete & replace in part- section 101:2.2 Reference Publications: Any reference to NFPA 5000, Building Construction and Safety Code, ~~2015~~ 2021 Edition, shall be to the **International Building Code**, ~~2015~~ 2021 edition, or International Existing Building Code, ~~2015~~ 2021 edition, as amended in this Code.

-delete & replace in part- section 101:2.3.4 Safety Code for **Elevators**: Any reference to ASME 17.1, ~~or~~ 17.3, or 17.7 in this Code shall be to the edition currently adopted by Vermont Elevator Safety Review Board.

-delete & replace- section 101:3.3.19~~08~~.7 Definition of **Health Care Occupancy**: An occupancy used for purposes of medical or other treatment or care of more than three (3) ~~three or more~~ persons on an inpatient basis, where such occupants are mostly incapable of self-preservation due to age, physical or mental disability, or because of security measures not under the occupant's control.

-delete & replace- section 101:3.3.19~~08~~.12 Definition of **Residential Board & Care Occupancy**: A building or portion thereof that is used for lodging or boarding of three or more residents, not related by blood or marriage to the owners or operators, for the purpose of providing personal care services.

-add- section 101:7.1.10.1.1 Clearance for **Inclined Lifts on Stairways**: Where a platform or chair lift is installed on an exit stair in an existing building the minimum clear width on the stair when the inclined lift is in the down position shall be

- 18" when the stair serves fewer than 10 people
- 22" where the stair serves fewer than 50 people

-as required by this Code when the stair serves 50 or more people

Where a platform or chair lift is installed on an exit stair in a new building the minimum clear width on the stair when the inclined lift is in the down position shall be as required by this Code.

-delete & replace- section 101:7.2.2.4.5.5 **Handrail Clearance**: New handrails shall be installed to provide a clearance of not less than 1 ½" nor more than 2 ¼" between the handrail and the wall to which it is fastened.

-add- section 101:7.2.2.4.5.12 (IRC 311.7.8.5 item 2) **Type II Handrails**: Within a dwelling unit, Type II Handrails may be utilized, with a perimeter greater than 6-1/4 inches (160 mm) shall provide a graspable finger recess area on both sides of the profile. The finger recess shall begin within a distance of 3/4 inch (19 mm) measured vertically from the tallest portion of the profile and achieve a depth of at least 5/16 inch (8 mm) within 7/8 inch (22 mm) below the widest portion of the profile. This required depth shall continue for at least 3/8 inch (10mm) to a level that is not less than 1-3/4 inches (45 mm) below the tallest portion of the profile. The minimum width of the handrail above the recess shall be 1-1/4 inches (32 mm) to a maximum of 2-3/4 inches (70 mm). Edges shall have a minimum radius of 0.01 inch (0.25 mm).

-delete & replace- section 101:7.2.2.6.5 **Outside Stairs, Accumulation of Snow, Ice or Water**: New outside stairs, ramps and landings, other than the primary entrance, shall be designed to minimize the accumulation of snow, ice and water by a roof or other approved means. [cross reference to 1:14.4.1.]

-add- section 101:7.~~12~~13.3 **Boiler Room Exits**: Two means of egress shall be provided for boiler rooms exceeding 500 sq. ft. floor area ~~and~~ or containing one or more boilers having an aggregate fuel input capacity of 1,000,000 BTU/HR or more. Each elevation shall be provided with at least two means of egress, each to be remotely located from the other. A platform at the top of a single boiler is not considered an elevation.

-delete & replace- section 101:9.1.2 **Electrical Systems**: All electrical wiring and equipment shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the currently adopted NFPA 70, National Electrical Code and NFPA 73, Residential Safety Code, ~~as adopted by the Electricians' Licensing Board.~~ as adopted and modified by the Vermont Electrical Safety Rules and approved by the Electricians Licensing Board.

-add- section 101:9.2.3.1 **Isolated Cooking Operations**: The requirements for the hood, grease removal devices, duct and fixed fire extinguishing system may be modified by the AHJ for cooking operations in free standing tents, mobile units or other small buildings located greater than 30' from grandstands or other public buildings and occupied by employees only, when the clearance to combustibles, safety controls, portable fire extinguishers, staff training, fuel use, storage and shut-off of fuel, and electrical shut off for equipment are in compliance with this Code.

-add- section 101:9.2.3.2 **Limited Use Cooking Operations Protection & Ventilation**: Where appropriate, the authority having jurisdiction may approve the use of a UL300A compliant hood and suppression system for installation overtop of a cooking appliance(s) in accordance with the applicable

testing document's scope and manufacturers requirements.

-add- section 101:9.4.1.1 **Shunt-trip:** Elevator shunt-trip is not permitted under Vermont Elevator Safety Rules, as currently adopted. ~~section 2.8.3.3.2.~~.

-add- section 101:9.4.2.5 **New Elevator Hoistway:** All new elevator hoistways 3 or more stories in height shall be non-combustible or limited combustible construction and the car enclosure materials shall meet the requirements of ASME A17.1, Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators as currently adopted by the Vermont Elevator Safety Rules.

-add- section 101:9.6.1.~~6~~7 **Fire Alarm Circuit Classification**: All newly installed fire alarm systems in healthcare, detention & correctional, residential board & care occupancies, assembly occupancies with more than 300 people, and all high-rise buildings, shall be electrically wired as a Class A system.

-delete & replace- section 101:9.6.2.10.~~7~~9 **Power for Smoke Alarms**: All smoke alarms shall be directly wired to a non-dedicated electrical branch circuit for the building and by battery, or by other methods approved by the AHJ.10-year tamper resistant smoke alarms shall be allowed in existing sleeping rooms where allowed in dwellings units constructed prior to 1994.

-add- section 101:9.6.2.10.~~11~~13 ~~**Photoelectric**~~ **Smoke Alarms**: All smoke alarms shall be the photoelectric-only-type **OR** UL 217 labeled.

~~-delete & replace- section 101:9.6.3.2.1: **Elevator**: Elevator lobby smoke detectors used solely for recall, shall not be required to activate the building evacuation alarm if detectors are monitored by the building fire alarm system, and if such detectors initiate a supervisory signal at a constantly attended location.~~

~~-add- section 101:9.6.3.2.1.1 **Shunt-trip:** Elevator shunt-trip is not permitted under Vermont Elevator Safety Rules, section 2.8.3.3.2.~~

~~-add- section 101:9.6.3.2.1.2 **Elevator Sprinkler:** Sprinkler head located at top of elevator shaft per NFPA 13:8.15.5.5 & 13:8.15.5.6 is deleted under Vermont Elevator Safety Rules (2.8.3.3.2).~~

-add- section 101:9.6.4.2.1 **Telecommunication Marking**: Where Emergency Force Notification is provided the fire alarm control panel and the demarcation point for all fire alarm systems shall be marked as to the method of emergency forces to assist in the periodic inspection of the fire alarm. The sticker/tag shall be adhered, or tie rapped at the demarcation point, and shall include the following; Plain Old Telephone Service (POTS Numbers), Internet Protocol (IP), Radio/Master Box Number, Private Radio, Cellular Units or Managed Facilities Voice Network (MFVN), Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP).

-add- section 101:9.6.4.5 **Single Line DACT**: A Digital Alarm Communicator Transmitter (DACT) utilizing a single line, without a secondary transmission means as required by NFPA 72:26.6.~~3.2.1.4~~ 4.1.4, shall be permitted where a fire alarm system is not required to provide emergency forces notification under this Code when no other means is available. A secondary transmission means, ONLY when available, is to be provided by any means available 72:26.6.~~3.2.1.4(A)~~ 4.1.4(A).

~~[Commentary: Vermont amendments to NFPA 13, 13D, 13R and 25 are found in NFPA 1:13.3]~~

-delete & replace- section 101:9.9 **Portable Fire Extinguishers**: Portable fire extinguishers shall be located, installed, inspected and maintained in accordance with NFPA 1 section 13.6.

-add- section 101:9.12.1 **Power for Carbon Monoxide Alarms**: All newly installed carbon monoxide alarms ~~(detectors) in multiple unit dwellings, lodging or rooming houses, hotels and dormitories, educational or other buildings in which people sleep,~~ shall be directly wired to a non-dedicated electrical branch circuit for the building and by battery. ~~Carbon monoxide detectors in one-two family dwellings that existed prior to October 22, 2005, shall be permitted to be electrically or battery powered by any approved source~~. 10-year tamper resistant carbon monoxide (CO) alarms shall be allowed in existing sleeping rooms where required by the occupancy chapter for dwellings units constructed prior to 1994.

-add- section 101:9.12.2 **Carbon Monoxide Alarms for Through the Wall Vent Termination**: In buildings other than where people sleep, carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in areas adjacent to, but not outside of the distance established in the manufacturer's instructions, for all fuel ~~fired heating~~ burning appliances vented through the wall and terminating less than 7 feet above ground level.

-add- section 101:9.12.3 **Carbon Monoxide/Fire Alarm Interconnection**). Where desired carbon monoxide alarms may be integrated into the fire alarm system control panel. Notification appliances installed as part of the fire alarm system may be used for CO alarm detection notification of the building occupants when the notification appliances have been installed in compliance with the appropriate sections of NFPA-72. Requirements do not apply to single-station or multi-station Carbon Monoxide Alarm devices.

-delete & replace- section 101:12.3.5.1 (4), (5). **Extinguishment Requirements**: Any Bars and Restaurants where the aggregate occupant load of the assembly occupancies exceeds 100 persons shall be protected.

-add- section 101:13.1.1.~~4.16~~ Change of Ownership: **A place of assembly that changes ownership**, OR is leased to an alternate party, OR increases the occupant load, shall not be occupied or used until a permit for use and occupancy has been issued by the authority having jurisdiction.

-add- section 101:14.4.4.4.1 **Partition Heights:** Open plan schools shall have furniture, fixtures or partitions no greater than 5 feet above finished floor and so arranged that exits will be clearly visible and unobstructed, and exit paths are direct, not circuitous.

-delete & replace- section 101:14.7.2.3(1) **Emergency Egress, Relocation Drills & Lockdown**: Emergency egress and relocation drills, in accordance with the school's emergency preparedness plan, shall be conducted in accordance with the annual Drill ~~schedule listed in Annex IV.~~ Guidance Memorandum issued by the Vermont School Safety Center, The Division of Fire Safety and the Agency of Education.

-delete & replace- section 101:15.2.1.2 **Student Occupied Space**: Rooms normally occupied by preschool, kindergarten or first grade students shall be located on a level of exit discharge, unless otherwise permitted by 15.2.1.4. Rooms with 4 or fewer students, where the ratio of students to teachers or aides does not exceed 2:1 at any time, are not considered normally occupied by students in regard to this section.

-delete & replace- section 101:15.3.4.4**: Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Educational:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 15.3.4.4 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

(2) Inside any separate room or area where occupants may sleep.

-add- section 101:15.4.4.4.1 **Partition Heights:** Open plan schools shall have furniture, fixtures or partitions no greater than 5 feet above finished floor and so arranged that exits will be clearly visible and unobstructed, and exit paths are direct, not circuitous.

-delete & replace- section 101:15.7.2.3(1) **Emergency Egress, Relocation Drills & Lockdown**: Emergency egress and relocation drills, in accordance with the school's emergency preparedness plan, shall be conducted in accordance with the annual Drill ~~schedule listed in Annex IV.~~ Guidance Memorandum issued by the Vermont School Safety Center and the Agency of Education.

-add- section 101:16.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Day-Care Occupancies**: Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 16.3.4.6 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

(2) Inside any separate room or area where occupants may sleep.

-delete & replace- section 101:16.3.5.1. **Extinguishment Requirements**: All newly constructed day care occupancies shall be protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 9.7 unless the following apply:

(1) Every room subject to client occupancy has a door leading directly to the exterior at the level of exit discharge (this shall not apply to ancillary business or storage spaces).

~~-delete & replace- section 101:16.6.3.4.5 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Daycare**: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12.1 in the immediate vicinity of each separate sleeping area.~~

-delete and replace- section 101:16.6.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide in New Day-Care Homes:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 16.6.3.4.6 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms

(2) On every occupied level of a day-care home, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any sleeping room with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-add- section 101:17.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection Existing Day-Care:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 17.3.4.6 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

(2) Inside any separate room or area where occupants may sleep.

~~-add- section 101:17.6.3.4.5 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Daycare**: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12.1 in the immediate vicinity of each separate sleeping area.~~

-add- section 101:17.6.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Day-Care Homes**: Carbon

monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 17.6.3.4.6 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms

(2) On every occupied level of a day-care home, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any sleeping room with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-delete- sections 101:18.1.1.4.3.3 and 101:18.1.1.4.3.4 **Alternative Provisions for Fire Sprinkler System during Rehabilitation Work in new Health Care Occupancies**.

-add- section 101:18.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Health Care**: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12~~.1~~ and 18.3.4.6 ~~in each nursing station~~ in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

(2) Inside any sleeping room that contains a fuel burning appliance.

(3) At each nurse's station.

-add- section 101:19.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Health Care**: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12~~.1~~ and 19.3.4.6 ~~in each nursing station~~ in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

(2) Inside any sleeping room that contains a fuel burning appliance.

(3) At each nurse's station.

-delete & replace- sections 101:19.3.5.1 & 19.3.5.3 **Existing Health Care**: Existing health care facilities shall be protected throughout by an approved supervised automatic fire sprinkler system installed in accordance with section 9.7.

-add- section 101:22.3.4.5 **Carbon Monoxide Detection** in New Detention and Correctional Facilities: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12.1 in control rooms used by the facility.

-delete- section 101:22.4.~~4~~ 5 **Renovations for Existing Non-sprinklered Detention and Correctional Facilities**

-delete & replace- section 101:22.4.~~5.1.1~~ 4.6.1.1 **Capacity of New Lockups**: Lockups in occupancies, other than detention and correctional and health care occupancies, where the holding area has capacity for more than 3 detainees shall be classified as detention and correctional occupancies and shall comply with Chapter 22.

-delete & replace- section 101:22.4.~~5~~ 6.1.3 **Requirements for New Lockups**: Lockups in occupancies, other than detention and correctional and health care occupancies, where the holding area has capacity for not more than 3 detainees, and where no individual is detained for 24 hours or more, shall comply with 22.4.~~5~~. 6.1.4 and 22.4.~~5.2.~~ 6.1.5.

-delete & replace- section 101:22.7.7 **Door Inspection**: Doors and door hardware in means of egress shall be inspected monthly by an appropriately qualified person. The inspection shall be documented.

-add- section 101:23.3.4.5 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Detention and Correctional Facilities**: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12.1 in control rooms used by the facility.

-delete & replace- section 101:23.3.5.2 **Existing Detention & Correctional**: Existing detention & correctional facilities classified as Use Condition II, III, IV or V shall be protected throughout by an approved supervised automatic fire sprinkler system installed in accordance with section 9.7.

-delete & replace- section 101:23.4.~~5~~.6.1.1 **Capacity of Existing Lockups**: Lockups in occupancies, other than detention and correctional and health care occupancies, where the holding area has capacity for more than 3 detainees shall be classified as detention and correctional occupancies and shall comply with chapter 23.

-delete & replace- section 101:23.4.~~5~~.6.1.3 **Requirements for Existing Lockups**: Lockups in occupancies, other than detention and correctional and health care occupancies, where the holding area has capacity for not more than 3 detainees, and where no individual is detained for 24 hours or more, shall comply with 23.4.5.1.4 and 23.4.5.2.

-delete & replace- section 101:23.7.7 **Door Inspection**: Doors and door hardware in means of egress shall be inspected monthly by an appropriately qualified person. The inspection shall be documented.

-add- section 101:24.1.1.1.1 **One- or Two-Family Dwellings used for Transient Lodging**: A dwelling unit that provides sleeping accommodations for a total of more than 8 people on a transient basis shall be classified in accordance with chapter 26, 28 or 29.

~~-delete & replace- section 101:24.1.1.2 **One- & Two-Family Dwellings** used for Transient Lodging: A building that provides sleeping accommodations for 8 or less people on a transient basis shall be classified as a one & two family dwelling under Chapter 24.~~

-delete & replace- section 101:24.1.1.2 **One- & Two-Family Dwellings** shall be limited to buildings containing not more than two dwelling units in which each dwelling unit is occupied by members of a single family or if utilized as transient lodging shall not exceed 8 transient occupants per dwelling unit.

-delete and replace- section 101:24.2.2.3.3(3) **New OR Replacement Window Balcony:** The window or door shall open onto a balcony meeting the following criteria:

(1) Width: minimum width of window plus 24 inches to one side.

(2) Depth: minimum 24 inches; measured out from the exterior wall face

(3) Set Down: The deck/floor shall be set down below the windowsill between 12 and 24 inches.

(4) Fire Department Access: must be readily accessible to effect rescue.

(5) Structural Load: Design loading shall be (150psf) minimum.

(6) Construction: same as construction type of the building or as permitted per NFPA 220.

(7) Guard: standard 42-inch height and not more than 4-inch spacing. NFPA 101 Sections 24.2.5.1 and 7.2.2.4

(8) Maintenance: kept clear of snow/ice and other obstructions. NFPA 101 Section 24.2.2.3.1

-add- section 101:24.2.2.3.3.1 **Existing Means of Escape**: The clear opening of an existing means of escape (escape window) under 24.2.2.3.3 shall be:

(1) Opening sash for a ~~wood, vinyl, aluminum or fiberglass framed~~ window shall be a minimum of 20" X 24" (3.3sq ft) with a total clear opening area of not less than 5 square feet of net free opening with the entire window removed.

~~(2) Opening sash of a steel framed window shall be a minimum of 20" X 24" with at least one dimension exceeded to provide not less than 5.0 square feet of net free opening.~~

(2) Replacement windows utilizing an existing rough opening shall comply with the provisions detailed in Item 1 of this section. Replacement windows with altered rough openings shall meet the requirements of new 101:24.2.2.3.3.

-add- section 101:24.2.5.7 **Stair riser heights and tread depths**: Maximum riser heights of 7 ¾ in. and minimum tread depths of 10 in. shall be permitted in new construction.

-delete & replace- section 101:24.3.4.1.3 **Smoke Alarms** must be hardwired into the building electrical system with exception of existing sleeping rooms. ~~(see matrix page 42)~~ Smoke alarms shall also be installed in all sleeping rooms. Sleeping rooms in buildings constructed prior to 1994 may be equipped with lithium battery powered 10-year tamper- resistant photoelectric and OR UL 217 labeled smoke alarms.

~~-delete & replace- section 101:24.3.4.2 **Carbon Monoxide Detection**, One-Two Family Dwellings: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12.1 outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. An additional carbon monoxide alarm (detector) shall be installed in any sleeping room that contains a fuel-burning appliance.~~

-delete and replace- section 101:24.3.4.2 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in One & Two Family Dwellings:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 24.3.4.2 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) Outside of each separate dwelling unit sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms

(2) On every occupied level of a dwelling unit, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any sleeping room with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-delete- section 101:24.3.5.1 **Fire Sprinkler Protection for One ~~and~~ &Two-Family Dwellings**.

-delete & replace- section 101:24.5.1.2 **Unvented Fuel- fired Heaters**: Unvented room heaters and unvented fireplaces shall not be used.

-add- section 101:24.6 **Subdivision of Building Spaces in One- & Two-Family Dwellings**: New one-two family dwellings shall be provided with a 1-hour fire resistance rating dwelling unit separation in accordance with 30.3.7.

-add- section 101:26.1.1.1.1 **Existing Occupancy- Lodging or Rooming Houses**: A building or portion thereof that does not qualify as a one ~~and~~ & two family dwelling under NFPA 101, Chapter 24:1.1.2, **8 or fewer guests**, that provides sleeping accommodations for a total of ~~(~~**9-16 occupants**~~)~~ on a transient or permanent basis, without personal care services, with or without meals, without separate cooking facilities for individual occupants. Existing Lodging or Rooming houses are those which were in use prior to the effective date of the adoption of the 2015 Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code. Existing occupancies must comply with the requirements for existing buildings, Chapter 26.

-add- section 101:26.1.1.1.2 **Existing Structure New Occupancy Use - Lodging or Rooming Houses**: A building or portion thereof that does not qualify as a one ~~and~~ & two family dwelling under Chapter 24.1.1.2, **8 or fewer guests**, that provides sleeping accommodations for a total of ~~(~~**9-16 occupants**~~)~~ on a transient or permanent basis, without personal care services, with or without meals, without separate cooking facilities for individual occupants. New Lodging or Rooming House Occupancy is a new use introduced after the effective date of the adoption of

the 2015 Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code. New Occupancy Use must comply with NFPA 101, Chapter 26 and 43 of the Life Safety Code. A change of use permit and certificate of occupancy is required for new occupancy in an existing building.

-add- section 101:26.1.1.1.3 **New Construction Lodging or Rooming House**: A building or portion thereof that does not qualify as a one ~~and~~ & two-family dwelling under Chapter 24.1.1.2, **8 or fewer guests**, that provides sleeping accommodations for a total of ~~(~~**9-16 occupants**~~)~~ on a transient or permanent basis, without personal care services, with or without meals, without separate cooking facilities for individual occupants. New Lodging or Rooming House Construction is a new structure constructed after the effective date of the adoption of the 2015 Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code. New occupancy construction must comply with NFPA 101, Chapter 26, for new Lodging or Rooming House construction and the International Building Code. A construction permit application and plans are required to be submitted and a construction permit issued prior to construction.

~~-delete & replace- section 101:26.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection, Lodging & Rooming:** Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12.1 outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. An additional carbon monoxide alarm (detector) shall be installed in any bedroom that contains a fuel-burning appliance.~~

-delete and replace- section 101:26.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Lodging & Rooming:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 26.3.4.6 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms

(2) On every occupied level of a lodging rooming house, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any sleeping room with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-delete & replace- section 101:26.5.2.2 **Unvented Fuel- Fired Heaters:** Unvented room heaters and unvented fireplaces shall not be used.

~~-delete & replace- section 101:28.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Hotels & Dormitories:** Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12.1 in any section of corridor or common area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor, in each sleeping room. An additional carbon monoxide alarm (detector) shall be installed in any sleeping room that contains a fuel-burning appliance.~~

-add- **Hazardous Area Protection Table** 101:28.3.2.2.2 – **Bike Storage Rooms-** Sprinklers and 1 hour fire rated.

-delete and replace- section 101:28.3.4.7 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Hotels & Dormitories:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 28.3.4.7 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor or common area, in each sleeping room.

(2) On every occupied level of a hotel or dormitory, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any separate guest room, guest suite with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-add- section 101:29.3.4.4 **Detection for Existing Hotels & Dormitories**: A corridor smoke detection system in accordance with section 9.6 shall be installed in existing hotels & dormitories other than those protected throughout by an approved supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with section 9.7.

~~-add- section 101:29.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Hotels & Dormitories**: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12.1 in any section of corridor or common area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor, in each sleeping room. An additional carbon monoxide alarm (detector) shall be installed in any sleeping room that contains a fuel-burning appliance.~~

-add- section 101:29.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Hotels & Dormitories:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 28.3.4.7 shall be in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor or common area, in each sleeping room.

(2) On every occupied level of a hotel or dormitory, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any separate guest room, guest suite with a fuel burning appliance or fuel burning fireplace.

-delete & replace- section 101:30.2.4.6(1) **Single Exit**:

(1) There are six (6) or fewer dwelling units per story.

~~-delete & replace- section 101:30.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection, New Apartment Buildings**: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12.1 outside of each~~

~~separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. An additional carbon monoxide alarm (detector) shall be installed in any bedroom that contains a fuel-burning appliance.~~

-add- **Hazardous Area Protection Table** 101:30.3.2.1.1 – **Bike Storage Rooms-** Sprinklers and 1 hour fire rated.

-delete and replace- section 101:30.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Apartment Buildings:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 30.3.4.6 shall be provided all of the following locations:

(1) Outside of each separate dwelling unit sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms

(2) On every occupied level of a dwelling unit or building, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces.

(3) Inside any sleeping room with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-delete & replace– section 101:30.3.5.1 **Sprinkler Protection New Apartment Buildings**: A supervised automatic sprinkler system shall be required except where every dwelling unit provides one of the following: ~~1) Exit door opening directly to the street or yard at ground level. 2)\Direct access to interior serving only that unit and separated from all other portions of the building by fire barriers having a 1 hour fire resistance rating with no openings therein~~

(1) Buildings containing six (6) or less dwelling units with direct access to an exit door opening directly to the street or yard at ground level. The dwelling unit shall have a minimum 1-hour fire rated separation that shall extend to the furthest point of exit discharge.

(2) Buildings containing six (6) or less dwelling units with an interior stair serving only that unit that is separated from all other portions of the building by fire barriers having a minimum 1-hour fire resistance rating with no openings therein. The fire resistance rating shall extend to the furthest point of exit discharge.

-delete & replace- section 101:30.5.2.2 **Unvented Fuel- fired Heaters**: Unvented room heaters and unvented fireplaces shall not be used.

-delete & replace– section 101:31.3.4.5.2 **Smoke Alarms Existing Apartment ~~or Residential Condo~~ Buildings**: All electrically wired smoke alarms shall be required to be provided with secondary power supply source. Interconnection of smoke alarms shall apply only to new construction. 9.6.2.10.~~3~~ 4

-delete & replace- section 101:31.3.4.5.3 **Smoke Alarms Existing Apartment ~~or Residential Condo~~ Buildings:** In buildings other than those equipped throughout with an existing, complete automatic smoke detection system, smoke alarms shall be installed in every sleeping room.

-delete & replace- section 101:31.3.4.5.4 **Smoke Alarms Existing Apartment ~~or Residential Condo~~ Buildings**: Smoke alarms are required in common areas and all levels of a building. Smoke alarms shall also be installed in all sleeping rooms. Sleeping rooms in buildings constructed prior to January 1994 may be equipped with lithium battery powered 10-year tamper-resistant photoelectric OR UL 217 labeled smoke alarms.

~~-add– section 101:31.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection, Existing Apartment Buildings**: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12.1 outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. An additional carbon monoxide alarm (detector) shall be installed in any bedroom that contains a fuel-burning appliance.~~

-add- section 101:31.3.4.6 Carbon **Monoxide Detection in Existing Apartment Buildings:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 31.3.4.6 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) Outside of each separate dwelling unit sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms.

(2) On every occupied level of a dwelling unit or building, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces.

(3) Inside any sleeping room with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-delete & replace- section 101:31.5.2.2 **Unvented Fuel- fired Heaters**: Unvented room heaters and unvented fireplaces shall not be used.

-add- section 101:32.1.1.4.1 **Assisted Living Facilities**: In addition to the requirements of this chapter a facility licensed under the Department of Aging & Disabilities Rules for Assisted Living Residences shall comply with the following:

(1) Smoke detection must be provided in addition to the complete automatic fire sprinkler protection.

(2) The fire alarm system shall provide emergency forces notification.

(3) All automatic fire sprinkler systems shall be electronically supervised.

(4) Large, assisted living facilities or assisted living residences located in apartment buildings shall meet the minimum construction requirements for existing health care occupancies in section 19.1.6.

(5) Corridors for large facilities shall not be less than 48".

(6) Subdivision of building spaces in accordance with 101:18.~~2.2.5~~3.7 shall be provided in common areas of large facilities using the same criteria as used for limited care facilities (15 square feet per resident).

~~-add– section 101:32.1.1.4.1 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Residential Care**: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in~~

~~accordance with section 9.12.1 in any section of a corridor or common area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms.~~

-delete and replace- section 101:32.2.3.4.4 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Small Residential Board & Care:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 32.2.3.4.4 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor or common area, in each sleeping room.

(2) On every occupied level of small board and care facilities, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any sleeping area with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-delete & replace- section 101:32.2.3.5.1 **New Residential Board & Care**: All new residential board & care facilities with 3 or more residents shall be protected throughout by an approved supervised automatic fire sprinkler system installed in accordance with section 9.7.

-delete- section 101:32.2.3.5.2 **Exception for Sprinkler Protection for New Small Board and Care Facilities.**

-delete and replace- section 101:32.3.3.4.9 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Large Residential Board & Care:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 32.3.3.4.9 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor or common area, in each sleeping room.

(2) On every occupied level of large board and care facilities, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any sleeping area with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

~~-add- section 101:33.1.1.4.1 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Residential Care**: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12.1 in any section of corridor or common area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms.~~

-delete- section 101:33.2.3.4.~~3~~.4.6 **Exception for Smoke Alarms in Residential Care with Sprinkler Protection.**

-delete- section 101:33.2.3.4.~~3~~.4.7 **Exception for Smoke Alarms in Residential Care with Sprinkler Protection – Battery Operated.**

-delete & replace- section 101:33.2.3.4.~~3~~.4.1 **Smoke Alarms in Sleeping Rooms in Existing Residential Care**: Approved smoke alarms shall be provided in each sleeping room in accordance with 9.6.2.10.

-add- section 101:33.2.3.4.4.8 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Small Residential Board & Care:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 33.2.3.4.4 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor or common area, in each sleeping room.

(2) On every occupied level of small board and care facilities, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any sleeping area with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-add- section 101:33.3.3.4.9 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Large Residential Board & Care:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 33.3.3.4.9 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor or common area, in each sleeping room.

(2) On every occupied level of large board and care facilities, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any sleeping area with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

~~-add- section 101:38.2.4.7 **Single Exit for New Business**: A single exit shall be permitted to be unenclosed in two-story buildings when travel distance does not exceed 75' and all areas opening to exit access stairs are provided with smoke alarms in accordance with 9.6.2.10.~~

~~-add- section 101:38.3.1.1(5) Protection of Vertical Opening in New Business: Unenclosed vertical openings shall be permitted to be unenclosed in two-story buildings when the travel distance does not exceed 75' and all areas opening to the exit access Stairs are provided with smoke alarms in accordance with 9.6.2.10.~~

-add- section 101:39.2.4.8 **Single Exit for Existing Business:** A single exit shall be permitted to be unenclosed in two-story buildings when travel distance does not exceed 75' and all areas opening to exit access stairs are provided with smoke alarms in accordance with 9.6.2.10. All smoke alarms shall be interconnected in accordance with NFPA 101 section 9.6.2.10.10.

-add- section 101:39.3.1.1(6) **Protection of Vertical Opening in Existing Business:** Unenclosed vertical openings shall be permitted to be unenclosed in two-story buildings when the travel distance does not exceed 75' and all areas opening to exit access stairs are provided with smoke alarms in accordance with 9.6.2.10. . All smoke alarms shall be interconnected in accordance with NFPA 101 section 9.6.2.10.10.

-add- section 101:43.1.2.6 **An Addition to any Existing Building or Structure** shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code, the Fire Code and the International Building Code for new construction. ~~as indicated in the matrix on page 4–5~~. The existing building plus additions shall comply with the height and area provisions of Chapter 5 of the International Building Code, and the structural requirements of the ~~2015~~ 2021 International Existing Building Code for existing building sections.

-add- section 101:43.10.1.1 **Existing Code Violations:** Historic buildings not otherwise undergoing rehabilitation work shall be permitted to use alternative solutions to correct existing code violations based on sections 43.10.4.3 through 43.10.4.11.

-delete- section 1:1.8 **Duties and Powers of the Incident Commander**

-delete & replace- section 1:1.10 **Appeals**: Requests for variances, exemptions and reconsideration of the interpretation of this Code, shall be made and processed in accordance with Section ~~8~~ 9 of this Code.

-delete & replace- section 1:1.13.1 **Certificate of Fitness**: A certificate of fitness is required for all individuals performing activities related to fire or life safety based on the qualifications as follows:

(1) Inspection, servicing or recharging of **Portable Fire Extinguishers** (Reserved)

(2) Design, installation, inspection, servicing or recharging of **Fixed Fire Extinguishing Systems** – A current certificate from the National Institute for Certificate in Engineering Technologies (NICET) for fire suppression; or from the National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors (NAFED) for Pre-Engineered Kitchen Fire Extinguishing System or Industrial Pre-Engineered Fire Extinguishing System.

(3) **Inspection, and testing of fire alarm** and detection systems and equipment – A current master electrician, journeyman electrician or type S journeyman commercial fire alarm license, issued in accordance with Title 26 V.S.A. chapter 15. Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal for master and journeyman electricians, and type S journeyman commercial fire alarm license. ~~[72:10.5.2 is deleted and replace by this section]~~

(4) **Installation, modification, or servicing of gas or oil burning heating systems**.

(a) **Delivery of Liquid Propane (LP)**: successful completion of the LP Gas Certified Employee Training Program (CETP) Book 1 (Basic Principles and Practices of Propane); Book 2.1/2.4 (Propane Delivery Operations and Cylinder Delivery) and Book 2.2 (Bobtail Delivery Operations) OR equivalent PEP modules (see Annex IV for CETP to PEP module equivalences).

(b) **Plant Operations**: successful completion of CETP Book 1; 3.1 (Maintaining ASME Tanks); 3.2 (Maintaining DOT cylinders); 3.3 (Operating Dispensing Equipment to Fill Containers) and 3.4 Maintaining Bulk Equipment OR equivalent PEP modules (see Annex IV for CETP to PEP module equivalences).

(c) (reserved)

(d) (reserved)

(e) (reserved)

(f) **Installation, Inspection and Service of LP Gas Appliances**: successful completion of CETP books 1.0; 4.1; 4.2; 4.3; and 4.4; ~~or other approved course of instruction~~. OR equivalent PEP modules (see Annex IV for CETP to PEP module equivalences). Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal every three years, including at least two hours regarding the prevention of CO leakage and the procedure for safety inspection of an existing appliance ~~(see NFPA 54- Annex G)~~.

(g) **Installation, Inspection and Service of both Natural Gas and LP Gas systems and equipment**: successful completion of the American Gas Association (AGA) course of study including "The Fundamentals of Combustion, Gas Appliance Venting, Electricity, Gas Controls, and Gas Appliances" and CETP Books 1.0, 4.1, 4.2. OR equivalent PEP modules (see Annex IV for CETP to PEP module equivalences). Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal every three years, including at least two hours regarding the prevention of CO leakage and the procedure for safety inspection of an existing appliance. ~~(see NFPA 54- Annex G).~~

(h) **Installation, Inspection and Service of Natural Gas systems and equipment:** Successful completion of the AGA course of study including "Fundamentals of Combustion, Gas Appliance Venting, Electricity, Gas Controls, and Gas Appliances; or other approved course of study. Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal every three years, including at least two hours regarding the prevention of CO leakage and the procedure for safety inspection of an existing appliance. (see NFPA 54- Annex G).

(i) **Installation, inspection and service of Oil Burning Equipment**: A Silver or Gold certificate from the National Oil heat Research Alliance (NORA). Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal including at least two hours regarding the prevention of CO leakage and the procedure for inspection, or a current NORA Silver or Gold certificate.

(j) **LIMITED installation, inspection and service of Oil Burning Equipment not including placing a new unit in service:** A Bronze certificate from the National Oil heat Research Alliance (NORA). Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal including at least two hours regarding the prevention of CO leakage and the procedure for inspection, or a current bronze certificate from NORA.

(k) **LIMITED Interior Certification: Installation, Inspection and Service of Interior or Rooftop LP Gas Equipment by HVAC technicians (not including container installation or related exterior piping)** - CETP Books 1; 4.2; 4.3; 4.4; and 4.5. OR equivalent PEP modules (see Annex IV for CETP to PEP module equivalences). Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal including at least two hours regarding the prevention of CO leakage and the procedure for safety inspection of an existing

appliance (See NFPA 54, Annex G). The entire gas installation shall be evaluated by a certified LP Gas technician having (4)(f) certification.

(5) ~~Cleaning~~, Sweeping, maintenance and evaluation of **Chimneys and Solid Fuel Burning Appliances** – A current certificate from the Chimney Safety Institute of America, Certified Chimney Professionals, OR National Chimney Sweep Guild (NCSG) at the Certified Chimney Professional Level. Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal every three years.

(6) Installation, inspection or servicing of range hood systems - (Reserved)

(7) Installation or servicing of private fire service mains and their appurtenances – (Reference 1:13.3.1.2.3)

(8) Crowd management required by the code – (Reserved)

(9) Utilization of pyrotechnics before a proximate audience – (Reserved)

(10) Installation, modification, or maintenance of liquefied petroleum gas or liquefied natural gas tanks or systems – See number 4 above

(11) Installation or modification of medical gas systems where a permit is required by Table 1.12.8(a) – (Reserved)

(12) Installation, modification, or maintenance of standpipe systems – See number 13 below

(13) Installation, modification, or maintenance of automatic sprinkler systems

(a) **Installation, maintenance, repair and testing for water-based fire protection systems** including but not limited to fire sprinkler systems regulated under NFPA 13, 13D and 13R, multipurpose piping systems, standpipe systems, aboveground fire mains and fire pumps – Completion of an approved fire sprinkler apprentice program or four years of documented supervised installation, maintenance, repair and testing experience and meeting the testing requirements established by the ~~AHJ~~ Division of Fire Safety. Fifteen hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal.

(b) **Calculations and design**, for water-based fire protection systems including but not limited to fire sprinkler systems regulated under NFPA 13, 13D and 13R, multipurpose piping systems, standpipe systems, aboveground fire mains and fire pumps - A current level III certificate, or higher, for automatic fire sprinkler systems from NICET or a fire protection engineer license issued in accordance with Title 26 V.S.A. chapter 20. A person with a certificate of fitness under this section shall also be permitted to install, maintain, repair and test fire sprinkler and standpipe systems under section 1.13.1.

(c) **LIMITED installation, maintenance, inspection and testing for domestic fire sprinkler systems** with not more than 6 sprinklers for any isolated hazard area in accordance with 101:9.7.1.2 or an automatic fire sprinkler system in accordance with NFPA 13D, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes, including multipurpose piping systems – Documented competency and experience acceptable to the AHJ. Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal. ~~[Information on the periodic inspection & tests of fire protection systems is found in NFPA 1 amended section 4.5.8.7].~~

(14) Installation, modification, or maintenance of **fire pumps** – See number 13 above

(15) Installation, modification, or maintenance of tanks, wells, or drafting points used for fire protection water supplies – (Reserved)

(16) Installation, maintenance, repair and testing for **emergency generators** – Documented competency and experience through training by the manufacturer or acceptable by the AHJ is required. Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal.

-add- 1:1.13.1.1, **TQP Helpers**: Not more than two (2) helpers may assist a technically qualified person performing activities related to fire or life safety systems required by sections (2), (4), (5), (13) and (16). TQP Helpers for Fire Alarm Inspection and Testing: Not more than two (2) helpers may assist a technically qualified person performing activities related to fire alarm and detection systems and equipment inspection and testing, Section (3) 1:1.13.1.

-delete & replace- section- 1:1.13.2 (1) **Use of Explosive materials** – A current explosive license issued in accordance with Title 20 V.S.A. 3072 by the Vermont State Police is required for the use of explosive materials in Vermont. [For license applications or additional information contact the Department of Public Safety at (802) 241-5200 or vsp.vermont.gov] (2) Fireworks displays – (Reserved)

-add- section 1:1.13.4.1 **Experience & Training**: The ~~AHJ~~ Division of Fire Safety may accept successful completion of appropriate examination or certification other than those listed in this section when the examination or certification demonstrates an equivalent level of experience and training.

-add- section 1:1.13.8.1 **Documentation for Renewal**: An application for renewal shall include:

(1) Documentation of having completed the required hours of approved related instruction regarding this Code during the previous certificate period, or maintaining the required level of certification, and

(2) A completed and signed tax certification form in accordance with Title 32 V.S.A. 3113, and

(3) A completed and signed child support certification form in accordance with Title 15 V.S.A. section 795, and

(4) A completed and signed unemployment

compensation certification form in accordance with Title 21 V.S.A. 1378, and

(5) A completed and signed fine or penalty certification form in accordance with Title 4 V.S.A. 1110.

-add- section 1:1.13.8.2 **Approval of Related Instruction**: An individual or organization providing related instruction, as required for renewal of a certificate of fitness, shall provide information on the training provided as requested by the AHJ prior to approval of the related instruction. Individuals providing the instruction shall demonstrate competency to the AHJ in the codes and standards for which the certificate of fitness is issued and shall attend such training as required by the AHJ.

~~-add-~~ -delete & replace- section 1:1.13.12.4 ~~**Due Process**~~ **Revocation or Suspension**: A person who has a certificate of fitness revoked or suspended shall be given written notification and the opportunity for a hearing following due process.

~~-delete- section 1:1.16.4.2 **Penalty Schedule**~~

-add referenced standards- section 1:2.2 **Referenced Publications**: the following standards are added to section 2.2;

NFPA 53, Recommended Practice on Materials, Equipment, and Systems in Oxygen-Enriched Atmospheres, ~~2016~~ 2021 edition.
NFPA 54, National Fuel Gas Code, 2021 Edition including Annex G.
NFPA 73, Residential Safety Code, as adopted by the Vermont Electrician's Licensing Board.
~~NFPA 92, Standard for Smoke Control Systems, 2015 edition.~~
NFPA 101A, Guide on Alternative Approaches to Life Safety, ~~2016~~ 2019 edition.
NFPA 291, Recommended Practice for Fire Flow Testing and Marking of Hydrants, ~~2016~~ 2019 edition.
~~NFPA 820 Standard for Fire Protection in Wastewater Treatment and Collection Facilities, 2012 2020 edition.~~
~~NFPA 1124, Code for the Manufacture, Transportation, Storage, and Retail Sales of Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles, 2012 2017 edition.~~

-delete & replace in part- section 1:2.2 **Reference Publications**: Any reference to NFPA 5000, Building Construction and Safety Code, ~~2015~~ 2021 Edition, shall be to the International Building Code, ~~2015~~ 2021 edition, or International Existing Building Code, ~~2015~~ 2021 edition, as amended ~~in~~ by this Code.

-delete & replace- section 1:3.3.1~~8399~~.11 **Definition of Health Care Occupancy**: An occupancy used for purposes of medical or other treatment or care of more than three (3) ~~three or more~~ persons on an inpatient basis, where such occupants are mostly incapable of self-preservation due to age, physical or mental disability, or because of security measures not under the occupant's control.

-delete & replace- section 1:3.3.1~~8399~~.2~~5~~8 **Definition of Residential Board & Care Occupancy**: A building or portion thereof that is used for lodging or boarding of three (3) or more residents, not related by blood or marriage to the owners or operators, for the purpose of providing personal care services.

-add- section 1:4.5.7.3 Place of Assembly: **A place of assembly that changes ownership**, OR is leased to an alternate party, OR increases the occupant load, shall not be occupied or used until a permit for use and occupancy has been issued by the authority having jurisdiction.

-delete & replace- section 1:4.5.8.7 **Periodic Inspection and Test of Fire Protection Systems**: Inspections and tests of fire sprinkler (other than multipurpose piping systems), suppression, emergency electrical generation, alarm, detection and any other fire protection systems, devices and equipment shall be conducted for the owner by a certified ~~sprinkler technician/~~technically qualified person (TQP) who has obtained the required certificate of fitness according to section 1.13.

~~Inspections and tests shall be conducted at least annually or semi-annually for kitchen hood suppression systems as required by a specific standard. Annual testing by a technically qualified person does not prohibit owner from inspection and testing at more frequent intervals.~~

Inspections and tests shall be conducted at least annually as required by a specific standard. Kitchen hood and Gas Island suppression systems shall be inspected semi-annually as required by NFPA 96 & NFPA 17 respectively. Annual or semi-annual testing by a technically qualified person does not prohibit owner from inspection and testing at more frequent intervals.

Household fire alarm systems in accordance with NFPA 72 Chapter 29 as adopted by these rules shall be inspected by a technically qualified person (TQP) who has obtained the required certificate of fitness according to section 1.13 annually and be provided with proof of inspection in accordance with NFPA 1 Section 4.5.8.9.

A technically qualified person shall file a written inspection report with the ~~AHJ~~ Division of Fire Safety within 14 days of completion of each inspection. The technically qualified person shall also file a duplicate copy of the written inspection report with the local AHJ in communities holding a current Municipal Inspection Agreement.

-add- section 1:4.5.8.8 **Identification of fire protection systems**: A fire protection system identification number, provided by the ~~AHJ~~ Division of Fire Safety, shall be affixed to the control panel, control valve or riser of the fire protection system to provide a unique identification number for the fire protection system.

-add- section 1:4.5.8.9 **Proof of Inspection**: Proof of inspection, approved by the ~~AHJ~~ Division of Fire Safety shall be affixed by a technically qualified person to the control panel, control valve or riser of the fire protection system after any required ~~annual or semi-annual~~ inspection has been completed as evidence of that inspection. Facilities with limited use may request kitchen hood inspection frequency to be annual, when reviewed and approved by the ~~AHJ~~ Division of Fire Safety. Intent of this code is to provide one proof of inspection sticker annually ~~to sprinkler or fire alarm systems and generators where applicable~~, regardless of inspection frequency.

-add- section 1:10.1.4.3: **Structural Failure or Collapse**: A building owner shall immediately report any structural failure or collapse that involves personal injury to the AHJ. Where the structural failure or collapse does not involve personal injury, the report shall be made within 48 hours. A registered design professional investigating an incident on behalf of the owner shall advise the owner of the requirement to report the incident. [For AHJ emergency contact during normal business hours call 1-800-640-2106. Outside of normal business hours call The State Emergency Operations Center at 1-800-347-0488]

-add- section 1:10.9.4.5 No Smoking label for small-size **Oxygen Cylinders**: All small-size oxygen cylinders shall be provided with a conspicuous no smoking precautionary label in the form of the international "no smoking" symbol, not less than 2" by 2" in size.

-delete & replace- Section 1:10.10.1 **Permits for Open Fires & Burning**: A permit is not required under these rules, but a permit shall be obtained from the Town Forest Fire Warden in accordance with Title 10 V.S.A. Chapter 83; 2645.

-add- section 1:10.11.1~~.4~~ 9 **Truss Construction Signage**: All buildings containing light weight truss construction assemblies shall be provided with signage permanently affixed at a height 4 feet above the ground located at the left side of the main entrance door on the address side of the building, at the location of the remote fire alarm annunciation panel or at the fire department connection for the fire sprinkler+ system. The sign shall be triangular in shape measuring 12 inches horizontally and 6 inches vertically and of contrasting color to the background containing the letter "F" for the truss floor assemblies, the letter "R" for truss roof assemblies and "FR" for truss floor and roof assemblies. "Light-weight truss construction" means a type of floor or roof construction whose primary structural elements are formed by a regularly spaced system of pre-engineered trusses composed of standard dimensional lumber or light gauge steel framing members.

-add- section 1:10.11.~~1~~.5 **Appliance Vent Termination**: All through the wall vents for fuel ~~heating~~ burning appliances, located less than 7 feet above ground level, shall be provided with signage permanently affixed at a height of 7 feet above ground level directly above the through the wall vent. The sign shall be a "V" shape, not less than 4 ½ inches in height, with the principal stroke of the letter "V" not less than ¾ inch in width, colored black on a white background. The sign shall contain the wording "Appliance Vent" using plainly legible letters.

-add- section 1:10.13.1.1.1 **Combustible Vegetation**: In other than Health Care, Detention and Correctional occupancies, combustible vegetation, including natural cut Christmas trees otherwise prohibited under table 10.13.1.1 shall be permitted when located in areas protected by an approved automatic fire sprinkler system.

-delete- section 1:10.14.11.1 **Permits for Crop Mazes**

-delete- section 1:10.16.1 **Permits for Parade Floats**

-delete & replace- section 1:11.1.2.1 **Electrical Systems**: All electrical wiring and equipment shall be installed and maintained in accordance with NFPA 70, National Electrical Code and NFPA 73, Residential Safety Code, ~~as adopted by the Electricians' Licensing Board.~~ as adopted and modified by the Vermont Electrical Safety Rules and approved by the Electricians Licensing Board.

-add- section 1:11.1.2.3.4 **GFCI Existing Buildings:** Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter shall be provided per NFPA 70:210.8A, as ~~required~~ amended by the Vermont Electrical Safety Rules.

-add- section 1:11.4.3 **Application of NFPA 54**: Coverage of piping systems shall extend from the point of delivery to the appliance connections. For other than undiluted liquefied petroleum gas systems, the point of delivery shall be considered to be the outlet of the service meter assembly or the outlet of the service regulator or service shutoff valve where no meter is provided. For undiluted liquefied petroleum gas systems, the point of delivery shall be considered to be the outlet of the first stage pressure regulator.

Relocated ~~-add- section 1:11.5.1.6.1 **Interruption or Discontinuance of Gas Service**: Whenever service to a customer is discontinued one of the following must be complied with:~~

~~(1) The valve that is closed to prevent the flow of gas to the customer must be provided with a locking device or other means designated to prevent the opening of the valve by persons other than those authorized by the operator.~~

~~(2) A mechanical device or fitting that will prevent the flow of gas must be installed in the service line or in the meter assembly.~~

~~(3) The customer's piping must be physically disconnected from the gas supply and the open pipe ends sealed. [reference 54:4.2.1 & 4.2.2]~~

Relocated to Section 6 - Standards Page

-add– section 1:11.~~5.1.6.2~~ 4.4 **Change in LP Gas Delivery Service**: The building owner, tenant, or

responsible party shall obtain a safety inspection that meets or exceeds NFPA 54 annex G, for gas utilization equipment by person(s) certified in accordance with section 1.13, when new fuel delivery service is provided. ~~[reference 54:8.1.]~~

Relocated ~~-delete & replace- section 1:11.5.1.6.3 **Room Heater Installations**: Unvented room heaters and unvented fireplaces shall not be used in any building or structure regulated under this code. [54:10.22.1 is deleted & replaced by this subsection. It is not the intent of this section to prohibit heaters defined under NFPA 54 section, 3.3.57.1, Industrial Air Heaters, Direct Gas- Fired Non-Recirculating, or 3.3.57.2, Industrial Air Heaters, Direct Gas-Fired Recirculating, used for large well ventilated areas.]~~
Relocated to Section 6 - Standards Page

-add- section 1:11.5.1.7.1 **Periodic Inspection of Heating Appliances**: All fuel fired heating appliances shall be cleaned and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall be inspected at least once during any 2-year period by person(s) certified in accordance with section 1.13. Inspections shall be in accordance with the standards and recommended procedures for inspection of existing appliances established under NFPA 31, 54 and 211, including the measurement of carbon monoxide in the flue gas. At the time of inspection, the appliance shall be marked with the date of the inspection and the name and certificate number of the person who performed the inspection. When the inspection determines the existing situation involves a distinct hazard to life or property and requires immediate action, the violation(s) shall be immediately corrected or the certified inspector conducting the inspection shall contact the AHJ and disconnect the heating appliance from operation.

Relocated ~~-add- section 1:11.5.1.11.1.1 **Clothes Dryer Vents**: A vent-less clothes dryer shall be permitted when listed by an approved testing agency for an electric dryer only. The vent-less clothes dryer shall have a feature that removes and disposes moisture and condensate. Vent- less gas dryer is not allowed.~~
Relocated to Section 6 - Standards Page

-delete- section 1:11.5.1.11.2 **Clothes Dryers in Dwelling Units**:

-add- section 1:11.5.4.1 **Carbon Monoxide Alarms for Through the Wall Vent Termination**: In buildings other than where people sleep, carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in areas adjacent to, but not outside of the distance established in the manufacturer's instructions, for all fuel ~~fired heating~~ burning appliances vented through the wall and terminating less than 7 feet above ground level.

-add- section 1:11.5.5 **Ash Disposal**: Where wood-burning stoves or fireplaces are installed, a metal receptacle with lid for disposal of ashes shall be provided. Written instructions shall be provided to instruct occupants on the importance of proper disposal of fireplace or woodstove ashes.

Relocated -add- section 1:13.1.1.2 **Water system supply evaluation**: Water supply for fire suppression systems shall be evaluated by an individual certified under section 1:1.13.1 for proper supply and pressure prior to plan review submittal in accordance with NFPA 13 and 24.
Relocated to Section 6 - Standards Page

Relocated ~~-add- section 1:13.3.1.2.1 **Approval of NFPA 13D Sprinkler Systems**: For all sprinkler systems designed in accordance with 13D, the technically qualified person certified under section 1.13 shall perform all required acceptance tests as required for NFPA 13R sprinkler systems, perform a water flow test for the most remote area, complete the Contractor's Material and Test Certificate(s), and forward the certificate(s) to the AHJ prior to asking for approval of the installation. Where the AHJ desires to be present during the conducting of acceptance tests, the installer shall provide the AHJ 15 day notification of the time and date of the testing.~~
Relocated to Section 6 - Standards Page

Relocated ~~-add- section 1:13.3.1.2.2 **Arrangement of Fire Department Connections**: All new & existing fire department connections shall be arranged so that water from the fire department connection shall reach the sprinkler system regardless of any manually closed control valve. This section does not apply to remote electrically supervised zone / floor control valves on systems installed in accordance with NFPA 13. [NFPA 13:8.17.2.4.3 and 8.17.2.4.4 are amended by this section]~~
Relocated to Section 6 - Standards Page

Relocated ~~-add- section 1:13.3.1.3.1 **Fire Department Connections for Existing Sprinkler Systems**: Where there is no fire department connection for an existing NFPA 13 or 13R sprinkler system, or the threads do not meet NFPA 13 section 6.8, it shall be listed as a deficiency under NFPA 25: 5.1.1 by the technically qualified person conducting the annual inspection and corrected by the owner or occupant in accordance with NFPA 25: 4.1.5.~~
Relocated to Section 6 - Standards Page

-add- section 1:13.3.1.7.1 **Seismic Protection of Fire Protection Systems**: Earthquake protection of building systems shall be limited to those buildings or structures that are categorized as essential. For purposes of this paragraph IBC Table 1604.5 IV shall be limited to hospitals; fire, rescue, & police stations; emergency vehicle garages, water storage & pumping structures and Emergency Operation Centers.

-delete- section 1:13.3.2.12 **Fire Sprinkler Protection for Existing Detention and Correctional** (see NFPA 101 for requirements)

-delete- section 1:13.3.2.17.1 **Fire Sprinkler Protection for New Apartment Buildings** (see NFPA 101 for requirements)

-delete- section 1:13.3.2.~~20.1~~ 19.1 **Fire Sprinkler Protection for One ~~and~~ & Two-Family Dwellings** (see NFPA 101 for requirements)

~~-delete-~~ section 1:13.3.2.~~21.2.1~~ 20.1.1 **Fire Sprinkler Protection for New Small Residential Board and Care** (see NFPA 101 for requirements)

~~-delete-~~ section 1:13.3.2.21.2.2 **Fire Sprinkler Protection for exception for New Small Residential Board and Care** (see NFPA 101 for requirements)

-delete & replace- section 1:13.3.2.~~27.4~~ 26.5. **Mini-storage Building**: An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout all mini-storage buildings greater than 2,500 square feet. An automatic sprinkler system is not required when one of the following is provided:

(1) Each storage unit is separated by 1-hour fire rated barrier
(2) Fire areas not exceeding 2,500 square feet provided with 2-hour fire rated barrier
(3) Provide an NFPA 72 compliant automatic fire alarm ~~fire detection~~ system with detection & emergency force notification.

Relocated ~~-delete & replace- section 1:13.5.1 **Water Supply**: Water supply for fire suppression systems shall be evaluated by an individual certified under section 1:1.13.1 for proper supply and pressure prior to plan review submittal in accordance with NFPA 13 and 24.~~ ***Relocated to Section 6 - Standards Page***

Relocated ~~-delete & replace- section 1:13.5.3 **Water Supply** Reference to NFPA 22 2013 Section 11.3 Tank Specification: Polyethylene water storage tanks or tanks meeting AWWA D120 shall be permitted for water supply of 13R sprinkler systems.~~ ***Relocated to Section 6 - Standards Page***

-add- section 1:13.~~3.1.2.3~~ 5.3.2 **Underground Private Fire Service Mains supplying Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems**: As defined in NFPA 24, standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and their Appurtenances, and in regard to this section, an underground private fire service main is the pipe and its appurtenances on private property between a source of water and the base of the system riser for a water based fire protection system. A contractor installing an underground private fire service main shall install, flush and test the piping, including completion of the "Contractor's Material and Test Certificate for Underground Piping", in accordance with NFPA 24.

A licensed professional engineer, or a person exempted under 26 V.S.A. 1163, shall design an underground private fire service main in accordance with NFPA 24 and witness the acceptance flushing and testing. The person designing and/or installing a fire sprinkler system under 1:1.13.1(10) or (11) shall verify the testing and flushing of the underground private fire service main and obtain a copy of the "Contractor's Material and Test Certificate for Underground Piping" prior to connecting to the piping. Working plans for an underground private fire service main including the items specified under NFPA 24:4 shall be submitted in accordance with section 4 of this code for a construction permit.

-add- section 1:13.5.3.~~1.1 5.2.~~.3 **Backflow Testing**: The sprinkler system TQP (Technically Qualified Person) shall be certified to conduct annual forward flow test through the sprinkler system backflow device to ensure proper water flow rate.

-add- section 1:13.~~3.1.2.4~~ 5.3.4 **Backflow Prevention for Fire Protection Systems**: A backflow prevention device, dedicated to a water-based fire protection system, shall be sized, installed and tested by a TQP certified for design, installation and maintenance of water based fire protection systems. Annual testing shall be in accordance with NFPA 25 Section 13.6. On new installations a valved connection shall be provided to conduct the "forward Flow" test. Test forms can be found at: www.nfpa.org, www.nfsa.org, and www.sprinklernet.org. ~~Policy directive dated 1/25/2016 for testable check valve and backflow preventer can be found on the Division of Fire Safety web page.~~

-add- section 1:13.~~3.1.3.2~~ 5.3.5 **Backflow Prevention for Existing Sprinkler Systems**: A backflow prevention device shall not be added to an existing fire sprinkler system that reduces the water supply or water pressure to a point lower than the minimum sprinkler system design. Sprinkler calculations verifying the modified sprinkler design shall be submitted to the AHJ.

-add- section 1:13.6.3.1.1.4 **Portable Fire Extinguishers**: Portable fire extinguishers inside individual dwelling units ~~apartment or condo units~~ shall be permitted to be 2-1/2 pound dry chemical capacity. All other occupancy types or locations shall be provided with fire extinguishers in accordance with NFPA 1:13.6.

-add- section 1:13.7.1.4.4 **Fire Alarm Circuit Classification**: All newly installed fire alarm systems in healthcare, detention & correctional, residential board & care occupancies, assembly occupancies with more than 300 people, and all high-rise buildings, shall be electrically wired as a Class A system.

-delete & replace- section 1:13.7.1.8.7 **Power for Smoke Alarms**: All smoke alarms shall be directly wired to a non-dedicated electrical branch circuit for the building and by battery, or by other methods as approved by the AHJ.

-add- section 1:13.7.1.8.11 **Photoelectric Smoke Alarms**: All newly installed smoke alarms shall be the photoelectric-only-type **OR** UL 217 labeled.

-add- section 1:13.7.1.10.~~5~~ 6 **Single Line DACT**: A digital alarm communicator transmitter (DACT) utilizing a single line, without a secondary transmission means as required by NFPA 72:~~26.6.3.2.1.4~~, Chapter 26 shall be permitted where a fire alarm system is not required to provide

emergency forces notification under this Code when no other means is available. A secondary transmission means, ONLY when available, shall be employed as listed in 72:~~26.6.3.2.1.4(A).~~ Chapter 26

-add- section 1:13.7.1.14.**1 Carbon Monoxide/Fire Alarm Interconnection**: Where desired, carbon monoxide alarms may be integrated into the fire alarm system control panel. Notification appliances installed as part of the fire alarm system may be used for CO alarm detection notification of the building occupants when the notification appliances have been installed in compliance with the appropriate sections of NFPA 72. The above requirements do not apply to single-station or multi-station Carbon Monoxide Alarm devices.

~~[Commentary: Refer to page 35 in the index for carbon monoxide detector locations.]~~

-add- section 1:14.10.2.3 **Snow Removal**: All portions of the means of egress, including outside stairs and fire escapes, shall be kept clear of any accumulation of snow and ice at all times that the building is occupied. For multi-family dwellings with direct exit access to the outside and one ~~and~~ & two-family dwellings snow and ice shall be removed as soon as practicable.

-add- section 1:14.10.2.4 **Clearance for Inclined Lifts on Stairways**: Where a platform or chair lift is installed on an exit stair in an existing building the minimum clear width on the stair when the inclined lift is in the down position shall be:

- 18" when the stair serves fewer than 10 people
- 22" where the stair serves fewer than 50 people
- as required by this Code when the stair serves 50 or more people.

Where a platform or chair lift is installed on an exit stair in a new building the minimum clear width on the stair when the inclined lift is in the down position shall be as required by this Code.

-delete- section 1:16.~~6~~ 7.1 **Permits for Torch Applied Roofing Systems**

-delete- section 1:16.~~7~~. 8.1.2- **Permits for the placement of Tar Kettles**

-delete- section 1:16.~~8~~ 9 **Asbestos Removal:** [The Vermont Department of Health regulates the removal of asbestos containing materials, as well as the training for persons who remove asbestos containing materials. For additional information, contact the Vermont Department of Health, Health Protection Division (1-800-439-8550)]

-delete- **Chapter 17 Wildland Urban Interface**

~~-delete & replace- section 1:18.3.1 **Water Supplies**: An approved water supply capable of supplying the required fire flow for fire protection shall be NFPA 1142: Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting, 2012 Edition.~~

-add- 1:18.4.1.1.1 **Water Supplies**: The alternative water supply allowed by Section 18.3.1.1 shall be capable of supplying the required fire flow for fire protection in accordance with NFPA 1142: Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting.

-delete- section 1:19.1.1 **Commercial Rubbish-Handling Operations Permit**

-delete & replace- section 1:20.2.4.2.3 **Emergency Egress and Relocation Drills**: Emergency egress and relocation drills, in accordance with the school's emergency preparedness plan, ~~shall be conducted in accordance with drill schedule listed in Annex V.~~ shall be conducted in accordance with the annual Drill ~~schedule listed in Annex IV.~~ Guidance Memorandum issued by the Vermont School Safety Center, The Division of Fire Safety and the Agency of Education.

-delete & replace- sections 1:20.9.2.2, 1:20.10.2 & 1:20.11.2 **Unvented Fuel-fired Heaters**: Unvented fuel-fired heaters shall not be used. ~~[101: 30.5.2.2; 101:31.5.2.2; 101:26.5.2.2 and 101:24.5.1.2 are deleted and replaced by this section]~~

~~-delete- sections 1:20.11.4 through 1:20.11.4.6: Fire Protection of Floors.~~

~~-delete- section 1:20.11.5: Manufactured Housing~~

-add- section 1:20.12.2.2.3 **Smoke Alarm & Carbon Monoxide Alarm** – Consumer Information: Information provided by the AHJ, on the type, placement and installation of smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms, shall be posted in the retail sales area where the alarms are sold.

Relocated ~~-delete & replace- section 1:20.15.6 **Record Storage** refers to NFPA 232 6.10.2: 6 hour vault shall be permitted to provide a 4-hour door.~~ ***Relocated to Section 6 - Standards Page***

~~Section 1:20.17.2 delete only pertaining to NFPA 909 2013 edition Historical Buildings & Cultural Resources section 9.12: Prescriptive-Based Option~~.

-delete- section 1:22.2 Automobile Wrecking Yard Permit

~~-delete & replace-~~ -add- section 1:25.1.2.1 **Permits for ~~Membrane Structures,~~ Tents and Canopies**: Permits shall not be required for ~~an air-supported membrane structure,~~ a tent or canopy less than ~~in excess of~~ 1200 sq. ft. ~~shall comply with 1:1.12.8.~~

-add- Section 1:25.1.7 **Detection, Alarm & Communications Systems:** Deleted for tents only, when tent is erected for less than 180 days (NFPA 102 section 9.6).

~~-delete & replace-~~ -add- section 1:29.1.2.1 **Enclosed Parking Garage Ventilation/Carbon Monoxide Detection**: A mechanical ventilation system in accordance

with NFPA 88A in conjunction with carbon monoxide detection system shall be provided. ~~Guidelines are provided on the Division web page. See memorandum dated 4/18/14 – Enclosed Parking Structures.~~ The use of the 2021 International Mechanical Code Section 404 Mechanical Ventilation of Enclosed Parking Garage is an accepted alternative.

-add- section 1:29.1.4 5 **Ventilation for Occupied Spaces Adjacent or Accessory to Parking Structures**: In addition to ventilation requirements under 88A:6.3 or the 2021 edition of the International Mechanical Code section 404 for enclosed parking structures, all connecting spaces or contained spaces such as offices, waiting areas, ticket booths and similar areas shall be maintained at a positive pressure, or a method approved by the AHJ. This provision shall not apply to parking structures attached to one & two family dwellings.

-delete & replace- sections 1:30.3.4.4.1, **NEW Electric Vehicle Repair Garages Extinguishment Requirements**: Automatic sprinkler protection installed in accordance with the requirements of Section 13.3 shall be provided throughout all fire areas in newly constructed buildings containing electric vehicle maintenance and repair.

-delete- section 1:41.1.5 **Permits for Welding, Cutting & other Hot Work**

Relocated ~~-delete & replace- section 1:42.3.3.2 **Aboveground Storage Tanks for Fuel Dispensing** All aboveground tanks storing Class I liquids shall be fire resistant tanks in accordance with Section 42.3.3.4. [30A:4.3.2 is deleted & replaced by this section]~~ ***Relocated to Section 6 - Standards Page***

Relocated ~~-delete & replace- section 1:42.3.3.2.4 **Location of Aboveground Tanks for Fuel Dispensing**: Tanks involved with fuel dispensing storing Class I liquids shall be located in accordance with Table 42.3.3.2.4. Tanks containing other liquids regulated under this chapter shall be permitted to be located with minimum separation requirements ½ of the distances in Table 42.3.3.2.4. [30A:4.3.2.4 is deleted & replaced by this section]~~ ***Relocated to Section 6 - Standards Page***

-add- section 1:42.7.2.~~5.4~~ 6.4.1 **Extinguishing Agent**: A copy of the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS/SDS) for the extinguishing agent shall be kept at all locations where automatic fire suppression systems are installed. ***Relocated for correct section ordering***

-add- section 1:42.7.4.3.2 **Training for Attendants**: All attendants for self-service fuel dispensing facilities shall receive initial and periodic training regarding the requirements of the Fire Code including preventing the dispensing of gasoline into unapproved portable containers, making sure that the portable container is on the ground while filling, controlling sources of ignition such as smoking and requiring the motor of the vehicle to be shut off, activating emergency controls and notifying the fire department of any fire, and handling accidental spills and fire extinguishers as needed. A poster listing the duties of this section and section 42.7.4.5, approved by the AHJ, shall be posted at the normal workstation of the attendant. ***Relocated for correct section ordering***

-add- section 1:42.7.4.5 **Power Disconnect**: An attendant for a self-service fuel dispensing facility shall disconnect the power to any pump when the attendant observes the dispensing of gasoline into an unapproved portable container, filling of a portable container that is not on the ground, the motor of the vehicle had not been stopped, smoking materials are being used within 20 ft. of the fuel dispensing, a person has blocked open the hose nozzle valve or a person has left the pump unattended, and the power shall not be restored until the violation is abated. ***Relocated for correct section ordering***

-delete & replace- section 1:42.7.5.6 **Fire Suppression Systems**: Approved automatic fire suppression systems shall be required at all **unattended self- service fuel dispensing** facilities **including card-lock, key-lock and fleet-refueling facilities** where non- employee third parties are allowed to dispense Class 1 flammable liquids.

Approved automatic fire suppression systems shall also be required where unique and special circumstances constituting a serious risk to public safety require the use of such systems in order to adequately protect users, as determined by the authority having jurisdiction.

Approved automatic fire suppression systems shall not be required at any full-service or self-service fuel dispensing facility where an employee is on duty during all hours of operation, and where such employee is able to view and supervise all fuel dispensing operations, in accordance with 42.7.4. Direct supervision shall not be achieved by the use of closed-circuit television or other audio/visual means.

-add- section 1:42.7.5.7 **Fire Suppression Systems – Alternative Design**: Where otherwise exempted under this code a fire suppression system shall be permitted to be installed in accordance with the appropriate NFPA standard and the manufacturers' instructions that do not meet the listing requirements of UL 1254.

-add- section 1:42.7.5.8 **Existing Fire Suppression Systems**: Systems currently in use that were installed prior to May 31, 2002, shall be inspected and certified annually and shall continue to meet the standards for installation and operation incorporated into the Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code. A system installed prior to May 31, 2002, that is no longer operable shall be removed and:

a) be replaced with a system that meets the listing requirement of UL 1254, or

(b) be replaced by a previously listed system that does not meet the listing requirements of UL 1254, or.

(c) be removed from service and not replaced after

notification, inspection and approval from the AHJ.

-add- section 1:50.2.1.10 **Isolated Cooking Operations**: The requirements for the hood, grease removal devices, duct and fixed fire extinguishing system may be modified by the AHJ for cooking operations in free standing tents, mobile units or other small buildings located greater than 30' from grandstands or other public buildings and occupied by employees only, when the clearance to combustibles, safety controls, portable fire extinguishers, staff training, fuel use, storage and shut-off, and electrical shut off for equipment are in compliance with this Code.

-add- section 1:50.4.1.1 **Cooking Operations - Acceptance Testing of a Suppression System**: An acceptance test shall be conducted by person(s) holding Vermont TQP status to ensure the system functions as designed. This test shall include a "puff test" discharging nitrogen or other approved inert gas through the system's agent distribution piping to allow verification of piping continuity including verification of gas discharge to each of the discharge nozzle(s)/ or other approved acceptance test per manufacture requirements and accepted by the AHJ. In addition, this test shall also include a demonstration of all critical functions of the system including but not limited to any required gas or electric shut down, any required make-up air shut down, any required building fire alarm connection, and visually provide confirmation of nozzle size and placement per the design plans when completed.

Relocated ~~-add- section 1:50.1.1.1 Exhaust Fan Activation deleting 96:8.2.3.3~~ ***Relocated to Section 6 - Standards Page***

-delete & replace- section 1:51.1.2.1 **Permits for Industrial Ovens and Furnaces**: Permits for new installations, alterations or extensions to existing equipment shall comply with 1.12.

-delete & replace- section 1:53.1.2.1 **Permits for Mechanical Refrigeration**: A permit is not required for an existing facility that is in compliance with reporting requirements under the Vermont Community Right to Know Law, Title 20 V.S.A. Chapter 1.

~~-delete- Chapter 54 Ozone Gas-Generating Equipment~~

-add- section 1:60.1.~~2.3~~.1.1 **Permits for Hazardous Materials**: A permit is not required for an existing facility that is in compliance with reporting requirements under the Vermont Community Right to Know Law, Title 20 V.S.A. Chapter 1.

~~[Information regarding chapter 65, **Explosives and Fireworks**- A license is required to possess, purchase, store, use, transport, give, transfer or sell explosives. For license applications or additional information contact the Division of State Police at (802) 244-8718.~~

~~The Division of Fire Safety regulates the safekeeping, storage, use, manufacturing, sale, handling, and other disposition of explosive material under this Code. The Division of Fire Safety also regulates the construction, manufacturing, storage, handling and use of fireworks for supervised public displays and pyrotechnic special effects under this Code.~~

~~It is unlawful for any person to offer for sale, sell at retail or wholesale, possess, use or explode any fireworks except as permitted for a supervised public display of fireworks.~~

~~A permit for a supervised public display of fireworks may be obtained from the Chief of the Fire Department, or in towns where there is no Fire Department from the board of selectman, where it is determined the display would not be hazardous to property or endanger the public. Application for a permit must be made at least 15 days in advance of the public fireworks display.~~

~~**Sparklers** less than 14 inches long with no more than 20 grams of pyrotechnic mixture and novelty sparkling items limited to snakes, party poppers, glow worms, smoke devices, string poppers, snappers, or drop pops with no more than 0.25 grains of explosive mixture, that are in compliance with United States Consumer Product Safety Commission regulations, are legal for sale and use in Vermont.]~~

-delete & replace- section 1:65.1.1

Explosives:

A license is required to possess, purchase, store, use, transport, give, transfer or sell explosives. For license applications or additional information, contact the Department of Public Safety – Division of State Police at (802) 241-5200.

The Department of Public Safety - Division of Fire Safety retains jurisdiction over the construction, manufacturing, and storage of explosive materials within public buildings as regulated under this Code.

Fireworks:

The Department of Public Safety - Division of Fire Safety retains jurisdiction over the construction, manufacturing, and storage of fireworks within public buildings as regulated under this Code.

The Division of Fire Safety retains jurisdiction over the construction, manufacturing, storage, handling and use of fireworks for supervised public displays and pyrotechnic special effects under this Code.

-delete & replace- section 1:65.3.3 **Permits for Public Fireworks Displays**: A permit for a supervised public display of fireworks shall be obtained from the chief of the fire department, or in towns where there is no fire department the board of selectperson, after determining the display would not be hazardous to property or endanger the public. Application for a permit must be made at least 15 days in advance of the public fireworks display.

-add- section 1:65.10 **Consumer Fireworks**: The sale, handling and storage of consumer fireworks, including sparklers permitted for sale in Vermont, in both new and existing buildings, structures and facilities shall comply with NFPA 1124, ~~2012~~ 2017 edition.

-add- section 1:65.10.1 **Exempt Amounts of Consumer Fireworks**: Consumer fireworks retail sales facilities or stores where the fireworks and sparklers are in packages in accordance with the U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and where the total quantity of consumer fireworks and sparklers in the building does not exceed 125 lb (net) of pyrotechnic composition shall be exempt. ~~from the following sections:~~
~~1124:7.3.2 4.2 Permits~~
~~1124:7.3.5 4.5 Construction~~
~~1124:7.3.6 Automatic Sprinkler System 1124:7.3.9 Fire Alarms~~
~~1124:7.3.10 Smoke Control~~
~~1124:7.3.12 Separation distances~~

-delete & replace- section 1:66.1.5 **Permits for Flammable & Combustible Liquids**: A permit is not required for an underground storage tank regulated by the Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation, according to NFPA 30. All USTs are required to be registered with the Agency except for:

(a) Tanks less than 1100 gallons containing fuel oil (#2-#6) which is used for on premises heating and domestic hot water, and
(b) Farm and residential tanks less than 1100 gallons containing motor fuel which is used for noncommercial purposes.

-add- section 1:69.1.1.4 **Record of Installation for LP Gas Containers**: Installers shall maintain a record of all installations for which a permit is not required by section 69.1.1.3, but not including replacing of portable cylinders, available for inspection by the AHJ.

-delete & replace- section 1:69.1.2 **LP Gas Tanks Installations – Permits Required:** any underground or above ground tank larger than 2000 gallons; or any multiple tank installation with an aggregate capacity of over 4000 gallons; or any container where liquid product is transferred from one to another tank or cylinder, such as portable tank filling stations.

Relocated ~~-add- section 1:69.3.6.1.7 All other **Underground Containers** shall be provided with a reflective marker or other readily visible marker acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction, at 4' in height to mark the location of the location of the housing cover. [58:6.6.6.1(C) is deleted & replaced by this subsection]~~ ***Relocated to Section 6 - Standards Page***

-add- section 1:82 **Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Installation Requirements**

-add- section 1:82.1 All installations where **CNG trailers** will be utilized to supply energy will require a permit approved by the Vermont Division of Fire Safety and/or The Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) to ensure all safety concerns are considered prior to any use of the facility. The permit request shall have all drawings indicating piping and safety systems.

-add- section 1:82.2 The permit Requestor shall provide training to the local Fire Department, prior to the installation of the terminal for the trailer. The training will include as a minimum:

(a) Specifics in regard to the trailer
(b) Properties of Natural Gas
(c) Safety mechanisms built into the trailers
(d) Emergency Contact numbers for the permit Requestor

-add- section 1:82.3 All installations where trailers are used as the source of CNG shall be equipped with break-away protection. This requirement is to ensure that if a trailer is driven away or rolls away that the hose lines, if ruptured, will not allow product to escape.

-add- section 1:82.4 Trailers shall have an interlock device installed to disallow movement of the trailer, if the rear doors are open.

-add- section 1:82.5 Security will be addressed when the permit is requested. Security cameras and fencing shall be provided.

-add- section 1:82.6 Lighting shall be required at the sites, which meet electrical code, to provide a deterrent to vandals and provide heightened safety or workers.

-add- section 1:82.7 The location of the trailer, when parked for connection to the facility, shall not be underneath a roof or overhang of any structure.

-add- section 1:82.8 Each installation shall have a Fire Safety Analysis document completed, which includes:

(a) The effectiveness of product control measures
(b) An analysis of local conditions of hazard within the contained site.
(c) Exposure to or from other properties, population density and congestion.
(d) The probable effectiveness of plant Fire Brigades or local Fire Departments based on adequate water supply, response time and training.
(e) Consideration for the adequate application of water by hose stream or other method for effective control of leakage, fire or other exposures.
(f) If necessary, a designated time period for review of the Fire Safety Analysis with local emergency response agencies to ensure pre-planning and emergency response plans for the installation are current.

Section 5 ICC, International Building Code (IBC) ~~2015~~ 2021 Edition

Including standards referenced in Chapter 35 to the prescribed extent of each reference by adopted section of the IBC

The IBC is adopted to the extent necessary to ensure compliance with the performance requirements of this Code and the intent of this Code regarding safeguarding of people and property in case of fire, explosion, dangerous structural conditions and the generation of carbon monoxide.

-delete- IBC chapter 1 Administration except for section 107 (Submittal Documents) as appropriate and the following sections:

-delete & replace- IBC section 101.4 Referenced Codes: Where referenced under the IBC any reference to the:
*__ICC Electrical Code__, shall be to the National Electrical Code, NFPA 70, as adopted by the Electricians Licensing Board,
*__International Existing Building Code__ (IEBC): ~~2015~~ 2021 edition, structural requirements only,
*__International Fuel Gas Code__, shall be to the National Fuel Gas Code, NFPA 54 ~~2015~~ 2021 edition including Annex G as adopted under this Code,
*__International Mechanical Code__, shall be to the Fire Code, NFPA 1, ~~2015~~ 2021 edition, including NFPA 90A, as adopted under this Code, unless specifically adopted within these rules,
*__International Plumbing Code__ shall be as adopted by the Plumbers Examining Board,
*__International Property Maintenance Code__, shall be to the Fire Code, NFPA 1, ~~2015~~ 2021 edition and the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101, ~~2015~~ 2021 edition, as adopted under this Code,
*__International Fire Code__, shall be to the NFPA 1 Fire Code, ~~2015~~ 2021 edition, as adopted under this Code,
*__International Energy Conservation Code__, with Vermont Specific additions and revisions shall be to the Vermont Building Energy Standards, as published by the Vermont Department of Public Service (802-828-3183),
*__International Residential Code__, or to R-3 Occupancy Classification for one- & two-family dwellings, shall be to the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101, ~~2015~~ 2021 edition as adopted under this Code, unless specifically adopted within these rules.

-delete & replace- IBC section 105 **Construction Permits**: Permits shall be obtained in accordance with section ~~7~~ 8 of the Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code.

Relocate ~~-add- IBC section 117 **Structural Failure or Collapse**: A building owner shall immediately report any structural failure or collapse that involves personal injury to the AHJ. Where the structural failure or collapse does not involve personal injury the report shall be made~~

~~within 48 hours. A registered design professional investigating an incident on behalf of the owner shall advise the owner of the requirement to report the incident~~

~~[For AHJ emergency contact during normal business hours call 1-800-640-2106. Outside of normal business hours call The State Emergency Operations Center at 1-800-347-0488]~~ ***Relocated to NFPA 1***

-delete & replace- IBC section: 308.2.4 A facility with 3 or more clients receiving care shall be classified as an R-4 occupancy. A facility with 2 or less persons shall be classified and regulated in accordance with the applicable occupancy chapter of NFPA 101.

~~-delete & replace- IBC section 308.3 **Group I-1, Residential Board & Care Facilities**: Assisted Living Facilities and similar use: Residential care facilities, assisted living facilities and similar use in which three or more clients receive care shall be classified and regulated in accordance with the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101, and the IBC for structural design.~~

~~-delete & replace- IBC section 308.6 **Day Care Facilities**: Day care facilities in which four or more clients receive care shall be classified and regulated in accordance with the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101, and the IBC for structural design.~~

-add- IBC section: 310.~~5~~ 4.3 R-3 **Detached One- & Two-Family Dwellings**: Detached one & two family dwellings shall be classified and regulated in accordance with the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101.

-delete- IBC section 406.6.2 **Enclosed Parking Garage Ventilation**: See NFPA 1 section 29.1.2.1.

~~-delete & replace- IBC section 415.12 **Protection of Semiconductor Fabrication Facilities**: In addition to requirements set elsewhere in this code semiconductor fabrication facilities shall be in accordance with NFPA 1, and NFPA 318.~~

-delete- IBC Table 504.3 **Note (d)**

-delete & replace- IBC Table 504.3 **Note (h):** New Group R occupancies are required to be protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system as required by NFPA 101 as adopted by this Code.

-delete- IBC Table 504.4 **Note (d)**

-delete & replace- IBC Table 504.4 **Note (h):** New Group R occupancies are required to be protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system as required by NFPA 101 as adopted by this Code.

-delete- IBC Table 506.2 **Note (d)**

-delete & replace- IBC Table 506.2 **Note (h):** New Group R occupancies are required to be protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system as required by NFPA 101 as adopted by this Code.

~~-delete & replace- IBC section 506.3.1 **Open Space for Area Increase**: To qualify for an area factor increase based on frontage, a building shall have not less than 25 percent of its perimeter on a public way or open space. Such open space shall be either on the same lot or dedicated for public use, clear and unobstructed at all times, usable for fire department operations and accessed from a street or fire department access road in accordance with NFPA 1: chapter 18~~.

~~-delete & replace- IBC section 507.2 **Open Space for Unlimited Area Buildings**: Open space required under section 507 shall be either on the same lot or dedicated for public use, clear and unobstructed at all times, usable for fire department operations and accessed from a street or fire department access road in accordance with NFPA 1: chapter 18.~~

-add- IBC section 703.5.1 **Penetration Labeling Penetrations and Joints**: In buildings 3 stories and greater, and in buildings listed in Table 1604.1 risk category III and IV the through penetration firestop systems and fire-resistant joint systems requiring protections shall be permanently identified with a marking system. The marking system shall be located within 2 inches of the through penetration firestop system. For fire-resistant joint systems, the marking system shall be located within 15 feet of the end of each wall or floor and at intervals not exceeding 30 feet measured horizontally along the wall or partition. The marking system shall be legible and contain, at a minimum, the following information. The required marking system shall provide the following information:

- Do Not Disturb - Firestop System
- System Design Listing Number (or Engineering Judgement)
- Date of Installation

-delete & replace- IBC Section 706 **Fire Walls**: The design and construction of new Fire Walls and High Challenge Fire Walls shall be in accordance with NFPA 1 Section 12.3.1 and NFPA 221. and the following: The minimum fire resistance rating for Fire Walls and High Challenge Fire Walls shall be three hours; for buildings with complete supervised automatic sprinkler systems on both sides of the fire wall, the minimum fire resistance rating shall be two hours. High Challenge Fire Walls shall be utilized for buildings containing an occupancy in categories “III” or “IV” listed on Table 1604.5 IBC.

-delete & replace- IBC chapter 8 **Interior Finishes**: Interior finishes shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 902 **Fire Pump and Riser Room**: Fire Pump and Riser Room shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 and Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 903.2.8: New Group R occupancies are required to be protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system as required by NFPA 101 & NFPA 1 as adopted by this code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 903.2.11.1.1 **Opening Dimensions and access:** Openings shall have a minimum dimension of not less than 30 inches. Access to such openings shall be provided for the fire department from the exterior and shall not be obstructed in a manner such that firefighting or rescue cannot be accomplished from the exterior. An overhead garage door is not considered an opening.

-delete & replace- IBC section 904 **Alternative Automatic Fire Extinguishing Systems**: Alternative Automatic Fire Extinguishing Systems shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 and Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 905 **Standpipe Systems**: Standpipe Systems shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 and Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 906 **Portable Fire Extinguishers**: Portable Fire Extinguishers shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 and Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 911 **Fire Command Center**: Fire Command Center shall be in accordance with the Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 912 **Fire Department Connection**: Fire department connections shall be in accordance with the Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 913 **Fire Pumps**: Fire Pumps shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 and Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 915 **Carbon Monoxide Detection**: Carbon Monoxide Detection shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 and Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 917 **Mass Notification Systems**: Mass Notification Systems shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 and Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 918 **Emergency Responder Radio Coverage**: Emergency Responder Radio Coverage shall be in accordance with the Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC chapter 10 **Means of Egress**: Means of Egress shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC chapter 11 **Accessibility**: All new construction and alterations shall be in accordance with the currently adopted "Vermont Access Rules" as adopted by the Vermont Access Board.

-delete- IBC chapter 12 **Interior Environment** except for section 120~~9~~8.1 Crawl Spaces & 120~~9~~8.2 Attic Spaces Access to Unoccupied Spaces.

-delete & replace- IBC chapter 13 **Energy Efficiency**: Certification, approved by the Department of Public Service, indicating compliance with the current Vermont Commercial Building Energy Standards (CBES), for the design and construction of any public building, other than one & two family dwellings and multi-family dwellings three stories or less in height, shall be affixed in a visible location inside the building, in the vicinity of the heating or cooling equipment or the electrical service panel, as a condition for a final occupancy permit.

[Note: The Department of Public Service provides technical assistance and expert advice regarding the energy standard requirements for new construction. This includes criteria that builders may use in lieu of computer or systems analysis of the building. For additional information contact the Vermont Department of Public Service at 1-888-373-2255.]

-delete & replace- IBC Section 1608.2 **Ground Snow Loads**: The map "Ground Snow Loads for Vermont by Town or City" from Annex VII of these rules shall be used in determining the minimum ground snow load. Ground snow loads above 2500 feet above sea level shall be approved by the AHJ and shall be based on an extreme value statistical analysis of data available in the vicinity of the site using a value with a 2-percent annual probability of being exceeded (50-year mean recurrence interval), or other means acceptable to the AHJ.

-add- IBC Section 1608.2.1 ~~**IBC**~~ **Minimum Roof Snow Load**: The total roof snow load, including additional loading effects due to drifting snow, sliding snow, unbalanced loading conditions and partial loading conditions, shall not be less than 40 psf for roofs with a slope less than or equal to 5 degrees, and shall not be less than the slope factor (Cs) times 40 psf for roofs with a slope greater than 5 degrees.
This minimum roof snow load shall not apply to the windward side for unbalanced loading conditions, or to the partially loaded spans for partial loading conditions.

~~Note: Additional guidance for adjusting ground snow loads to account for elevation at sites below 2500 feet above sea level can be found in the "Average Snowfall Map" in Annex VII of these rules.~~

-delete & replace- IBC section 1612.3 **Establishment of Flood Hazard Area**: Where established by a municipality by ordinance or zoning standard the flood hazard area shall be identified by one of the following:

(1) Special flood hazard area designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), or
(2) Most recent flood insurance rate map (FIRM), or
(3) Area subject to flooding during the design flood and shown on a municipal flood hazard map.~~, or~~
~~(4) Most recent maps and studies adopted by a municipality for a flood with less than a 1 % chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.~~

-delete & replace – IBC 1705.18 **Fire-resistant penetrations and joints.** In high-rise buildings, in buildings assigned to *Risk Category* III or IV in Table 1604.1, or in fire areas containing Group R occupancies that are three or greater stories, special inspections for through-penetrations, membrane penetration firestops, fire-resistant joint systems and perimeter fire containment systems that are tested and listed in accordance with Sections 714.4.1.2, 714.5.1.2, 715.3.1 and 715.4 shall be in accordance with Section 1705.18.1 or 1705.18.2.

-delete & replace- IBC section 1809.5 **Frost Protection**. Except where otherwise protected from frost, foundations and other permanent supports of buildings and structures shall be protected from frost by one or more of the following methods:

(1) Extending below the frost line of the locality, but not less than 5'-0" below finished grade.
(2) Constructing in accordance with ASCE 32.
(3) Erecting on solid rock.

delete & replace- IBC sections 2111, ~~through~~ 2112 & 2113: **Masonry Fireplaces, Heaters and Chimneys**: Masonry fireplaces, heaters and chimneys shall be in accordance with the Standard for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents and Solid Fuel-Burning Appliances, NFPA 211, as adopted under this Code.

~~-delete & replace- IBC 2603.5.5 **Vertical and lateral fire propagation**: The exterior wall assembly shall have an evaluation report which provides details of the assemblies tested, in accordance with NFPA 285 and/or NFPA 285 test results extended via a third-party engineering analysis. Exception: One-story buildings complying with Section 2603.4.1.4.~~

-delete & replace- IBC chapter 27 **Electrical**: Electrical components, equipment and systems shall be in accordance with the National Electrical Code, NFPA 70, as adopted by the Electricians' Licensing Board.

-delete & replace- IBC chapter 28 **Mechanical Systems**: Mechanical equipment and systems shall be installed in accordance with the Fire Code, NFPA 1, including NFPA 90A as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC chapter 29 **Plumbing Systems**: Plumbing work is regulated under the Vermont Plumbing Rules as adopted by the Plumbers Examining Board.

-delete & replace- IBC section 3001 **Elevators and Conveying Systems**: Elevator and conveyance work is regulated under the Vermont Elevator Safety Rules as adopted by the Elevator Safety Review Board.

-add- section IBC section 3002.1.3 **New Elevator Hoistway:** All new elevator hoistways 3 or more stories in height shall be non-combustible or limited combustible construction and the car enclosure materials shall meet the requirements of ASME A17.1, Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators as currently adopted by the Vermont Elevator Safety Rules.

-delete & replace- IBC section 3002.4. **Required Locations**: An **elevator car** of such a size and arrangement to accommodate an ambulance stretcher (24" X 84") as specified in section 3002.4 shall be provided where a passenger elevator is newly installed in a building **three or more stories in height** above or below grade plane/grade level. This section shall not apply to the installation of a Limited-Use / Limited-Application elevator approved by the Vermont Access Board.

-delete & replace- IBC section 3004.4 **Personnel and Material Hoists**: Personnel and Material Hoist work is regulated under the rules of the Vermont Occupational and Safety Administration.

-delete & replace- IBC section 3005.5 **Shunt Trip**: Elevator shunt-trip is not permitted under Vermont Elevator Safety Rules, section 2.8.3.3.2.

-delete- IBC section 3107 Signs

-delete- IBC section 3108 Telecommunication and Broadcast Towers

-delete- IBC section 3109 Swimming Pool Enclosures and Safety Devices

-delete- IBC section 3110 Automatic Vehicular Gates

-delete & replace- IBC Solar Energy Systems section 3111.2 through 3111.3.5. Solar photovoltaic systems shall be in accordance with NFPA 1 as adopted under this Code.

-delete- IBC Chapter 32 Encroachments into the Public Right-of-Way

-delete & replace– IBC chapter 33 **Safeguards During Construction**: Safety during construction shall be in accordance with the Standard for Safeguarding Construction, Alteration and Demolition Operations, NFPA 241 and Chapter 16 of NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

INTERNATIONAL EXISTING BUILDING CODE (IEBC)

~~2015~~ 2021: The purpose and intent of IEBC adoption is for structural requirements only, no other requirements within the IEBC shall apply in buildings undergoing renovation, demolition, reconstruction, modification and repair.

Section 6 Amendments to Referenced Codes & Standards

This section shall amend specific sections within Codes and Standards adopted by reference in Sections 3, 4 & 5

NFPA 13 (2019):

-delete & replace- section 13: 9.3.6.5 **Elevator Hoistway**: Sprinklers shall not be installed at the top of elevator hoistways as required by the Vermont Elevator Safety Rules.

-delete- section 13:9.3.6.6 **Elevator Hoistway Construction:**

Relocated -delete & replace- section 13:~~8.17.2.4.3~~ 16.12.5.4 **Arrangement of Fire Department Connections**: All new fire department connections shall be arranged so that water from the fire department connection shall reach the sprinkler system regardless of any manually closed control valve. This section does not apply to remote electrically supervised zone/floor control valves on systems installed in accordance with NFPA 13.

-delete & replace- section 13:~~8.17.2.4.4~~ 16.12.5.5 **Fire Department Connections and underground piping.** Fire department connections shall not be attached to underground piping

NFPA 13D (2019):

-add- section 13D:11.3 **Residential Sprinkler Functional Flow Testing:** A bucket test shall be required as the functional flow test to ensure adequate water delivery to the remote design location. The contractor shall complete the Contractor's Material and Test Certificate(s) and forward the certificate(s) to the AHJ.

NFPA 13R (2019):

-add- section 13R:6.6.5.1.2 Where NFPA 13R sprinkler systems are installed and only a single means of egress or escape is provided, sprinklers shall be required in any portion of a building that is a part of the single means of egress or means of escape including any exterior porch or balcony, exterior stair, canopy, porte-cocheres, or carport.

-add- section 13R:10.3 **Residential Sprinkler Functional Flow Testing:** A bucket test shall be required as the functional flow test to ensure adequate water delivery to the remote design location.

NFPA 22 (2018):

Relocated -add- section 22:11.3.1: Tank Specification: Polyethylene water storage tanks or tanks meeting AWWA D120 shall be permitted for water supply storage for 13R sprinkler systems.

NFPA 25 (2020):

-add- section 25:13.7.4 **International Plumbing Code Requirements.** In addition to the requirements of Sections 13.7.1, 13.7.2 and 13.7.3, all Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of backflow prevention assemblies shall also comply with the applicable section of the International Plumbing Code and Vermont Plumbing Rules as currently adopted.

Relocated -add- section 25:13.8.6 **Arrangement of Existing Fire Department Connections**: All existing fire department connections shall be arranged so that water from the fire department connection shall reach the sprinkler system regardless of any manually closed control valve. This section does not apply to remote electrically supervised zone / floor control valves on systems installed in accordance with NFPA 13.

Relocated -add- section 25:13.8.7 **Fire Department Connections for Existing Sprinkler Systems**: Where there is no fire department connection for an existing NFPA 13 or 13R sprinkler system, or the threads do not meet NFPA 13 section 6.8, it shall be listed as a deficiency under NFPA 25: 5.1.1 by the technically qualified person conducting the annual inspection and corrected by the owner or occupant in accordance with NFPA 25: 4.1.5.

NFPA 30A (2021):

Relocated -add- section 30A:4.3.6.7 **Aboveground Storage Tanks for Fuel Dispensing**: All aboveground tanks storing Class I liquids shall be fire resistant tanks in accordance with Section 4.3.4

Relocated -delete & replace- section 30A:4.3.2.4 **Location of Aboveground Tanks for Fuel Dispensing:** Tanks involved with fuel dispensing storing Class I liquids shall be located in accordance with Table 4.3.2.4. Tanks containing other liquids regulated under this chapter shall be permitted to be located with minimum separation requirements ½ of the distances in Table 4.3.2.4

NFPA 54 (2021):

Relocated -add- section 54:4.2.3 **Interruption or Discontinuance of Gas Service**: Whenever service to a customer is discontinued one of the following must be complied with:

(1) The valve that is closed to prevent the flow of gas to the customer must be provided with a locking device or other means designated to prevent the opening of the valve by persons other than those authorized by the operator.
(2) A mechanical device or fitting that will prevent the flow of gas must be installed in the service line or in the meter assembly.
(3) The customer's piping must be physically disconnected from the gas supply and the open pipe ends sealed.

-delete & replace- section 54:10.22.3 **Room Heater Installations:** Unvented room heaters and unvented fireplaces shall not be used in any building or structure regulated under this code.
[It is not the intent of this section to prohibit heaters defined under NFPA 54 section, 3.3.57.1, Industrial Air Heaters, Direct Gas- Fired Non-Recirculating, or 3.3.57.2, Industrial Air Heaters, Direct Gas-Fired Recirculating, used for large well-ventilated areas.]

NFPA 58 (~~2017~~ 2020)
Relocated -add- section 58:6.8.6.1(C)(1) All other Underground Containers shall be provided with a reflective marker or other readily visible marker acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction, at 4' in height to mark the location of the housing cover.

NFPA 96 (~~2017~~ 2021)
Relocated -delete- section 96:8.2.3.2 **Exhaust Fan Activation**

-delete- section 96:8.2.3.3 **Exhaust Fan Activation**

NFPA 211 (~~2016~~ 2019)
Relocated -add- section 211:10.7.3.3.1 **Clothes Dryer Vents**: A vent-less clothes dryer shall be permitted when listed by an approved testing agency for an electric dryer only. The vent-less clothes dryer shall have a feature that removes and disposes moisture and condensate. Vent- less gas dryer is not allowed.

NFPA 232 (2017):
Relocated -delete & replace- section 232:6.10.2 The vault door shall have a minimum fire resistance rating of 4 hours.

NFPA 855 (2020):

-add- section 4.3.5.1(4) Signage shall be located on the exterior of the building on the primary electrical service entrance equipment and on any ancillary control equipment servicing the ESS system.

-add- section 4.3.5.2(6) location designator: B – Basement, G – Garage, L(#), Floor level where the ESS equipment is located if other than the basement.

NFPA 2001 (~~2015~~ 2018):
-add- section 2001:4.1.1.2.1 A building which is not required to be protected with an automatic sprinkler system is not required to provide reserve agent supply.

-add- section 2001:4.1.1.2.2 Reserve agent supply is not required when the protected area is 300 square feet or less in area when the building is protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system. Sprinkler heads may be omitted from the clean agent protected area. The clean agent protected area shall be separated from other adjacent rooms or building areas by 1-hour fire resistive rated construction with a self-closing, positive latching fire door assembly of at least 45 minutes.

-add- section 2001:4.1.1.2.3 Protected areas greater than 300 square feet in sprinklered buildings shall have sprinkler protection and shall comply with one of the following:

(1) Sprinkler system may be controlled by a visible operating valve outside the protected room.
(2) A reserve agent supply must be provided that can be manually operated by fire department personnel using the same piping system and must be capable of being activated/discharged by the fire department from outside of the protected room.

Section ~~67~~ Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspection

~~The following nationally recognized safety standards are adopted by reference and shall apply to all boilers and pressure vessels covered under these rules.~~

~~(1) National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors, National Board Inspection Code, (NBIC 2015 edition) Part 1 – Installation; Section 2.4.1, Part 2 – Inspection, Part 3 – Repair and Alteration.~~

~~(2) ASME Standards – 2015 edition~~
- ~~(a) Section I – Power Boilers~~
- ~~(b) Section II – Material Specifications, Part A – Ferrous~~
- ~~(c) Section II - Material Specifications, Part B – Nonferrous~~
- ~~(d) Section II - Material Specifications, Part C – Welding Rods, Electrodes and filler Metals~~
- ~~(e) Section IV – Heating Boilers~~
- ~~(f) Section V – Nondestructive Examination~~
- ~~(g) Section VIII – Pressure Vessels, Division I~~
- ~~(h) Section VIII – Pressure Vessels, Division 2 – Alternative Rules~~
- ~~(i) Section IX – Welding and Brazing Qualifications~~
- ~~(j) Section X – Fiber-Reinforced Plastic Pressure Vessels~~

~~(3) B31.1 Power Piping, ANSI 2012 Edition~~

~~(4) CSD-1-2015 Controls and Safety Devices for Automatically Fired Boilers~~

~~(a) A boiler is defined as a closed vessel in which water is heated, steam is generated, steam is superheated, or any combination thereof, under pressure or vacuum by the direct application of heat from the combustion of fuel or from electricity. The term includes a fired unit for the heating or vaporizing of liquids other than water where the unit is separate from a processing system and is complete within itself. An unfired pressure vessel is defined as a container of pressure obtained from an external source that exceeds 15 psi. This section shall apply to all boilers, and pressure vessels identified in the National Board Inspection Code (NBIC) except:~~

- ~~i) A boiler or pressure vessel Located on a common carrier subject to regulations under the Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation, Federal Railroad Administration or Nuclear Regulatory Commission.~~
- ~~ii) Pressure containers that are integral parts or components of rotating or reciprocating mechanical devices such as pumps, compressors, turbines, generators, engines and hydraulic or pneumatic cylinders where the primary design consideration and /or Stress is derived from the functional requirements of the device.~~
- ~~iii) Hot-water heaters and potable water~~
- ~~iv) storage tanks with a heat input of less than 200,000 BTU/HR, water temperature less than 210 degrees (F) and less than 120 gallons water capacity.~~
- ~~v) Steam cleaners or coil type boilers without steam space where water flashes into steam when manually released through a nozzle for cleaning machinery, equipment, etc.; when the water capacity is less than 6 gallons and the water temperature less than 350 degrees~~
- ~~vi) A system for heating a building or other processes using an open vessel (characterized by a continuously open vent or vents of adequate size designed so that the vessel will not operate above atmospheric pressure) are not regulated under the NBIC but are subject to other requirements of this code and other rules and standards adopted by the Division, including obtaining all required permits and inspections.~~

~~(b) Units exempted under this section shall be equipped with approved pressure/temperature safety relief devices in accordance with NBIC.~~

~~(c) All boilers and pressure vessels shall be designed, manufactured, constructed and assembled in accordance with the relevant standards published by the:~~
- ~~i) American Society of Mechanical Engineers;~~
- ~~ii) Canadian Standards Association;~~
- ~~iii) European Committee for Standardization, for boilers with a maximum water jacket size of 60 gallons, a maximum input of 250,000 Btu, and a maximum relief valve setting of 30 pounds per square inch gauge; or~~
- ~~iv) European Committee for Standardization, for boilers or pressure vessels with an input of greater than 250,000 Btu or a water jacket size of greater than 60 gallons as approved by the commissioner.~~

~~(d) All boilers shall be installed with controls and safety devices and pressure vessels shall be installed with over-pressure protection in accordance with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler And Pressure Vessel Code Sections I, IV and VIII or by the European Committee for Standardization of Boilers.~~

~~(e) The manufacturer's design information, instructions, data plates and warning labels for all boilers and pressure vessels shall be in English and include the words inch/pounds.~~

~~(f) The owner or person installing a boiler or pressure vessel shall report to the AHJ the location, type, capacity, age and date of~~

installation of any boiler or pressure vessel.

(g) Prior to being placed in service any boiler or pressure vessel shall be inspected by a commissioned inspector. When the boiler or pressure vessel is found to be in compliance with this Code the commissioned inspector shall attach an identification number, approved by the AHJ, and an initial inspection certificate in a format approved by the AHJ. The inspection certificate shall be posted at the site of operation. The identification number, initial inspection by a commissioned inspector and operating certificate shall not be required for boilers designed to heat individual dwelling units. Boiler(s) connected to a single system with a total aggregate heat output capacity of less than 199,000 BTU/hr serving apartments or residential condos are not required to have a commissioned inspection and operating certificate.

(h) The periodic inspection of boilers and pressure vessels shall be performed by a Vermont commissioned inspector at intervals listed in this section. A commissioned inspector may require additional external (an inspection made when a boiler or pressure vessel is fully intact so all safety features can be inspected) or internal (an inspection made when a boiler or pressure vessel is shut down and hand-holes, manholes or other inspection openings are opened for inspection of the interior) inspections when unsafe conditions or operations are observed or suspected. The AHJ may order the owner or user to stop operation of a boiler or pressure vessel operating in violation of this Code.

i) Each high-pressure power boiler in which steam is generated at a pressure of more than 15 pounds per square inch, and high temperature water boilers shall be inspected both internally and externally while not under pressure on an annual basis, and externally, while in operation and under pressure, approximately six months from the internal inspection.

ii) Each low-pressure hot water heating boiler installed to operate at pressures not to exceed 160 pounds per square inch and/or temperatures not exceeding 250 degrees (F), and each low-pressure steam boiler operating at a pressure not exceeding 15 pounds per square inch, shall be inspected externally every two years. A steam heating boiler operating at a pressure not exceeding 15 pounds per square inch, shall be inspected externally, and internally where construction permits, every two years. An inspection shall not be required for boilers designed to heat individual dwelling units.

iii) Cast iron boilers shall be inspected externally every two years. Steel boilers shall be inspected every two years. When the type of construction of the boiler permits, such inspection shall be an internal inspection at least every three years for steam boilers and an internal inspection at least once every five years for hot water boilers, in addition to the two-year external inspection. A grace period beyond the periods specified above may be permitted between inspections, at the discretion of the commissioner.

iv) New steam boiler installations shall provide at least one testable low water cutoff operating control and one testable high limit control with manual reset. This does not preclude having additional LWCO controls.

v) All new low-pressure hot water heating boilers and hot water supply boilers shall provide at least one testable low-water cutoff with a manual reset.

vi) Each pressure vessel greater than 5 cubic feet and operating with a relieving pressure greater than 125 pounds per square inch shall be inspected externally, and internally where construction permits, every three years. An internal inspection is not required for a rubber lined pressure vessel.

(i) An employee of an insurance company, licensed to insure boilers and pressure vessels in Vermont, shall obtain a current Vermont commission to inspect boilers and pressure vessels prior to conducting any inspections. A current commission from the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors is required to obtain a Vermont commission. A Vermont commission may be revoked or suspended for violation or misrepresentation of responsibilities established under this Code. A person who has a Vermont commission revoked or suspended shall be given written notification and the opportunity for a hearing following due process.

(j) An employee of an insurance company, licensed to insure boilers and pressure vessels in Vermont, who has obtained a Vermont commission, and/or the insurance company, licensed to insure boilers and pressure vessels in Vermont shall:

i) Inspect all boilers and pressure vessels insured by the insurance company in accordance with this Code and at time frames established under this Code.

ii) Report the results of all inspections to the AHJ within 30 days of the inspection in a format approved by the AHJ.

iii) Notify the AHJ of new boilers or pressure vessels insured, insurance cancelled or not renewed or refused within 30 days.

iv) Participate in training as may be directed

~~by the AHJ.~~

~~v) Not engage in the sale of, or have any interest in, any appliance or device related in any way to the construction, operation or maintenance of boilers and pressure vessels covered under this Code.~~

~~(k) The owner, user or commissioned inspector shall immediately report any accident, incident or explosion involving a boiler or pressure vessel that involves personal injury to the AHJ at 1-800-347-0488 and secure the scene to prevent any change that would hamper the investigation of the incident. Where the accident, incident or explosion does not involve personal injury the report shall be made within 48 hours.~~

~~(l) The insurance company of record shall pay a fee of $30.00 to the Division of Fire Safety for each inspection certificate or periodic inspection sticker.~~

~~Relocated –add- NFPA 101 section 7.12.3 (page 5) **Boiler Room Exits**: Two means of egress shall be provided for boiler rooms exceeding 500 sq. ft. floor area and containing one or more boilers having an aggregate fuel input capacity of 1,000,000 BTU/HR or more. Each elevation shall be provided with at least two means of egress, each to be remotely located from the other. A platform at the top of a single boiler is not considered an elevation.~~

A. Intent:

It is the intent of these rules to prescribe standards and procedures for the safe design, construction, use and maintenance of boilers and pressure vessels to protect all persons from harm arising from fire and explosions related to boilers and pressure vessels.

B. Adopted Standards:

The following nationally recognized safety standards are adopted and shall apply to all boilers and pressure vessels covered under these rules:

(1) National Board Inspection Code (NBIC) 2021 Edition, Parts 1, 2 & 3.
(2) American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code-2021 Edition (a) through (j):
(a) Section I – Power Boilers
(b) Section II – Material Specifications, Part A – Ferrous
(c) Section II - Material Specifications, Part B – Nonferrous
(d) Section II - Material Specifications, Part C – Welding Rods, Electrodes and filler Metals
(e) Section IV – Heating Boilers
(f) Section V – Nondestructive Examination
(g) Section VIII – Pressure Vessels, Division I
(h) Section VIII – Pressure Vessels, Division 2 – Alternative Rules
(i) Section IX – Welding and Brazing Qualifications
(j) Section X – Fiber-Reinforced Plastic Pressure Vessels
(3) B31.1 Power Piping, ANSI 2020 Edition,
(4) ASME CSD-1 2021 Edition, Controls and Safety Devices for Automatically Fired Boilers.

C. Application:

These rules apply to all new and existing boilers and pressure vessels. A boiler is defined as a closed vessel in which water is heated, steam is generated, steam is superheated, or any combinations thereof, under pressure or vacuum by the direct application of heat from the combustion of fuel or from electricity. The term boiler includes a fired unit for the heating or vaporizing of liquids other than water where the unit is separate from a processing system and is complete within itself. An unfired pressure vessel is defined as a container with pressure obtained from an external source that exceeds 15 psi.

D. Exemptions:

These rules shall not apply to the following boilers and pressure vessels:

(1) A boiler or pressure vessel located on a common carrier subject to the regulations under the Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation, Federal Railroad Administration or Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
(2) Pressure containers that are integral parts or components of rotating or reciprocating mechanical devices such as pumps, compressors, turbines, generators, engines and hydraulic or pneumatic cylinders where the primary design consideration and/or stress is derived from the functional requirements of the device.
(3) Water heaters and potable water storage tanks with a heat input of less than 200,000 BTU/HR, water temperature less than 210 degrees F and less than 120 gallons water capacity.
(4) Steam cleaners or coil type boilers without steam space where water flashes into steam when manually released through a nozzle for cleaning machinery, equipment, etc.; when the water capacity is less than 6 gallons, and the water temperature is less than 350 degrees F.
(5) A system for heating a building or other process using an open vessel (characterized by a continuously open vent or vents of adequate size designed so that the vessel will not operate above atmospheric pressure) is not regulated under the NBIC but is subject to other requirements of this code and other rules and standards adopted by the Division, including obtaining all required permits and inspections. Units exempted under this section shall be equipped with approved pressure/temperature safety relief devices in accordance with the NBIC.
(6) Buffer tanks shall be considered a component of piping.

E. Design, Construction, Controls and Notification:

All boilers and pressure vessels shall be designed, manufactured, constructed and assembled in accordance with the relevant standards published by the:

(1) American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. Canadian Standards Association;

(2) European Committee for Standardization, for boilers with a maximum water jacket size of 60 gallons, a maximum input of 250,000BTU/HR, and a maximum relief valve setting of 30 pounds per square inch gauge (psig), or

(3) European Committee for Standardization, for boilers or pressure vessels with an input of greater than 250,000 BTU/HR or a water jacket size of greater than 60 gallons, as approved by the Commissioner of Public Safety.

(4) All boilers shall be installed with controls and safety devices and pressure vessels shall be installed with over-pressure protection in accordance with the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Sections I, IV, and VIII, or by the European Committee for Standardization of Boilers.

(5) The manufacturer's design information, instructions, data plates and warning labels for all boilers and pressure vessels shall be in English. All numerical values may be expressed in either inch-pound or metric (SI) units.

(6) The owner or person installing a boiler or pressure vessel shall report to the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ), the location, type, capacity, age and date of installation of the boiler or pressure vessel.

F. Required Inspections:

(1) Prior to being placed in service, any boiler or pressure vessel shall be inspected by a commissioned inspector. When the boiler or pressure vessel is found to be in compliance with this Code, the commissioned inspector shall attach an identification number, approved by the AHJ, and an **initial inspection certificate** in a format approved by the AHJ. The inspection certificate shall be posted at the site of the operation. The identification number, initial inspection by a commissioned inspector and operating certificate shall not be required for boilers designed to heat individual dwelling units. Boilers connected to a single system with a total aggregate heat output capacity of less than 199,000 BTU/HR serving apartments or residential condominiums are not required to have a commissioned inspection and operating certificate.

(2) The **periodic inspection** of boilers and pressure vessels shall be performed by a Vermont Commissioned inspector at intervals listed in this section. A commissioned inspector may require additional external (an inspection made when a boiler or pressure vessel is fully intact so all safety features can be inspected) or internal (an inspection made when a boiler or pressure vessel is shut down and hand-holes, manholes or other inspection openings are opened for inspection of the interior) inspections when unsafe conditions or operations are observed or suspected. The AHJ may order the owner or user to stop operation of a boiler or pressure vessel operating in violation of this Code.

i) Each high-pressure power boiler in which steam is generated at a pressure of more than 15 pounds per square inch, and high temperature water boilers shall be inspected both internally and externally while not under pressure on an **annual** basis, and externally, while in operation and under pressure, approximately six months from the internal inspection.

ii) Each low-pressure hot water heating boiler installed to operate at pressures not to exceed 160 pounds per square inch and/or temperatures not exceeding 250 degrees F., and each low-pressure **steam boiler** operating at a pressure not exceeding 15 pounds per square inch, shall be inspected externally every **two years**. A steam heating boiler operating at a pressure not exceeding 15 pounds per square inch shall be inspected externally, and internally where construction permits, every **two years.** An inspection shall not be required for boilers designed to heat **individual dwelling units.**

iii) **Cast iron boilers** shall be inspected externally every **two years**. Steel boilers shall be inspected every **two years**. When the type of construction of the boiler permits, such inspection shall be an internal inspection at least every **three years** for steam boilers and an internal inspection at least once every **five years** for hot water boilers, in addition to the **two-year** external inspection. A grace period beyond the periods specified above may be permitted at the discretion of the Commissioner of Public Safety.

iv) New **steam boiler** installations shall provide at least one testable low water cutoff operating control and one testable high limit control with manual reset. This does not preclude having additional low water cutoff controls.

v) All new low-pressure hot water heating boilers and hot water supply boilers shall provide at least one testable low water cutoff with a manual reset.

vi) Each automatically fired low-pressure hot water heating boiler shall have an automatic low-water fuel cutoff which has been designed for hot water service, and it

shall be so located as to automatically cut off the fuel supply when the surface of the water falls to the level established by the boiler manufacturer.

vii) Each pressure vessel greater than 5 cubic feet and operating with a relieving pressure greater than 125 pounds per square inch shall be inspected externally, and internally where construction permits, every **three years**. An internal inspection is **not** required for a rubber-lined pressure vessel.

G. Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors:

(1) An employee of an insurance company, licensed to insure boilers and pressure vessels in Vermont, shall obtain a current Vermont commission to inspect boilers and pressure vessels prior to conducting any inspections. A current commission from the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors is required to obtain a Vermont commission. A Vermont commission may be revoked or suspended for violation or misrepresentation of responsibilities established under this Code. A person who has a Vermont commission revoked or suspended shall be given written notification and the opportunity for a hearing following due process.

(2) An employee of an insurance company licensed to insure boilers and pressure vessels in Vermont, who has obtained a Vermont commission, and/or the insurance company licensed to insure boilers and pressure vessels in Vermont **shall:**

i) Inspect all boilers and pressure vessels insured by the insurance company in accordance with this Code and at time frames established under this Code.

ii) Report the results of all inspections to the AHJ within 30 days of the inspection in a format approved by the AHJ.

iii) Notify the AHJ of new boilers or pressure vessels insured, insurance cancelled or not renewed or refused within 30 days.

iv) Participate in training as may be directed by the AHJ.

v) Not engage in the sale of, or have any interest in, any appliance or device related in any way to the construction, operation or maintenance of boilers and pressure vessels covered under this Code.

(3) The owner, user or commissioned inspector shall immediately report any accident, incident or explosion involving a boiler or pressure vessel that involves personal injury to the AHJ at 1-800-347-0488 and secure the scene to prevent any change that would hamper the investigation of the incident. Where the accident, incident or explosion does not involve

(4) personal injury the report shall be made within 48 hours.

(5) The insurance company of record shall pay a fee of $30.00 to the Division of Fire Safety for each inspection certificate or periodic inspection sticker.

H. Boiler Room Exits:

(1) Two means of egress shall be provided for boiler rooms exceeding 500 sq. ft. or containing one or more boilers having an aggregate fuel input capacity of 1,000,000 BTU/HR or more. Each elevation shall be provided with at least two means of egress located remotely from each other. A platform at the top of a single boiler is not considered an elevation.

-delete & replace- section I-3724(a) **Low Water Cutoff**: Each automatically fired low-pressure hot-water heating boiler shall have an automatic low-water fuel cutoff which has been designed for hot-water service, and it shall be so located as to automatically cut off the fuel supply when the surface of the water falls to the level established by the boiler manufacturer.

Section ~~7~~8 Application for a Construction Permit

(1) The owner, or a designated representative, of a building or premises shall obtain a construction permit before beginning any construction, addition, alteration, rehabilitation, demolition or installation of fixed building equipment at the building site unless specifically waived by the AHJ.

(2) To obtain a construction permit the applicant shall:
   a. Complete a **Construction Permit Application** form and submit it along with the required construction permit fee to the Division of Fire Safety regional office.
   b. Provide **construction documents** relating to the construction work and equipment under consideration unless specifically waived by the AHJ based on the size, use, occupancy or complexity of the work.
   c. For buildings where the applicant is requesting special consideration for a **historic building, documentation** shall be included on the historic designation of the building, including identification and evaluation of historic adjacent structures and site elements such as sheds, walkways, and fencing; historic construction features such as sheathing, facade or roofing materials, chimneys, skylights, cornices or molding, windows or doors, wainscoting, cabinets and finishes; and historic spaces such as archways, lobbies or rooms which are important to the understanding and application of the building.

(3) The **construction documents** shall be prepared by a registered designed professional, stamped and signed, where required by 26 V.S.A. chapters 3 & 20. [Excerpts from the Architects & Professional Engineering Licensing and Registration Statutes are included in Annex II of this code]

(4) Plans required under this Code shall be drawn to scale, using customary inch-pound units and English language, and shall be sufficiently clear, comprehensive, detailed and legible when submitted to the AHJ so that, together with any accompanying specifications and data, the AHJ can readily determine whether or not the proposed building, addition, or alteration, and all proposed building equipment will conform to this Code.

(5) The AHJ shall review the application for a construction permit and the construction documents where applicable and shall issue a permit, a conditional permit with specific terms and conditions, or deny the application. The AHJ may require additional information before issuing, or denying the application for a construction permit. Any conditions of the permit or reasons for denial of the permit shall be transmitted to the applicant in writing.

(6) The AHJ may provide consultation or preliminary plan review for proposed construction to identify high priority code issues when deemed warranted by the significance or complexity of the project.

(7) A **construction permit shall expire** if the work authorized under the permit is not commenced, or is suspended or abandoned, for a time period of **12 months**. When a project is resubmitted for review beyond the 12 months and where no extension was granted, and no major building design change has occurred a 50% plan review fee will be assessed.

(8) **Construction permit fees** are established by the Vermont Legislature under Title 20 V.S.A. section 2731. The current construction permit fees are available on the Division's website or by contacting any office of the Division.
   a. The Commissioner or designated representative may **rebate up to $2,000** of the construction permit fee paid the department toward the cost of a qualified fire sprinkler system installed in an existing building in a designated downtown area.
   b. In the case of **abandonment or discontinuance of a building project** involving a construction permit fee greater than $150 the construction permit fee may be refunded, upon written request to the AHJ, prorated on construction work, services, reviews and inspections conducted prior to such abandonment. Such a request shall be received within 12 months of the date that the construction permit was issued.
   c. The AHJ may refuse to issue a construction or occupancy permit if the owner or a designated representative owes the Department fees or penalties.

(9) The AHJ shall be authorized to require the owner to engage, and designate on the construction permit application, a registered design professional who shall act as the **design professional in responsible charge** in accordance IBC 107.1, who shall be responsible for reviewing and coordinating submittal documents prepared by others for compatibility with the approved design of the building.

(10) The AHJ shall be authorized to order all, or part of, work regulated under this Code to stop when the work is unsafe or being performed contrary to the provisions of this Code.

PERMIT AND LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

When do you need a state permit or license?

	DFS State Construction Permit	DFS Electrical		DFS Plumbing		Notes
		State Permit	License	State Permit	License	
Projects within a **Single-Family Owner- Occupied home** that includes: new construction, alterations, renovations or the installation of fixtures.	**No**	**No**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes**	For plumbing only if connected to a public water or sewer system
Projects within a **Rental Property or Apartment Buildings** having more than two units that includes: new construction, alterations, renovations or the installation of fixtures.	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	
Projects within a **Duplex/ Rental single-family home OR rental ADU** that includes: new construction, alterations, renovations or the installation of fixtures.	**Yes**	**Yes**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes**	
Maintenance projects within a public building such as painting, replacement of broken fixtures with fixture that is an exact match.	**No**	**No**	**Yes**	**No**	**Yes**	
Public Building Renovations, Additions, Alterations, Modifications and New Building Projects. See Annex I for definition of Public Building	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	Includes Fire protection systems, Fire alarm system, Fire sprinkler, Kitchen hood & suppression, Elevators Etc.
The erection of temporary tents greater than 1,200 square feet in a public location	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**N/A**	**N/A**	
Accessory Dwelling unit if RENTED	~~**No**~~ **Yes**	**Yes**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes**	For plumbing only if connected to a public water supply

To obtain a construction permit the applicant shall:
(1) Complete a Construction Permit Application form and submit it to the DFS regional office.
(2) Provide construction documents relating to the construction work and equipment under consideration unless specifically waived by the Commissioner or designated representative based on the size, use, occupancy or complexity of the work.
(3) Submit the required construction permit fee.
(4) Installation of fire or sprinkler system, kitchen hood system or elevator requires an electrical permit in addition to a construction permit.

Some municipalities have adopted local rules, regulations or ordinances that exceed State codes. Please contact your local municipality directly to learn what their requirements are and how they may affect your project.

[Updated ~~October 10, 2016~~ June 2024]

Section ~~89~~ Variance, Exemption and Reconsideration

(1) The Commissioner may grant a variance approving a different solution to compliance that meets the intent of this code, or may exempt a portion of a building, or equipment including non-standard boilers and pressure vessels, from the requirements of this Code. It is the policy of the Commissioner that whenever possible the determination of a variance or exemption request be made by the Regional Managers.

(2) In order for a variance or exemption request to be reviewed the owner or designated representative shall submit:
   a. Evidence that the proposed or existing building or premises is not in compliance with this Code.
   b. Evidence, letters, statements, test results, construction documents, computations, chemical and physical properties or other supporting information as prepared by licensed or certified professionals that is required to justify the request.
   c. Evidence that strict compliance with the Code would entail practical difficulty, unnecessary hardship or otherwise found unwarranted.
   d. Evidence that any such variance or exemption secures the public safety and health and that the methods, means or practices proposed provide equal protection of the public safety and health.

(3) Review of the variance or exemption request shall consider evidence that the code or standard from which the variance or exemption is sought has not been promulgated as a rule or standard under the Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Act.

(4) The determination on the variance or exemption request shall be made in writing to the applicant and shall advise the applicant of the reconsideration process as contained in Section (e).

(5) The Director may reconsider an interpretation or decision made by a designated representative pursuant to this Section. To request reconsideration, the owner or designated representative shall submit a written request including:
   a. Evidence of the proposed or existing building or premises is not in compliance with this Code.
   b. Evidence, letters, statements, test results, construction documents or other supporting information as required for justifying the request.
   c. Evidence that the true intent of the Code has been incorrectly interpreted, or the provisions of the Code do not fully apply; or the decision is unreasonable or arbitrary as it applies to alternatives or new materials.

(6) The request for reconsideration shall be submitted to the deputy director no later than 30 days after receiving the decision.

(7) A request for a variance relating to access to a public building for people with disabilities shall be referred for decision to the Access Board established under Title 20 V.S.A. chapter 174.

(8) A request for a variance from this Code for historical buildings that is not resolved under section 8(a) shall be determined by the Historic Variance Appeals Board as established by 20 V.S.A. 2732.

Section ~~9~~10 Duty to Observe

A request for variance, exemption, or reconsideration, or request for an appeal pursuant to the rules for Administrative Citations and Penalties, or request for an appeal of orders issued pursuant to 20 V.S.A. 2733, or request for an appeal of any finding of violation of this Code shall not relieve a person from complying with this Code, permit or occupancy requirements, unless the Commissioner expressly authorizes an extension of compliance period pending review of the request.

Section ~~10~~11 Municipal Enforcement and Coordination

(1) Each municipality shall provide information regarding building permits issued by the municipality to the ~~AHJ~~ Division of Fire Safety upon request.
(2) The Commissioner may assign the responsibility for the enforcement of all or part of these rules to municipalities that meet the qualifications established in 20 V.S.A. sections 2736 and 2884.
(3) Any fire, building or similar code standards adopted by any municipality shall be consistent with the standards adopted under this Code.

Section ~~11~~12 Effective Dates and Severability

(1) These rules shall take effect ~~October 10, 2016~~ TBD and shall be known as the Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code – ~~2015~~ ~~2024~~ 2025.

~~(2) This Code shall not require changes in the construction documents or construction of a building or portions of a building for which a construction permit has been issued and construction has started within 180 days of the effective date of this Code, or as otherwise approved by the AHJ prior to submission of plans. Existing buildings or portions of shall meet or exceed requirements for the existing buildings under this Code to allow a 180 day grace period.~~

(2) This Code shall not require changes in the construction documents or construction, that are in compliance with the 2015 code, for a building or portions of a building for which a construction permit has been issued and construction has started within 180 days of the effective date of this Code, or as otherwise been approved by the AHJ prior to submission of plans. A building or portion of a building built under this provision shall also meet or exceed the requirements for existing buildings under the 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code.

(3) In the event any part or provision of these rules is held to be illegal, this shall not have the effect of making void or illegal any of the other parts or provisions of these rules. Under Sections 3-~~6~~7 of this code certain Vermont amendments have been cross-referenced for clarity and ease of use. Failure to cross-reference an amendment does not affect the enforcement of that amendment.

Annex I - Excerpts from Vermont Law

Pertaining to the Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code

Title 20: Internal Security and Public Safety

Chapter 173: Prevention and Investigation of Fires

Subchapter 1: General Provisions

§ 2685. Record of fires

Subchapter 2: Fire Safety Division

§ 2729. General provisions

§ 2730. Definitions

§ 2731. Rules; inspections; variances

§ 2732. Historic variance appeals board; variances; exemptions

§ 2733. Orders to repair, rehabilitate, or remove structure

§ 2734. Penalties

§ 2736. Municipal enforcement

§ 2737. Building permits

Subchapter 3A: Fire Hazards And Dangerous Substances

§ 2799. Definitions

§ 2800. Rules and standards

§ 2801. Seizure of materials

§ 2802. Orders

Subchapter 4: Investigation of Fires

§ 2833. Reports to fire marshal

Subchapter 5: Boilers And Pressure Vessels

§ 2881. General provisions

§ 2882. Rules; installation standards

§ 2883. Boiler inspections

§ 2884. Qualifications of inspectors

§ 2885. Penalties

For full text please refer to; http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/20/173

Chapter 177: Explosives and Fireworks

Subchapter 3: Fireworks

§ 3131. Definitions

§ 3132. Prohibitions; permits

§ 3136. Construction

For full text please refer to; http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/20/177

Chapter 201: Public Assemblies

A commercial public assembly permit issued by the Vermont State Police is required for an outdoor gathering of two thousand or more people in a public place when payment is required for admission. A permanent stadium used for sporting events, or a fairground having permanent seats for patrons, does not require a commercial public assembly permit. An application for a commercial public assembly permit must be filed with Vermont State Police Headquarters, 45 State Drive, Waterbury, VT 05671, at least 30 days prior to the event.
For additional information contact (802) 241-5270, or online at http://vsp.vermont.gov/

For full text please refer to; http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/20/201

Current Cooperative Municipal Inspection Agreements Include

Barre - Responsibility for the enforcement of the Code for all existing public buildings except federally certified health care facilities, high-rise buildings, state owned buildings, and the testing and reporting of fire protection systems by technically qualified people. (802-476-0254)

Bennington - Responsibility for the enforcement of the Code for all new & existing public buildings except federally certified health care facilities, high-rise buildings, state owned buildings, and the testing and reporting of fire protection systems by technically qualified people. (802-442-1037)

Brattleboro - Responsibility for the enforcement of the Code for all existing public buildings except federally certified health care facilities, high-rise buildings, state owned buildings, and the testing and reporting of fire protection systems by technically qualified people. (802-254-4831)

Burlington - Responsibility for plan review, permitting, and enforcement of the Code for all new construction and alterations in new and existing buildings (802-863-9094) and responsibility for the plan review, permitting, and enforcement of the Code for fire protection systems in all new and existing public buildings except federally certified health care facilities, state owned buildings and the testing and reporting of the fire protection systems by technically qualified people (802-864-5577)

Hartford - Responsibility for the enforcement of the Code for all new and existing public buildings except day-care, health care, detention and correctional and residential board and care facilities, state owned buildings, high-rise buildings and the testing and reporting of fire protection systems by technically qualified people. (802-295-3232)

Montpelier - Responsibility for the enforcement of the Code for all new and existing public buildings except day-care, health care, detention and correctional and residential board and care facilities, state owned buildings, high-rise buildings and the testing and reporting of fire protection systems by technically qualified people. (802-262-6170)

Putney - Responsibility for the enforcement of the Code for all existing public buildings except federally certified health care facilities, state owned building, and the testing and reporting of fire protection systems by technically qualified people. (802-387-4372)

So. Burlington - Responsibility for the enforcement of the Code for all new and existing public buildings except federally certified health care facilities, state owned buildings, and the testing and reporting of fire protection systems by technically qualified people. (802-846-4110)

St. Albans - Responsibility for the enforcement of the Code for all existing public buildings except health care, and residential board and care facilities, state owned buildings, high-rise buildings and the testing and reporting of fire protection systems by technically qualified people. (802-524-2132)

Winooski - Responsibility for the enforcement of the Code for all existing public buildings except educational, day-care, health care, detention and correctional and residential board and care facilities, state owned buildings, high-rise buildings and the testing and reporting of fire protection systems by technically qualified people. (802-655-6410)

Fairfax – Responsibility for the enforcement of the code for all existing apartment buildings, lodging and rooming houses providing sleeping accommodations for 16 or fewer persons and one- & two-family dwellings. The Commissioner retains jurisdiction over plan review, permitting, electrical, plumbing, and building inspection and enforcement in all new and existing public buildings not covered by above assignment; State owned buildings, licensed day care **facilities**; residential board and care facilities, healthcare occupancies; and detention and correctional facilities. (802-849-6075)

Putney: Responsibility for plan review, permitting, inspection and enforcement of the code as it applies to all new and existing public buildings, the Vermont Access Rules for all new construction and alterations in

~~public buildings. The Commissioner retains jurisdiction over plan review, permitting, inspection and enforcement in public buildings not covered by this assignment including state owned buildings, licensed day care facilities, healthcare occupancies, and detention and correctional facilities, the testing and reporting by technically qualified people of all fire protection systems; boiler and pressure vessel inspections; all electrical and plumbing installations. (802-387-4372)~~

~~Some communities have adopted rules and regulations that exceed State codes. Please contact local code enforcement directly to learn what their requirements are and how they may affect your project.~~

Municipal Inspection Agreements:

The Division of Fire Safety enters into municipal inspection agreements with some cities and towns. A current list of these cities and towns and brief descriptions of jurisdictional responsibilities can be found at: https://firesafety.vermont.gov/buildingcode/municipalinsp

Annex II - Excerpts from the Architects and Professional Engineering Licensing and Registration Laws

Title 26 Professions and Occupations

Chapter 3: ARCHITECTS

§ 121. Definitions

§ 124. Construction; exemptions

Subchapter 3: Licensure

§ 208. Seal

For full text please refer to; http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/26/003

Chapter 20: Professional Engineering

§ 1161. Definitions

§ 1163. Exemptions

Subchapter 3: Licensing and Specialty Certifications

§ 1188. Seal

For full text please refer to; http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/26/020

~~Annex III - Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detection for Single-Family Owner Occupied Dwellings~~

~~Title 9: Commerce and Trade~~

~~Chapter 77: Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors~~

~~**§ 2881. Definitions**~~

~~**§ 2882. Installation**~~

~~**§ 2883. Requirements for transfer of dwelling**~~

~~**For full text please refer to; http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/09/077**~~

ADD

Public Building (20 V.S.A § 2730) Single Station Smoke Alarm (Detector) Installation

		Occupancy	Type	Required Power Supply	Required Locations	Reference	Notes
1	New Buildings	**All Public Buildings**	Photoelectric or UL 217 only alarms required to be installed.	Hardwired into the building electric system with battery backup.	In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, inside each sleeping room and on all floor levels including the basement.	NFPA 101 Section 24.3.4.1 Section 30.3.4.5 And 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code	All smoke alarms within the dwelling unit must be interconnected. See General Note # 1,2 and 3 4 & 5
2	Existing Buildings	**1 or 2 DWELLING UNITS IN THE SAME BUILDING**	Photoelectric or UL 217 only alarms required to be installed	Hardwired into the building electric system with battery backup Built before **01/01/1994:** 10-year lithium battery smokes alarms only in sleeping rooms allowed	In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, inside each sleeping room, and on all floor levels including the basement.	NFPA 101 Section 24.3.4.1.1 Section 9.6.2 And 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code	See General Note #1, 2, 3 and 4 & 5
		3 OR MORE DWELLING UNITS IN THE SAME BUILDING	Photoelectric or UL 217 only alarms required to be installed	Hardwired into the building electric system with battery backup Built before **01/01/1994:** 10-year lithium battery smokes alarms only in sleeping rooms allowed	In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, inside each sleeping room, and on all floor levels including the basement.	NFPA 101 Section 31.3.4 Section 31.3.4.5.3 And 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code	See General Note #1, 2, 3 and 4 & 5
3	**Smoke Alarm General Notes:**	1. "Public Buildings": includes any residential rental unit, duplexes, accessory dwelling units that are rented, residential condos, apartments, hotels & dormitories, rooming & lodging, residential care facility and apartments. 2. Smoke alarms shall not remain in service longer than 10 years from the date of manufacture.			3. All smoke alarms within the dwelling unit must be hardwired and interconnected in new buildings or existing buildings undergoing reconstruction or extensive modification. 4. Sleeping rooms for buildings built prior to 01/01/1994, photoelectric smoke alarms are permitted to be lithium battery powered, 10-year tamper-resistant alarms. 5. **Smoke alarms are permitted to be UL 217 labeled multi-sensing type**		

Remove

Residential Single Station Smoke Alarm (Detector) Installation Guidelines

		Occupancy	Type	Required Power Supply	Required Locations	Reference	Notes
1	NEW Building	OWNER – OCCUPIED Single Free Standing Dwelling	Photoelectric only alarms required to be installed	Hardwired into the building electric system with battery backup.	In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms and on all floor levels including the basement.	VSA Title 9 Chapter 77	
		ALL OTHER DWELLING UNITS	Photoelectric only alarms required to be installed	Hardwired into the building electric system with battery backup.	In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, inside each sleeping room and on all floor levels including the basement.	NFPA 101 Section 24.3.4.1 Section 30.3.4.5	All smoke alarms within the dwelling unit must be interconnected. See General Note # 1
2	EXISTING Building	OWNER – OCCUPIED Single Free Standing Dwelling	Photoelectric only alarms required to be installed at time of transfer by sale or exchange	Built before **01/01/1994:** Hardwired into the building electric system **OR** by Battery. Built after **01/01/1994:** Hardwired into the building electric system with battery backup.	In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms and on all floor levels including the basement.	VSA Title 9 Chapter 77	The seller of a single-family dwelling shall certify to the buyer that smoke and CO alarms are installed using the DFS form. See General Note # 2
		1 or 2 DWELLING UNITS IN THE SAME BUILDING	All alarms newly installed or replaced alarms are required to be Photoelectric	All Newly installed and Replacement smoke alarms must be Hardwired into the building electric system with battery backup, or 10 year lithium battery smoke alarms	In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, inside each sleeping room, and on all floor levels including the basement.	NFPA 101 Section 24.3.4.1.1 Section 9.6.2 And VT Code Amendments Section 9.6.2.11 Section 9.6.2.9.2	See General Note # 2, 3 and 4
		3 OR MORE DWELLING UNITS IN THE SAME BUILDING	All alarms newly installed or replaced alarms are required to be Photoelectric	Hardwired into the building electric system with battery backup, or 10 year lithium battery smoke alarm	In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms,, inside each sleeping room and on all floor levels including the basement.	NFPA 101 Section 31.3.4 Section 31.3.4.5.3 NFPA 72 Section 11.5.4 Section 31.3.4.5.3	See General Note # 2, 3 and 4
3	General Smoke Alarm Notes:	1. "All Other Dwelling Units": includes any residential rental unit, residential condos, hotels & dormitories, rooming & lodging, residential care facility and apartments. 2. Smoke alarms shall not remain in service longer than 10 years from the date of manufacture.			3. All smoke alarms within the dwelling unit must be interconnected in new buildings or existing buildings undergoing reconstruction or extensive modification. 4. Sleeping rooms, smoke alarms are permitted to be lithium battery powered, 10 year tamper-resistant alarms.		

[Updated October 10, 2016]

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM REQUIREMENTS

	Occupancy	Power Supply	Code Reference	Location	** Notes
1.	1 or 2 family dwellings- including any rental units (short or long term)	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up. 10- year tamper resistant carbon monoxide (CO) alarm shall be allowed in existing sleeping rooms in dwelling constructed prior to 1994	(VFBSC) Vermont Fire &Building Safety Code Page 13 – add section 24.3.4.2 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) Outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms. 2) On every occupied level of dwelling unit, including basements. ** 3) An additional detector shall be installed in each sleeping room that contains a fuel- burning appliance or fireplace. ** See Notes	Carbon Monoxide alarms are required outside sleeping rooms, on each occupied level and in the basement. Attics and crawl spaces do not require alarms. Your heating appliance shall be serviced by a certified fuel service technician.
2.	New/Existing Apartment Buildings (3 or more units)	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up. 10- year tamper resistant carbon monoxide (CO) alarm shall be allowed in existing sleeping rooms in dwelling constructed prior to 1994	(VFBSC) Page 13 –Add Sections 30.3.4.6 & 31.3.4.6 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) Outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms. 2) On every occupied level of dwelling unit, including basements. ** 3) An additional detector shall be installed in each sleeping room that contains a fuel- burning appliance or fireplace. ** See Notes	Carbon Monoxide alarms are required outside sleeping rooms, on each occupied level and in the basement. Attics and crawl spaces do not require alarms. Your heating appliance shall be serviced by a certified fuel service technician.
3.	Lodging and Rooming (sleeping accommodations for 16 or fewer people)	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up. 10- year tamper resistant carbon monoxide (CO) alarm shall be allowed in existing sleeping rooms in dwelling constructed prior to 1994	(VFBSC) Page 13 –Add section 26.3.4.6 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) Outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms. 2) On every occupied level of lodging or rooming house, including basements. ** 3) An additional detector shall be installed in each sleeping room that contains a fuel- burning appliance or fireplace. ** See Notes	Carbon Monoxide alarms are required outside sleeping rooms, on each occupied level and in the basement. Attics and crawl spaces do not require alarms. Your heating appliance shall be serviced by a certified fuel service technician.
4.	New/Existing Hotels, Dormitories (sleeping accommodations for more than 16 people)	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up. 10- year tamper resistant carbon monoxide (CO) alarm shall be allowed in existing sleeping rooms in dwelling constructed prior to 1994	(VFBSC) Page 13–Add Sections 28.3.4.7 & 29.3.4.6 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) In any section of corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor or common area, in each sleeping room. 2) On every occupied level of hotel or dormitory, including basements. ** 3) An additional detector shall be installed in each sleeping room that contains a fuel- burning appliance or fireplace. ** See Notes	Carbon Monoxide alarms are required outside sleeping rooms, on each occupied level and in the basement. Attics and crawl spaces do not require alarms. Your heating appliance shall be serviced by a certified fuel service technician.
5.	Single-family owner-occupied home	Newly constructed homes directly wired into the house electrical circuit. Existing homes (prior to 07/01/2005) battery, directly wired into house circuit, or plug-in.	9 V.S.A. § 2882	Outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms. **See Note	Should have your heating appliance serviced by a certified fuel service technician.

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM REQUIREMENTS

	Occupancy	Power Supply	Code Reference	Location	** Notes
1.	New/Existing Educational	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up or part of a fire alarm detection system in accordance with NFPA 72	(VFBSC) Vermont Fire &Building Safety Code Page 13 – Sections 14.3.4.4, add section 15.3.4.4to NFPA 101, 2021	1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment. 2) Inside any separate room or area where occupants may sleep. ** See Notes	
2.	New/Existing Day-Care	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up or part of a fire alarm detection system in accordance with NFPA 72	(VFBSC) Page 13 –Add Sections 16.3.4.6 & 17.3.4.6 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment. 2) Inside any separate room or area where occupants may sleep. ** See Notes	Day-Care Homes Sections 16.6.3.4.6: ** Required also on every occupied level of day-care home, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces.
3.	New/Existing Health Care	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up or part of a fire alarm detection system in accordance with NFPA 72	(VFBSC) Page 13 –Add section 18.3.4.6 & 19.3.4.6 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) In each nursing station 2) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment. 3) In any sleeping room that contains a fuel burning appliance.	
4.	New/Existing Residential Care (Large and Small)	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up or part of a fire alarm detection system in accordance with NFPA 72	(VFBSC) Page 13–Add Sections 32.2.3.4.4 & 32.3.3.4.9, 33.2.4.4.8 & 33.3.3.4.9 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) In each nursing station 2) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment. 3) In any sleeping room that contains a fuel burning appliance.	

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM REQUIREMENTS

	Occupancy	Power Supply	Code Reference	Location	** Notes
1.	Existing 1 or 2 family dwellings	Battery, directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, or plug in type. **No transition period to require upgrade to electric**	(VFBSC) Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code Page 9 – add section 24.3.4.4 to	Outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. An additional detector shall be installed in each sleeping room that contains a fuel- burning	** Detectors required only on floor levels where sleeping rooms are provided. ** Have your heating appliance serviced by a certified fuel service
2.	*New 1 or 2 Family Dwelling constructed after October 22, 2005*	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit with battery backup. Plug in type not considered direct wired	(VFBSC) Page 9 – add section 24.3.4.4 to NFPA 101, 2012	Outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. An additional detector shall be installed in each sleeping room that contains a fuel- burning	** Detectors required only on floor levels where sleeping rooms are provided. ** Have your heating appliance serviced by a certified fuel service
3.	Existing Apartment Buildings/Condos (3 or more units)	Effective Oct. 22, 2005 - Battery, directly hardwired into the buildings' electrical circuit, or plug in type. ** See Note	(VFBSC) Page 10 –Add section 31.3.4.6 to NFPA 101, 2012	Outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. An additional detector shall be installed in each sleeping room that contains a fuel- burning	** Effective October 1, 2007 the detectors are required to be directly hardwired with battery backup. ** Detectors required only on floor levels where sleeping rooms are provided.
4.	New Apartment Buildings/Condos (3 or more units)	Effective Oct. 22, 2005 Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit with battery	(VFBSC) Page 10 –Add section 30.3.4.6 to NFPA 101, 2012	Outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. An additional detector shall be installed in each sleeping room that contains a fuel- burning	** Detectors required only on floor levels where sleeping rooms are provided. ** Have your heating appliance serviced by a certified fuel service
5.	Existing Hotels, Motels, Dormitories, and Rooming and Lodging	Effective Oct. 22, 2005 the power may originate from battery, direct wire, or plug in type. ** See Note	(VFBSC) Page 9 Add section 29.3.4.6 to NFPA 101, 2012	Outside the guest rooms in the corridor spaced in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. Inside each bedroom where there is no corridor, and in each sleeping room provided with a	** Detectors must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. Effective October 1,2007 battery detectors shall be up - graded to direct wire with battery backup.
6.	New Hotels, Motels, Dormitories, and Rooming and Lodging built after Oct. 22	Effective Oct. 22, 2005- Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit with battery backup. ** See Note	(VFBSC) Hotels & Dorms - Page 9 (28.3.4.6) Rooming & Lodging	Outside the guest rooms in the corridor spaced in accordance with the manufacturer. Inside each bedroom where there is no corridor, and in each sleeping room provided with a fuel - burning appliance. **See	** Detectors must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.
7.	New Educational Facilities	Effective Oct. 1, 2016	(VFBSC) Section 14.3.4.4.1 NFPA 101, 2015	On ceilings of rooms containing permanently installed fuel - burning appliances. Occupiable spaces served by first supply air register from HVAC system.	**** Detection equipment shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 720**
8.	Single-family owner occupied home	Effective 7-01-05, new homes directly wired into the house electrical circuit. Existing homes battery, directly wired into house circuit, or	9 VSA Chapter 77 VFBSC – page 39	Outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. An additional detector is recommended in any sleeping room that contains a fuel-burning	** Detectors required only on floor levels where sleeping rooms are provided. ** Have your heating appliance serviced by a certified fuel service

"Install and maintain detectors in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions and NFPA 720" [Updated October 10, 2016]

Annex ~~IV~~ III Information for Historic Buildings

Vermont has an unusually high proportion of older buildings. These buildings contribute substantially to the sense of community and place that makes Vermont unique. At the same time, these buildings may be particularly challenging to adaptively reuse. Owners of older and historic buildings should seek the assistance of experienced designers specializing in the preservation of these structures. Division for Historic Preservation and Division of Fire Safety staff will assist in using the features of this Code to preserve and enhance historic buildings. Clear and comprehensive information on the significant historic features needs to be provided to the Division to facilitate review.

There are a number of codes that are part of this Code specifically written for existing and historic buildings;

* IEBC, International Existing Building Code addresses structural requirements for existing buildings.

* NFPA 1, Fire Prevention Code, primarily addresses maintenance and the operation of buildings with performance guidelines for historic buildings.

* NFPA 73, Residential Electrical Code, addresses electrical code requirements in existing residential units.

* NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, principally addresses life safety issues and has specific chapters for existing buildings.

* NFPA 909, Protection of Cultural Resources including Museums, Libraries and places of worship, brings together the design and implementation of fire protection plans designed to protect both people and property.

* NFPA 914, Code for Fire Protection of Historic Structures, addresses the identification of existing conditions, planning, and fire protection practices for historic buildings.

The regional offices of the Division of Fire Safety are staffed with safety professionals who have training and experience in developing solutions to meet both safety and historic preservation concerns.

If a solution to a problem has not been developed after plan review or inspection, the owner or designated representative should contact the regional manager for assistance. With more experience and resources to draw on the regional manager often will develop a solution without requesting a formal variance.

For many buildings there are alternatives for certain code requirements that will provide an equivalent level of safety for the people using the building. To facilitate the review process for historic buildings, a fire safety plan should be developed. Guidance for that plan is found in Section 10.3 of NFPA 914 and Section 5.1 of NFPA 909. Additional flexibility is provided for historic buildings having the option to use the Alternative Approaches to Life Safety contained in NFPA 101A.

Fire Alarm and Detection Systems

Fire alarm and detection systems provide early warning of a fire allowing for safe evacuation of the building and a prompt response of fire suppression activities. There are numerous types, styles and designs of fire alarm and detection equipment that provide options and flexibility for sympathetic installation in historic buildings.

(See NFPA 914, Annex F or NFPA 909, Annex C for a general discussion of fire alarm systems and NFPA 101 Section 9.6)

Fire Extinguishing Systems

Automatic fire sprinkler systems and other types of automatic fire extinguishing systems provide early warning of a fire allowing for safe evacuation of the building and provide prompt suppression of the fire using a minimal amount of water.

Each sprinkler head has to be heated to a certain temperature by a fire before water is released. Most fires are extinguished by the operation of just one or two sprinkler heads due to the prompt response by the sprinkler system. The amount of water applied to a fire is much less than what would need to be applied by a fire hose line.

(See NFPA 914, Annex D or NFPA 909 Annex C for a general discussion of fire extinguishing systems and NFPA 101 Section 9.7)

Automatic fire sprinkler systems have an excellent record of success in saving both people and property. Because of the excellent experience of automatic fire sprinkler systems, the Codes have fewer requirements for buildings that have automatic fire sprinkler systems. For example, the Codes would drop or "trade off" certain requirements for historic buildings that have an automatic fire sprinkler system.

To promote the installation of fire sprinkler systems in existing buildings in designated downtown areas, a **rebate of up to $2,000** of the construction permit fee is available to applicants where a complete fire sprinkler system is installed.

The process for receiving the rebate includes providing documentation from the City or Town Clerk that the building is in a designated downtown area; completion of the fire sprinkler system in accordance with appropriate codes and final acceptance testing and approval of the fire sprinkler system.

Vermont tax credits are also available for the installation of sprinkler systems and elevators in designated downtown or village center, contact the Division for Historic Preservation at 802-828-3047.

Maintenance and Testing of Fire Protection Systems

To help assure that fire protection systems will function properly when needed, all fire protection systems such as a fire alarm, sprinkler or kitchen hood exhaust systems are required to be tested periodically by a technically qualified person who is certified by the Division of Fire Safety. Upon completion of the test, the technically qualified person will affix an inspection sticker and notify the Division of Fire Safety of the results of the inspection.

Use of Archaic Building Materials

Building materials used within buildings are evaluated for "interior finish ratings" and "fire resistance ratings."

1) Interior finish ratings include evaluations for flame spread, fuel contribution and smoke development. Interior finish ratings are classified as A, B or C. Common archaic finish material such as plaster, tile flooring, wood flooring and metal ceilings will normally meet the standards for interior finish.

Wood trim and incidental finish which is less than 10% of the aggregate wall and ceiling areas will also meet the standards for interior finish. Wood paneling which consists of more than 10% of the aggregate wall and ceiling areas will also meet the standards for interior finish in a number of historic buildings such as a bed and breakfast with 16 or fewer guests. However, in some buildings such as schools, the wood paneling would need to be treated with a fire-retardant finish. The fire-retardant finishes are available in both clear and solid color. The application of a fire-retardant finish would not be required for wood paneling in a building provided with an automatic fire sprinkler system.

2) Fire resistance ratings evaluate building walls, ceilings or doors for the amount of time that it would resist the passage of fire. Construction assemblies can be evaluated by standard tests, rating guidelines published by nationally recognized authorities or by engineering analysis. Many common archaic construction assemblies have substantial resistance ratings while other assemblies may need to be enhanced to meet fire resistance requirements.
Fire resistance requirements are commonly found in the code for separation walls that separate a more hazardous area from the rest of the building, such as a boiler room or stairway walls which protect the means of egress from a building.

The requirements for construction or wall assemblies with fire resistance ratings in a building are reduced or totally eliminated for existing buildings with an automatic fire sprinkler system.

Field Guide for Historic Buildings

The Field Guide is designed to be used by those involved at all levels in the alteration process of historic and older buildings, including trades persons, planners, architects, engineers, and property owners.

The purpose of the Field Guide is to illustrate and describe successful examples of code compliance that reconcile safety considerations with preservation goals. In addition to explaining the code requirements and listing sources for further referencing, this guide also encourages and outlines the early and continued cooperation between those directly involved in the project with local code and preservation officials.

For a downloadable copy go to: ~~http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/preservation/education/accessibility~~

http://firesafety.vermont.gov/sites/firesafety/files/files/Documents/dfs_document_historicpreservation.pdf

Note: Based on newer technology and preservation methods, some of the solutions found in the Field Guide may not be acceptable in a current rehabilitation project.

Annex ~~V~~ IV – ~~School Egress (Evacuation) & Relocation Drill Schedule~~

~~In order to adapt to the ever-changing challenges faced by schools today, the Division of Fire Safety and the Vermont School Crisis Planning Team has developed this amended schedule for Emergency Egress and Lockdown Drills.~~

~~The inclusion of this new schedule into the Schools Emergency Plan will fulfill the Emergency Egress Drill requirements outlined in the NFPA Life Safety Code and Title 16 VSA, Section 1481.~~

~~This schedule must be followed in all schools whether private or public. Records must be kept of all such drills and be available upon request for review.~~

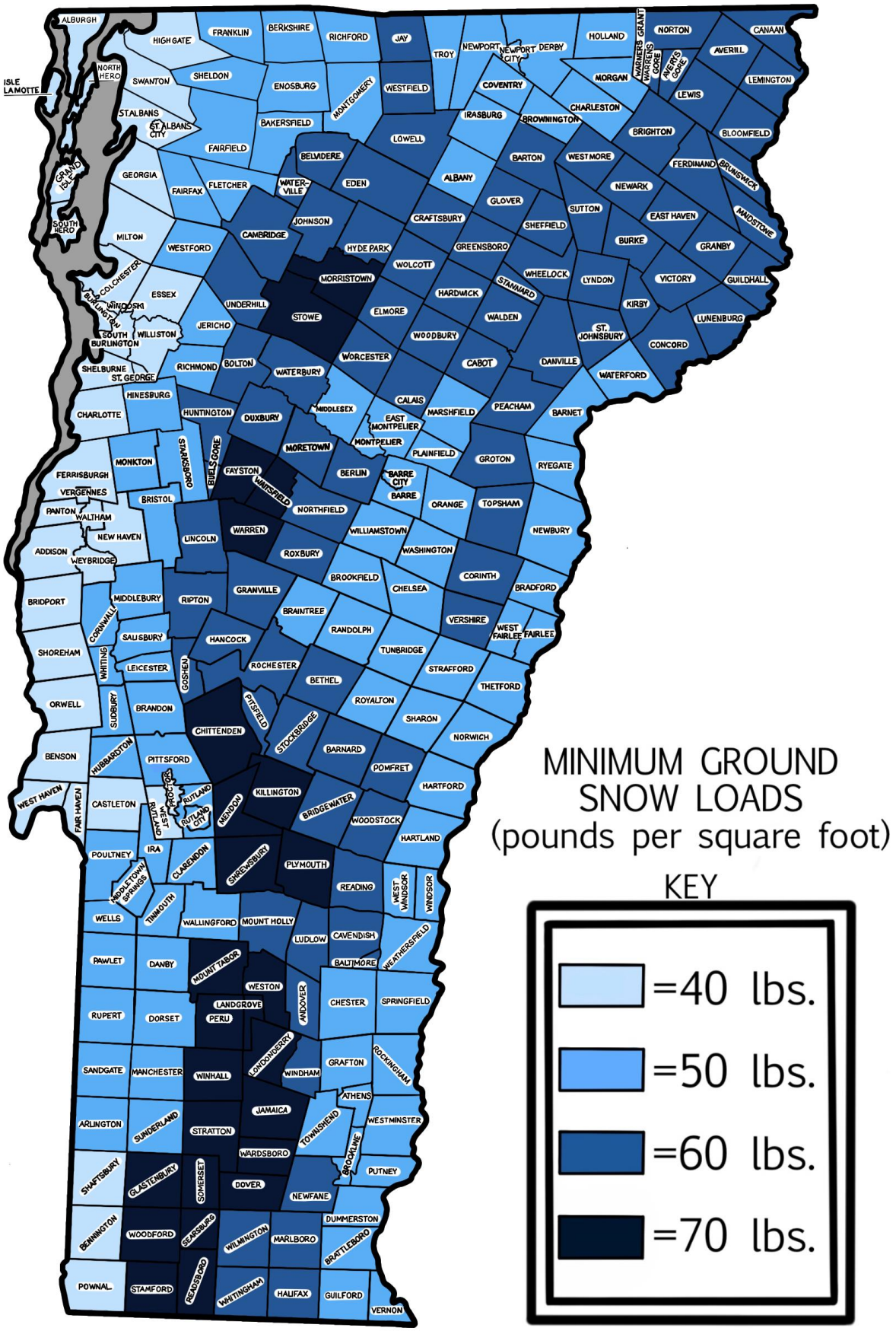
~~Month~~	~~Egress Drill~~	~~Lockdown Drill~~
~~September~~	~~X~~	~~X~~
~~October~~	~~X~~	
~~November~~		~~X~~
~~December~~	~~X~~	
~~January~~		~~X~~
~~February~~	~~X~~	
~~March~~		~~X~~
~~April~~	~~X~~	
~~May~~		~~X~~
~~June~~	~~X~~	

~~Egress (evacuation) drills shall result in complete evacuation of the school.~~
~~The first two egress drills shall result in the complete evacuation of the school.~~
~~The remaining four (4) egress drills may alternate between a Relocation Drill and an Egress Drill.~~

~~Date: 4/27/2016~~

Annex ~~VI~~ V Index by Topic & Occupancy

Annex ~~VII~~ VI Minimum Ground Snow Loads for Vermont by Town or City



Annex ~~VIII~~ VII – Contact Information:

~~**Division of Fire Safety Central Office**~~
~~1311 US Route 302 – Suite 600 Barre, VT 05641~~
~~P:802.479.7561 F: 802.479.7562~~
~~Toll Free:800.640.2106~~

Division of Fire Safety Central Office
45 State Drive, Waterbury VT 05671
P:802.479.7561 F:802.479.7562
Toll Free: 800.640.2106

~~**Barre Regional Office**~~
~~1311 U. S. Route 302 – Suite 500 Barre, VT 05641~~
~~P:802.479.4434 F:802.479.4446~~
~~Toll free:888.870.7888~~

Waterbury Regional Office
45 State Drive Waterbury, VT 05671
P:802.479.4434 F:802.479.4446
Toll Free:888.870.7888

Rutland Regional Office
56 Howe Street Bldg A – Suite 200 Rutland, VT
05701 P:802.786.5867 F:802.786.5872
Toll free:888.370.4834

The Vermont Fire Academy
93 Davison Drive Pittsford, VT 05763
P:802.483.2755 F:802.483.2464
Toll Free:800.615.3473

Springfield Regional Office
100 Mineral Street – Suite 307 Springfield, VT 05156
P:802.885.8883 F:802.885.8885
Toll free: 866.404.8883

Williston Regional Office
380 Hurricane Lane – Suite 101 Williston, VT 05495
P:802.879.2300 F:802.879.2312
Toll free:800.366.8325

www.firesafety.vermont.gov

Visit Us on Social Media @ Vermont Division of Fire Safety

~~**Codes and Standards Adopted and referenced under this *Code* can be obtained from:**~~

~~**National Fire Protection Association -** www.nfpa.org~~
~~1 Batterymarch Park~~
~~Quincy Mass 02169-9101~~
~~Phone: 1-800-344-3555~~

~~**International Code Council, Publications -** www.iccsafe.org~~
~~4051 West Flossmoor Road, Country Club Hills~~
~~Illinois, 60478-5795~~
~~888-422-7233 800-786-4452~~

~~**American Society for Testing and Materials -** www.astm.org~~
~~100 Barr Harbor Drive~~
~~West Conshohocken PA 19428-2959~~
~~610-832-9585~~

~~**American Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air Condition Engineers -** www.ashrae.org~~
~~1791 Tullie Circle N.E.~~
~~Atlanta, GA 30329~~
~~404-636-8400~~

~~**American Welding Society, Inc. -** www.aws.com~~
~~550 N.W. Lejunne Road, P.O. Box 351040~~
~~Miami FL 33135~~

1-800-443-9353

Compressed Gas Association, Inc. - www.cganet.com
4221 Walney Road, 5th Floor
Chantilly, VA 20151-2923
703-788-2700

American Society of Mechanical Engineers - www.asme.org
22 Law Drive, Box 2900
Fairfield, NJ 07007
1-800-843-2763

National Board of Boiler & Pressure Vessel Inspectors - www.nationalboard.org
1055 Crupper Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43229-1183
614-888-8320

VERMONT

2025

FIRE & BUILDING SAFETY CODE

Vermont Department of Public Safety

DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

firesafety.vermont.gov

EFFECTIVE DATE: TBD

Introduction

Since 1972 the State of Vermont has adopted nationally recognized safety standards to protect the public from fire and explosion hazards and establish standards for fire safety. Standards for boiler safety have been in place even longer. Vermont can benefit from the research and fire safety experience of experts nationwide in every area of expertise by using nationally recognized safety standards in this Code. The national standards are amended only when necessary to address conditions specific to Vermont, stay within the limits set by law, or clarify interpretations of certain sections.

The 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code establishes the process to obtain a construction or operating permit, lists the codes and standards that are adopted and describes the process used to evaluate and grant a variance or exemption from the Code. The annexes to this Code are designed to help people understand the state laws related to fire, explosion, hazardous materials, structural safety, carbon monoxide, and enable people to understand and take advantage of the flexibility built into this Code for historic buildings.

This Code establishes separate minimum standards for new and existing buildings and existing buildings that are used for a new purpose. This Code recognizes the need to protect the public when the use of a building changes, putting more people at risk or introducing new hazards to a building. But this Code is also written to facilitate the adaptive reuse of buildings, recognizing certain limitations of existing buildings. This Code has less restrictive requirements for low-risk occupancies and promotes the use of alternative safety solutions.

The Life Safety Code (NFPA 101) is the most widely used standard adopted under this Code and applies to all buildings and premises regulated under this Code. The Life Safety Code regulates construction, fire protection, and occupancy features necessary to minimize danger to life from fire and to allow escape from fire and non-fire emergencies.
The Fire Code (NFPA 1) applies to new and existing conditions including general fire safety provisions, fire protection including sprinkler systems, fire department access to buildings, and special material and process fire hazards. The Fire Code functions as a guide to determine what other specialty codes and state amendments apply to a building, premise, or condition.

The International Building Code (IBC) applies to new construction and structural requirements. It is used to determine the allowable size of new construction, and structural design features such as the snow load, and to ensure compliance with the performance requirements of other adopted standards.

The National Board Inspection Code (NBIC) is focused on the installation, maintenance and inspection of boilers and pressure vessels. The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) standards or European Committee for Standardization referenced in section 7 regulates the design and manufacture of boilers and pressure vessels. Prior to the 2005 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code there had been a separate set of rules for boilers and pressure vessels. By combining the boiler rules with the fire prevention rules there will be a simplified administrative process and better coordination for inspections regarding heating systems.

Table of Contents

Section 1 Title, Intent and Authority

(a) These rules are adopted under 20 V.S.A. Chapter 173, Subchapter 2 “Division of Fire Safety”, Subchapter 3 “Fire Hazards and Dangerous Substances”, Subchapter 5 “Boilers and Pressure Vessels” and Chapter 177 “Explosives and Fireworks” and shall be known and cited as the Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code - 2025. These rules intend to provide for public safety as directed by these sections of the law.

(b) This Code shall be administered and enforced by the Commissioner of Public Safety and staff members of the Division of Fire Safety that are hereby designated to enforce this Code and utilize discretionary authority regarding the details of the application of this Code. Hereafter the Commissioner, or designated representative, or in the case of a cooperative municipal inspection agreement, the approved inspector(s), are designated as the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). For the purpose of NFPA sections 1:1.13, Certificates of Fitness, and 1:20.12.3 & 101:37.7.5, Smoke Alarm & Carbon Monoxide Alarm – Consumer Information, the Commissioner and staff members of the Division of Fire Safety are designated as the AHJ. **(For a list of current municipal inspection agreements visit our webpage at: https://firesafety.vermont.gov/)**

(c) The AHJ may establish priorities for enforcing these rules and standards based on the relative risk to people and property.

(d) These rules apply to "public buildings" as defined by 20 V.S.A Chapter 173.

Section 2 Adoption of National Recognized Codes

The following nationally recognized safety standards, as amended herein, are adopted to make rules regarding the safeguarding of people and property in case of fire, explosion, hazardous materials, dangerous structural conditions, and the generation of carbon monoxide.

LIFE SAFETY CODE – NFPA 101 – 2021

FIRE CODE – NFPA 1 – 2021

INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE – IBC – 2021

INTERNATIONAL EXISTING BUILDING CODE – IEBC – 2021

Boiler and Pressure Vessel Standards, Rules and Code

adoption see Section 7

This *Code* has been designed to minimize any conflict or difference between adopted codes and standards.

- Where there is a conflict between an adopted code and its referenced code or standard, the adopted code shall apply.
- Where there is a conflict between the Life Safety Code (NFPA101) and another code or standard, the Life Safety Code shall apply
- Where there is conflict between the Fire Code (NFPA 1) and the International Building Code, or the National Board Inspection Code, the Fire Code shall apply.
- Where one code or standard has a requirement, and another code or standard does not have a requirement, the code or standard with a requirement shall apply.

The provisions of this code shall apply to the construction, alteration, relocation, enlargement, replacement, repair, equipment, use and occupancy, location, maintenance, removal and demolition of every public building or structure or any appurtenances connected or attached to such buildings or structures regulated under this code.

Matrix on next page may be used to assist in designing construction projects.

Matrix of Vermont Fire and Building Safety Codes by Project Type

New Construction	Major Rehabilitation, Modification, Reconstruction No Additions	Building Addition	Existing Building with Change of Use/Renovation
IBC & NFPA 1 & 101 apply. All IBC Chapters apply except Chapters; 8, 10, 11, 13, 27, 28, 29, & 33 NFPA 101 All appropriate occupancy chapters apply, and all chapters of NFPA 1 as applicable • Purpose of IBC is to safeguard public health, safety and general welfare • Purpose of NFPA 1 & 101 is to provide an environment reasonably safe from fire	IEBC applies to structural requirements only Refer to NFPA 101 Chapter 43 for Building rehabilitation, and appropriate occupancy chapter NFPA 1 applies Refer to NFPA 220 for type of construction (NFPA 101 page 404)	IBC applies to new construction & overall (new + addition) building height & area IEBC applies to existing structural requirements only Refer to NFPA 101 Chapter 43 for Additions and appropriate occupancy chapter NFPA 1 applies Refer to NFPA 220 for type of construction (NFPA 101 page 404)	IEBC applies to structural requirements only (Section 707) Refer to NFPA 101 Chapter 43 for change of use/modifications and appropriate occupancy chapter NFPA 1 applies NFPA 101 chapter applies to existing building section not being altered 1- Determine occupancy use 2- Refer to NFPA 220 for type of construction (page 404)

1- Always determine occupancy type first
2- Include a code analysis with plan submittal for all new or large renovation projects
3- Vermont Fire & Building Code Amendments apply to all categories above
4- Vermont Access Rules and 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design applies to all categories
5- Vermont Electrical, Plumbing and Elevator Rules applies to all categories
6- NFPA 1 applies to all categories, in addition to referenced standards in IBC, NFPA 1 & 101
7- When a conflict between codes is identified, NFPA governs for all categories, or where one code or standard has a requirement, and another code or standard does not have a requirement the code or standard with a requirement shall apply.
8- Some communities have adopted rules and regulations that exceed State codes. Please contact them directly to learn what their requirements are and how they may affect your project.

-delete & replace in part- section 101:2.2 **National Electrical Code & Residential Electrical Safety Code**: Any reference to NFPA 70 and 73 in this Code shall be to the edition adopted by the Vermont Electricians Licensing Board.

-delete & replace in part- section 101:2.2 Reference Publications: Any reference to NFPA 5000, Building Construction and Safety Code, 2021 Edition, shall be to the **International Building Code**, 2021 edition, or International Existing Building Code, 2021 edition, as amended in this Code.

-delete & replace in part- section 101:2.3.4 Safety Code for **Elevators**: Any reference to ASME 17.1, 17.3, or 17.7 in this Code shall be to the edition currently adopted by Vermont Elevator Safety Review Board.

-delete & replace- section 101:3.3.198.7 **Definition of Health Care Occupancy**: An occupancy used for purposes of medical or other treatment or care of more than three (3) persons on an inpatient basis, where such occupants are mostly incapable of self-preservation due to age, physical or mental disability, or because of security measures not under the occupant's control.

-delete & replace- section 101:3.3.198.12 **Definition of Residential Board & Care Occupancy**: A building or portion thereof that is used for lodging or boarding of three or more residents, not related by blood or marriage to the owners or operators, for the purpose of providing personal care services.

-add- section 101:7.1.10.1.1 Clearance for **Inclined Lifts on Stairways**: Where a platform or chair lift is installed on an exit stair in an existing building the minimum clear width on the stair when the inclined lift is in the down position shall be:
- 18" when the stair serves fewer than 10 people
- 22" where the stair serves fewer than 50 people
-as required by this Code when the stair serves 50 or more people

Where a platform or chair lift is installed on an exit stair in a new building the minimum clear width on the stair when the inclined lift is in the down position shall be as required by this Code.

-delete & replace- section 101:7.2.2.4.5.5 **Handrail Clearance**: New handrails shall be installed to provide a clearance of not less than 1 ½" nor more than 2 ¼" between the handrail and the wall to which it is fastened.

-add- section 101:7.2.2.4.5.12 (IRC 311.7.8.5 item 2) **Type II Handrails**: Within a dwelling unit, Type II Handrails may be utilized, with a perimeter greater than 6-1/4 inches (160 mm) shall provide a graspable finger recess area on both sides of the profile. The finger recess shall begin within a distance of 3/4 inch (19 mm) measured vertically from the tallest portion of the profile and achieve a depth of at least 5/16 inch (8 mm) within 7/8 inch (22 mm) below the widest portion of the profile. This required depth shall continue for at least 3/8 inch (10mm) to a level that is not less than 1-3/4 inches (45 mm) below the tallest portion of the profile. The minimum width of the handrail above the recess shall be 1-1/4 inches (32 mm) to a maximum of 2-3/4 inches (70 mm). Edges shall have a minimum radius of 0.01 inch (0.25 mm).

-delete & replace- section 101:7.2.2.6.5 **Outside Stairs, Accumulation of Snow, Ice or Water**: New outside stairs, ramps and landings, other than the primary entrance, shall be designed to minimize the accumulation of snow, ice and water by a roof or other approved means. [cross reference to 1:14.4.1.]

-add- section 101:7.13.3 **Boiler Room Exits**: Two means of egress shall be provided for boiler rooms exceeding 500 sq. ft. floor area or containing one or more boilers having an aggregate fuel input capacity of 1,000,000 BTU/HR or more. Each elevation shall be provided with at least two means of egress, each to be remotely located from the other. A platform at the top of a single boiler is not considered an elevation.

-delete & replace- section 101:9.1.2 **Electrical Systems**: All electrical wiring and equipment shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the currently adopted NFPA 70, National Electrical Code and NFPA 73, Residential Safety Code as adopted and modified by the Vermont Electrical Safety Rules and approved by the Electricians Licensing Board.

-add- section 101:9.2.3.1 **Isolated Cooking Operations**: The requirements for the hood, grease removal devices, duct and fixed fire extinguishing system may be modified by the AHJ for cooking operations in free standing tents, mobile units or other small buildings located greater than 30' from grandstands or other public buildings and occupied by employees only, when the clearance to combustibles, safety controls, portable fire extinguishers, staff training, fuel use, storage and shut-off of fuel, and electrical shut off for equipment are in compliance with this Code.

-add- section 101:9.2.3.2 **Limited Use Cooking Operations Protection & Ventilation**: Where appropriate, the authority having jurisdiction may approve the use of a UL300A compliant hood and suppression system for installation overtop of a cooking appliance(s) in accordance with the applicable testing document's scope and manufacturers requirements.

-add- section 101:9.4.1.1 **Shunt-trip:** Elevator shunt-trip is not permitted under Vermont Elevator Safety Rules, as currently adopted.

-add- section 101:9.4.2.5 **New Elevator Hoistway:** All new elevator hoistways 3 or more stories in height shall be non-combustible or limited combustible construction and the car enclosure materials shall meet the requirements of ASME A17.1, Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators as currently adopted by the Vermont Elevator Safety Rules.

-add- section 101:9.6.1.7 **Fire Alarm Circuit Classification**: All newly installed fire alarm systems in healthcare, detention & correctional, residential board & care occupancies, assembly occupancies with more than 300 people, and all high-rise buildings, shall be electrically wired as a Class A system.

-delete & replace- section 101:9.6.2.10.9 **Power for Smoke Alarms**: All smoke alarms shall be directly wired to a non-dedicated electrical branch circuit for the building and by battery, or by other methods approved by the AHJ.10-year tamper resistant smoke alarms shall be allowed in existing sleeping rooms where allowed in dwellings units constructed prior to 1994.

-add- section 101:9.6.2.10.13 **Smoke Alarms**: All smoke alarms shall be the photoelectric- only-type **OR** UL 217 labeled.

-add- section 101:9.6.4.2.1 **Telecommunication Marking**: Where Emergency Force Notification is provided the fire alarm control panel and the demarcation point for all fire alarm systems shall be marked as to the method of emergency forces to assist in the periodic inspection of the fire alarm. The sticker/tag shall be adhered, or tie rapped at the demarcation point, and shall include the following; Plain Old Telephone Service (POTS Numbers), Internet Protocol (IP), Radio/Master Box Number, Private Radio, Cellular Units or Managed Facilities Voice Network (MFVN), Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP).

-add- section 101:9.6.4.5 **Single Line DACT**: A Digital Alarm Communicator Transmitter (DACT) utilizing a single line, without a secondary transmission means as required by NFPA 72:26.6.4.1.4, shall be permitted where a fire alarm system is not required to provide emergency forces notification under this Code when no other means is available. A secondary transmission means, ONLY when available, is to be provided by any means available 72:26.6.4.1.4(A).

-delete & replace- section 101:9.9 **Portable Fire Extinguishers**: Portable fire extinguishers shall be located, installed, inspected and maintained in accordance with NFPA 1 section 13.6.

-add- section 101:9.12.1 **Power for Carbon Monoxide Alarms**: All newly installed carbon monoxide alarms shall be directly wired to a non-dedicated electrical branch circuit for the building and by battery. 10-year tamper resistant carbon monoxide (CO) alarms shall be allowed in existing sleeping rooms where required by the occupancy chapter for dwellings units constructed prior to 1994.

-add- section 101:9.12.2 **Carbon Monoxide Alarms for Through the Wall Vent Termination**: In buildings other than where people sleep, carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in areas adjacent to, but not outside of the distance established in the manufacturer's instructions, for all fuel burning appliances vented through the wall and terminating less than 7 feet above ground level.

-add- section 101:9.12.3 **Carbon Monoxide/Fire Alarm Interconnection**). Where desired carbon monoxide alarms may be integrated into the fire alarm system control panel. Notification appliances installed as part of the fire alarm system may be used for CO alarm detection notification of the building occupants when the notification appliances have been installed in compliance with the appropriate sections of NFPA-72. Requirements do not apply to single-station or multi-station Carbon Monoxide Alarm devices.

-delete & replace- section 101:12.3.5.1 (4), (5). **Extinguishment Requirements**: Any Bars and Restaurants where the aggregate occupant load of the assembly occupancies exceeds 100 persons shall be protected.

-add- section 101:13.1.1.4.6 Change of Ownership: **A place of assembly that changes ownership**, OR is leased to an alternate party, OR increases the occupant load, shall not be occupied or used until a permit for use and occupancy has been issued by the authority having jurisdiction.

-add- section 101:13.3.4.4 **Carbon Monoxide Detection Existing Assembly:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 13.3.4.4 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

(2) On the ceilings of rooms containing permanently installed fuel-burning appliances or fuel-burning fireplaces

-add- section 101:14.4.4.4.1 **Partition Heights:** Open plan schools shall have furniture, fixtures or partitions no greater than 5 feet above finished floor and so arranged that exits will be clearly visible and unobstructed, and exit paths are direct, not circuitous.

-delete & replace- section 101:14.7.2.3(1) **Emergency Egress, Relocation Drills & Lockdown**: Emergency egress and relocation drills, in accordance with the school's emergency preparedness plan, shall be conducted in accordance with the annual Drill Guidance Memorandum issued by the Vermont School Safety Center, The Division of Fire Safety and the Agency of Education.

-delete & replace- section 101:15.2.1.2 **Student Occupied Space**: Rooms normally occupied by preschool, kindergarten or first grade students shall be located on a

level of exit discharge, unless otherwise permitted by 15.2.1.4. Rooms with 4 or fewer students, where the ratio of students to teachers or aides does not exceed 2:1 at any time, are not considered normally occupied by students in regard to this section.

-delete & replace- section 101:15.3.4.4**: Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Educational:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 15.3.4.4 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

(2) Inside any separate room or area where occupants may sleep.

-add- section 101:15.4.4.4.1 **Partition Heights:** Open plan schools shall have furniture, fixtures or partitions no greater than 5 feet above finished floor and so arranged that exits will be clearly visible and unobstructed, and exit paths are direct, not circuitous.

-delete & replace- section 101:15.7.2.3(1) **Emergency Egress, Relocation Drills & Lockdown**: Emergency egress and relocation drills, in accordance with the school's emergency preparedness plan, shall be conducted in accordance with the annual Drill Guidance Memorandum issued by the Vermont School Safety Center and the Agency of Education.

-add- section 101:16.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Day-Care Occupancies**: Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 16.3.4.6 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

(2) Inside any separate room or area where occupants may sleep.

-delete & replace- section 101:16.3.5.1. **Extinguishment Requirements**: All newly constructed day care occupancies shall be protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 9.7 unless the following apply:

(1) Every room subject to client occupancy has a door leading directly to the exterior at the level of exit discharge

(2) This shall not apply to ancillary business or storage spaces).

-delete and replace- section 101:16.6.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide in New Day-Care Homes:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 16.6.3.4.6 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms

(2) On every occupied level of a day-care home, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any sleeping room with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-add- section 101:17.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection Existing Day-Care:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 17.3.4.6 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

(2) Inside any separate room or area where occupants may sleep.

-add- section 101:17.6.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Day-Care Homes**: Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 17.6.3.4.6 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms

(2) On every occupied level of a day-care home, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any sleeping room with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-delete- sections 101:18.1.1.4.3.3 and 101:18.1.1.4.3.4 **Alternative Provisions for Fire Sprinkler System during Rehabilitation Work in new Health Care Occupancies**.

-add- section 101:18.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Health Care**: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12. and 18.3.4.6 in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

(2) Inside any sleeping room that contains a fuel burning appliance.

(3) At each nurse's station.

-add- section 101:19.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Health Care**: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12 and 18.3.4.6 in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

(2) Inside any sleeping room that contains a fuel burning appliance.

(3) At each nurse's station.

-delete & replace- sections 101:19.3.5.1 & 19.3.5.3 **Existing Health Care**: Existing health care facilities shall be protected throughout by an approved supervised automatic fire sprinkler system installed in accordance with section 9.7.

-add- section 101:22.3.4.5 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Detention and Correctional Facilities**: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12.1 in control rooms used by the facility.

-delete- section 101:22.4.4 5 **Renovations for Existing Non-sprinklered Detention and Correctional Facilities**

-delete & replace- section 101:22.4.4.6.1.1 **Capacity of New Lockups**: Lockups in occupancies, other than detention and correctional and health care occupancies, where the holding area has capacity for more than 3 detainees shall be classified as detention and correctional occupancies and shall comply with Chapter 22.

-delete & replace- section 101:22.4.6.1.3 **Requirements for New Lockups**: Lockups in occupancies, other than detention and correctional and health care occupancies, where the holding area has capacity for not more than 3 detainees, and where no individual is detained for 24 hours or more, shall comply with 22.4.6.1.4 and 22.4.6.1.5.

-delete & replace- section 101:22.7.7 **Door Inspection**: Doors and door hardware in means of egress shall be inspected monthly by an appropriately qualified person. The inspection shall be documented.

-add- section 101:23.3.4.5 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Detention and Correctional Facilities**: Carbon Monoxide alarms (detectors) shall be installed in accordance with section 9.12.1 in control rooms used by the facility.

-delete & replace- section 101:23.3.5.2 **Existing Detention & Correctional**: Existing detention & correctional facilities classified as Use Condition II, III, IV or V shall be protected throughout by an approved supervised automatic fire sprinkler system installed in accordance with section 9.7.

-delete & replace- section 101:23.4.6.1.1 **Capacity of Existing Lockups**: Lockups in occupancies, other than detection and correctional and health care occupancies, where the holding area has capacity for more than 3 detainees shall be classified as detention and correctional occupancies and shall comply with chapter 23.

-delete & replace- section 101:23.4.6.1.3 **Requirements for Existing Lockups**: Lockups in occupancies, other than detention and correctional and health care occupancies, where the holding area has capacity for not more than 3 detainees, and where no individual is detained for 24 hours or more, shall comply with 23.4.5.1.4 and 23.4.5.2.

delete & replace- section 101:23.7.7 **Door Inspection**: Doors and door hardware in means of egress shall be inspected monthly by an appropriately qualified person. The inspection shall be documented.

-add- section 101:24.1.1.1.1 **One- or Two-Family Dwellings used for Transient Lodging**: A dwelling unit that provides sleeping accommodations for a total of more than 8 people on a transient basis shall be classified in accordance with chapter 26, 28 or 29.

-delete & replace- section 101:24.1.1.2 **One- & Two-Family Dwellings** shall be limited to buildings containing not more than two dwelling units in which each dwelling unit is occupied by members of a single family or if utilized as transient lodging shall not exceed 8 transient occupants per dwelling unit.

-delete and replace- section 101:24.2.2.3.3(3) **New OR Replacement Window Balcony:** The window or door shall open onto a balcony meeting the following criteria:

(1) Width: minimum width of window plus 24 inches to one side.
(2) Depth: minimum 36 inches; measured out from the exterior wall face
(3) Set Down: The deck/floor shall be set down below the windowsill between 12 and 24 inches.
(4) Fire Department Access: must be readily accessible to effect rescue.
(5) Structural Load: Design loading shall be (150psf) minimum.
(6) Construction: same as construction type of the building or as permitted per NFPA 220.
(7) Guard: standard 42-inch height and not more than 4-inch spacing. NFPA 101 Sections 24.2.5.1 and 7.2.2.4
(8) Maintenance: kept clear of snow/ice and other obstructions. NFPA 101 Section 24.2.2.3.1

-add- section 101:24.2.2.3.3.1 **Existing Means of Escape**: The clear opening of an existing means of escape (escape window) under 24.2.2.3.3 shall be:

(1) Opening sash for a window shall be a minimum of 20” wide X 24” high (3.3sq ft) with a total clear opening area of not less than 5 square feet of net free opening with the entire window removed.
(2) Replacement windows utilizing an existing rough opening shall comply with the minimum requirements detailed in Item 1 of this section. Replacement windows with altered rough openings shall meet the requirements of new 101:24.2.2.3.3.

-add- section 101:24.2.5.7 **Stair riser heights and tread depths**: Maximum riser heights of 7 ¾ in. and minimum tread depths of 10 in. shall be permitted in new construction.

-delete & replace- section 101:24.3.4.1.3 **Smoke Alarms** must be hardwired into the building electrical system with exception of existing sleeping rooms. Smoke alarms shall also be installed in all sleeping rooms. Sleeping rooms in buildings constructed prior to 1994 may be equipped with lithium battery powered 10-year tamper- resistant photoelectric and OR UL 217 labeled smoke alarms.

-delete and replace- section 101:24.3.4.2 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in One & Two Family Dwellings:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 24.3.4.2 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) Outside of each separate dwelling unit sleeping area

in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms
(2) On every occupied level of a dwelling unit, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces
(3) Inside any sleeping room with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-delete- section 101:24.3.5.1 **Fire Sprinkler Protection for One &Two-Family Dwellings**.

-delete & replace- section 101:24.5.1.2 **Unvented Fuel-fired Heaters**: Unvented room heaters and unvented fireplaces shall not be used.

-add- section 101:24.6 **Subdivision of Building Spaces in One- & Two-Family Dwellings**: New one-two family dwellings shall be provided with a 1-hour fire resistance rating dwelling unit separation in accordance with 30.3.7.

-add- section 101:26.1.1.1.1 **Existing Occupancy-Lodging or Rooming Houses**: A building or portion thereof that does not qualify as a one & two family dwelling under NFPA 101, Chapter 24:1.1.2, **8 or fewer guests**, that provides sleeping accommodations for a total of **9-16 occupants** on a transient or permanent basis, without personal care services, with or without meals, without separate cooking facilities for individual occupants. Existing Lodging or Rooming houses are those which were in use prior to the effective date of the adoption of the 2015 Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code. Existing occupancies must comply with the requirements for existing buildings, Chapter 26.

-add- section 101:26.1.1.1.2 **Existing Structure New Occupancy Use - Lodging or Rooming Houses**: A building or portion thereof that does not qualify as a one & two family dwelling under Chapter 24.1.1.2, **8 or fewer guests**, that provides sleeping accommodations for a total of **9-16 occupants** on a transient or permanent basis, without personal care services, with or without meals, without separate cooking facilities for individual occupants. New Lodging or Rooming House Occupancy is a new use introduced after the effective date of the adoption of the 2015 Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code. New Occupancy Use must comply with NFPA 101, Chapter 26 and 43 of the Life Safety Code. A change of use permit and certificate of occupancy is required for new occupancy in an existing building.

-add- section 101:26.1.1.1.3 **New Construction Lodging or Rooming House**: A building or portion thereof that does not qualify as a one & two-family dwelling under Chapter 24.1.1.2, **8 or fewer guests**, that provides sleeping accommodations for a total of **9-16 occupants** on a transient or permanent basis, without personal care services, with or without meals, without separate cooking facilities for individual occupants. New Lodging or Rooming House Construction is a new structure constructed after the effective date of the adoption of the 2015 Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code. New occupancy construction must comply with NFPA 101, Chapter 26, for new Lodging or Rooming House construction and the International Building Code. A construction permit application and plans are required to be submitted and a construction permit issued prior to construction.

-delete and replace- section 101:26.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Lodging & Rooming:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 26.3.4.6 shall be provided in all of the following locations:
(1) Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms
(2) On every occupied level of a lodging rooming house, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces
(3) Inside any sleeping room with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-delete & replace- section 101:26.5.2.2 **Unvented Fuel-Fired Heaters:** Unvented room heaters and unvented fireplaces shall not be used.

-add- **Hazardous Area Protection Table** 101:28.3.2.2.2 – **Bike Storage Rooms-** Sprinklers and 1 hour fire rated.

-delete and replace- section 101:28.3.4.7 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Hotels & Dormitories:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 28.3.4.7 shall be provided in all of the following locations:
(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor or common area, in each sleeping room.
(2) On every occupied level of a hotel or dormitory, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces
(3) Inside any separate guest room, guest suite with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-add- section 101:29.3.4.4 **Detection for Existing Hotels & Dormitories**: A corridor smoke detection system in accordance with section 9.6 shall be installed in existing hotels & dormitories other than those protected throughout by an approved supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with section 9.7.

-add- section 101:29.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Hotels & Dormitories:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 28.3.4.7 shall be in all of the following locations:
(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor or common area, in each sleeping room.
(2) On every occupied level of a hotel or dormitory, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces
(3) Inside any separate guest room, guest suite with a fuel burning appliance or fuel burning fireplace.

-delete & replace- section 101:30.2.4.6(1) **Single Exit**:
(1) There are six (6) or fewer dwelling units per story.

-add- **Hazardous Area Protection Table** 101:30.3.2.1.1 – **Bike Storage Rooms-** Sprinklers and 1 hour fire rated.

-delete and replace- section 101:30.3.4.6 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Apartment Buildings:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 30.3.4.6 shall be provided all of the following locations:

(1) Outside of each separate dwelling unit sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms

(2) On every occupied level of a dwelling unit or building, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces.

(3) Inside any sleeping room with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-delete & replace– section 101:30.3.5.1 **Sprinkler Protection New Apartment Buildings**: A supervised automatic sprinkler system shall be required except where every dwelling unit provides one of the following:

(1) Buildings containing six (6) or less dwelling units with direct access to an exit door opening directly to the street or yard at ground level. The dwelling unit shall have a minimum 1-hour fire rated separation that shall extend to the furthest point of exit discharge.

(2) Buildings containing six (6) or less dwelling units with an interior stair serving only that unit that is separated from all other portions of the building by fire barriers having a minimum 1-hour fire resistance rating with no openings therein. The fire resistance rating shall extend to the furthest point of exit discharge.

-delete & replace- section 101:30.5.2.2 **Unvented Fuel-fired Heaters**: Unvented room heaters and unvented fireplaces shall not be used.

-delete & replace– section 101:31.3.4.5.2 **Smoke Alarms Existing Apartment Buildings**: All electrically wired smoke alarms shall be required to be provided with secondary power supply source. Interconnection of smoke alarms shall apply only to new construction. 9.6.2.10.4

-delete & replace- section 101:31.3.4.5.3 **Smoke Alarms Existing Apartment Buildings:** In buildings other than those equipped throughout with an existing, complete automatic smoke detection system, smoke alarms shall be installed in every sleeping room.

-delete & replace- section 101:31.3.4.5.4 **Smoke Alarms Existing Apartment Buildings**: Smoke alarms are required in common areas and all levels of a building. Smoke alarms shall also be installed in all sleeping rooms. Sleeping rooms in buildings constructed prior to January 1994 may be equipped with lithium battery powered 10-year tamper- resistant photoelectric OR UL 217 labeled smoke alarms.

-add- section 101:31.3.4.6 Carbon **Monoxide Detection in Existing Apartment Buildings:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 31.3.4.6 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) Outside of each separate dwelling unit sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms.

(2) On every occupied level of a dwelling unit or building, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces.

(3) Inside any sleeping room with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-delete & replace- section 101:31.5.2.2 **Unvented Fuel-fired Heaters**: Unvented room heaters and unvented fireplaces shall not be used.

-add- section 101:32.1.1.4.1 **Assisted Living Facilities**: In addition to the requirements of this chapter a facility licensed under the Department of Aging & Disabilities Rules for Assisted Living Residences shall comply with the following:

(1) Smoke detection must be provided in addition to the complete automatic fire sprinkler protection.

(2) The fire alarm system shall provide emergency forces notification.

(3) All automatic fire sprinkler systems shall be electronically supervised.

(4) Large, assisted living facilities or assisted living residences located in apartment buildings shall meet the minimum construction requirements for existing health care occupancies in section 19.1.6.

(5) Corridors for large facilities shall not be less than 48".

(6) Subdivision of building spaces in accordance with 101:18.3.7 shall be provided in common areas of large facilities using the same criteria as used for limited care facilities (15 square feet per resident).

-delete and replace- section 101:32.2.3.4.4 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Small Residential Board & Care:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 32.2.3.4.4 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor or common area, in each sleeping room.

(2) On every occupied level of small board and care facilities, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any sleeping area with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-delete & replace- section 101:32.2.3.5.1 **New Residential Board & Care**: All new residential board & care facilities with 3 or more residents shall be protected throughout by an approved supervised automatic fire sprinkler system installed in accordance with section 9.7.

-delete- section 101:32.2.3.5.2 **Exception for Sprinkler Protection for New Small Board and Care Facilities.**

-delete and replace- section 101:32.3.3.4.9 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in New Large Residential Board & Care:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide

detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 32.3.3.4.9 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor or common area, in each sleeping room.

(2) On every occupied level of large board and care facilities, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any sleeping area with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-delete- section 101:33.2.3.4.4.6 **Exception for Smoke Alarms in Residential Care with Sprinkler Protection.**

-delete- section 101:33.2.3.4.4.7 **Exception for Smoke Alarms in Residential Care with Sprinkler Protection – Battery Operated.**

-delete & replace- section 101:33.2.3.4.4.1 **Smoke Alarms in Sleeping Rooms in Existing Residential Care**: Approved smoke alarms shall be provided in each sleeping room in accordance with 9.6.2.10.

-add- section 101:33.2.3.4.4.8 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Small Residential Board & Care:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 33.2.3.4.4 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor or common area, in each sleeping room.

(2) On every occupied level of small board and care facilities, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any sleeping area with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-add- section 101:33.3.3.4.9 **Carbon Monoxide Detection in Existing Large Residential Board & Care:** Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.12 and 33.3.3.4.9 shall be provided in all of the following locations:

(1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor or common area, in each sleeping room.

(2) On every occupied level of large board and care facilities, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces

(3) Inside any sleeping area with a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment.

-add- section 101:39.2.4.8 **Single Exit for Existing Business:** A single exit shall be permitted to be unenclosed in two-story buildings when travel distance does not exceed 75’ and all areas opening to exit access stairs are provided with smoke alarms in accordance with 9.6.2.10. All smoke alarms shall be interconnected in accordance with NFPA 101 section 9.6.2.10.10.

-add- section 101:39.3.1.1(6) **Protection of Vertical Opening in Existing Business:** Unenclosed vertical openings shall be permitted to be unenclosed in two- story buildings when the travel distance does not exceed 75’ and all areas opening to exit access stairs are provided with smoke alarms in accordance with 9.6.2.10. . All smoke alarms shall be interconnected in accordance with NFPA 101 section 9.6.2.10.10.

-add- section 101:43.1.2.6 **An Addition to any Existing Building or Structure** shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code, the Fire Code and the International Building Code for new construction. The existing building plus additions shall comply with the height and area provisions of Chapter 5 of the International Building Code, and the structural requirements of the 2021 International Existing Building Code for existing building sections.

-add- section 101:43.10.1.1 **Existing Code Violations:** Historic buildings not otherwise undergoing rehabilitation work shall be permitted to use alternative solutions to correct existing code violations based on sections 43.10.4.3 through 43.10.4.11.

-delete- section 1:1.8 **Duties and Powers of the Incident Commander**

-delete & replace- section 1:1.10 **Appeals**: Requests for variances, exemptions and reconsideration of the interpretation of this Code, shall be made and processed in accordance with Section 9 of this Code.

-delete & replace- section 1:1.13.1 **Certificate of Fitness**: A certificate of fitness is required for all individuals performing activities related to fire or life safety based on the qualifications as follows:

(1) Inspection, servicing or recharging of **Portable Fire Extinguishers** (Reserved)

(2) Design, installation, inspection, servicing or recharging of **Fixed Fire Extinguishing Systems** – A current certificate from the National Institute for Certificate in Engineering Technologies (NICET) for fire suppression; or from the National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors (NAFED) for Pre- Engineered Kitchen Fire Extinguishing System or Industrial Pre-Engineered Fire Extinguishing System.

(3) **Inspection, and testing of fire alarm** and detection systems and equipment – A current master electrician, journeyman electrician or type S journeyman commercial fire alarm license, issued in accordance with Title 26 V.S.A. chapter 15. Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal for master and journeyman electricians, and type S journeyman commercial fire alarm license.

(4) **Installation, modification, or servicing of gas or oil burning heating systems**.

(a) **Delivery of Liquid Propane (LP)**: successful completion of the LP Gas Certified Employee Training Program (CETP) Book 1 (Basic Principles and Practices of Propane); Book 2.1/2.4 (Propane Delivery Operations and Cylinder Delivery) and Book 2.2 (Bobtail Delivery Operations) OR equivalent PEP modules (see Annex IV for CETP to PEP module equivalences).

(b) **Plant Operations**: successful completion of CETP Book 1; 3.1 (Maintaining ASME Tanks); 3.2 (Maintaining DOT cylinders); 3.3 (Operating Dispensing Equipment to Fill Containers) and 3.4 Maintaining Bulk Equipment OR equivalent PEP modules (see Annex IV for CETP to PEP module equivalences).

(c) (reserved)

(d) (reserved)

(e) (reserved)

(f) **Installation, Inspection and Service of LP Gas Appliances**: successful completion of CETP books 1.0; 4.1; 4.2; 4.3; and 4.4; OR equivalent PEP modules (see Annex IV for CETP to PEP module equivalences). Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal every three years, including at least two hours regarding the prevention of CO leakage and the procedure for safety inspection of an existing appliance.

(g) **Installation, Inspection and Service of both Natural Gas and LP Gas systems and equipment**: successful completion of the American Gas Association (AGA) course of study including "The Fundamentals of Combustion, Gas Appliance Venting, Electricity, Gas Controls, and Gas Appliances" and CETP Books 1.0, 4.1, 4.2. OR equivalent PEP modules (see Annex IV for CETP to PEP module equivalences). Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal every three years, including at least two hours regarding the prevention of CO leakage and the procedure for safety inspection of an existing appliance.

(h) **Installation, Inspection and Service of Natural Gas systems and equipment:** Successful completion of the AGA course of study including "Fundamentals of Combustion, Gas Appliance Venting, Electricity, Gas Controls, and Gas Appliances; or other approved course of study. Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal every three years, including at least two hours regarding the prevention of CO leakage and the procedure for safety inspection of an existing appliance. (see NFPA 54- Annex G).

(i) **Installation, inspection and service of Oil Burning Equipment**: A Silver or Gold certificate from the National Oil heat Research Alliance (NORA). Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal including at least two hours regarding the prevention of CO leakage and the procedure for inspection, or a current NORA Silver or Gold certificate.

(j) **LIMITED installation, inspection and service of Oil Burning Equipment not including placing a new unit in service:** A Bronze certificate from the National Oil heat Research Alliance (NORA). Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal including at least two hours regarding the prevention of CO leakage and the procedure for inspection, or a current bronze certificate from NORA.

(k) **LIMITED Interior Certification: Installation, Inspection and Service of Interior or Rooftop LP Gas Equipment by HVAC technicians (not including container installation or related exterior piping)** - CETP Books 1; 4.2; 4.3; 4.4; and 4.5. OR equivalent PEP modules (see Annex IV for CETP to PEP module equivalences). Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal including at least two hours regarding the prevention of CO leakage and the procedure for safety inspection of an existing appliance (See NFPA 54, Annex G). The entire gas installation shall be evaluated by a certified LP Gas technician having (4)(f) certification.

(5) Sweeping, maintenance and evaluation of **Chimneys and Solid Fuel Burning Appliances** – A current certificate from the Chimney Safety Institute of America, Certified Chimney Professionals, OR National Chimney Sweep Guild (NCSG) at the Certified Chimney

Professional Level. Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal every three years.

(6) Installation, inspection or servicing of range hood systems - (Reserved)

(7) Installation or servicing of private fire service mains and their appurtenances – (Reference 1:13.3.1.2.3)

(8) Crowd management required by the code - (Reserved)

(9) Utilization of pyrotechnics before a proximate audience - (Reserved)

(10) Installation, modification, or maintenance of liquefied petroleum gas or liquefied natural gas tanks or systems – See number 4 above

(11) Installation or modification of medical gas systems where a permit is required by Table 1.12.8(a) – (Reserved)

(12) Installation, modification, or maintenance of standpipe systems – See number 13 below

(13) Installation, modification, or maintenance of automatic sprinkler systems

(a) **Installation, maintenance, repair and testing for water-based fire protection systems** including but not limited to fire sprinkler systems regulated under NFPA 13, 13D and 13R, multipurpose piping systems, standpipe systems, aboveground fire mains and fire pumps – Completion of an approved fire sprinkler apprentice program or four years of documented supervised installation, maintenance, repair and testing experience and meeting the testing requirements established by the Division of Fire Safety. Fifteen hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal.

(b) **Calculations and design**, for water-based fire protection systems including but not limited to fire sprinkler systems regulated under NFPA 13, 13D and 13R, multipurpose piping systems, standpipe systems, aboveground fire mains and fire pumps - A current level III certificate, or higher, for automatic fire sprinkler systems from NICET or a fire protection engineer license issued in accordance with Title 26 V.S.A. chapter 20. A person with a certificate of fitness under this section shall also be permitted to install, maintain, repair and test fire sprinkler and standpipe systems under section 1.13.1.

(c) **LIMITED installation, maintenance, inspection and testing for domestic fire sprinkler systems** with not more than 6 sprinklers for any isolated hazard area in accordance with 101:9.7.1.2 or an automatic fire sprinkler system in accordance with NFPA 13D, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes, including multipurpose piping systems – Documented competency and experience acceptable to the AHJ. Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal.

(14) Installation, modification, or maintenance of **fire pumps** – See number 13 above

(15) Installation, modification, or maintenance of tanks, wells, or drafting points used for fire protection water supplies – (Reserved)

(16) Installation, maintenance, repair and testing for **emergency generators** – Documented competency and experience through training by the manufacturer or acceptable by the AHJ is required. Eight hours of related instruction is required for certificate renewal.

-add- 1:1.13.1.1, **TQP Helpers**: Not more than two (2) helpers may assist a technically qualified person performing activities related to fire or life safety systems required by sections (2), (4), (5), (13) and (16). TQP Helpers for Fire Alarm Inspection and Testing: Not more than two (2) helpers may assist a technically qualified person performing activities related to fire alarm and detection systems and equipment inspection and testing, Section (3) 1:1.13.1.

-delete & replace- section- 1:1.13.2 (1) **Use of Explosive materials** – A current explosive license issued in accordance with Title 20 V.S.A. 3072 by the Vermont State Police is required for the use of explosive materials in Vermont. [For license applications or additional information contact the Department of Public Safety at (802) 241-5200 or vsp.vermont.gov] (2) Fireworks displays – (Reserved)

-add- section 1:1.13.4.1 **Experience & Training**: The Division of Fire Safety may accept successful completion of appropriate examination or certification other than those listed in this section when the examination or certification demonstrates an equivalent level of experience and training.

-add- section 1:1.13.8.1 **Documentation for Renewal**: An application for renewal shall include:

(1) Documentation of having completed the required hours of approved related instruction regarding this Code during the previous certificate period, or maintaining the required level of certification, and

(2) A completed and signed tax certification form in accordance with Title 32 V.S.A. 3113, and

(3) A completed and signed child support certification form in accordance with Title 15 V.S.A. section 795, and

(4) A completed and signed unemployment compensation certification form in accordance with Title 21 V.S.A. 1378, and

(5) A completed and signed fine or penalty certification form in accordance with Title 4 V.S.A. 1110.

-add- section 1:1.13.8.2 **Approval of Related Instruction**: An individual or organization providing related instruction, as required for renewal of a certificate of fitness, shall provide information on the training provided as requested by the AHJ prior to approval of the related instruction. Individuals providing the instruction shall demonstrate competency to the AHJ in the codes and standards for which the certificate of fitness is issued and shall attend such training as required by the AHJ.

-delete & replace- section 1:1.13.12.4 **Revocation or Suspension**: A person who has a certificate of fitness revoked or suspended shall be given written notification and the opportunity for a hearing following due process.

-add referenced standards- section 1:2.2 **Referenced Publications**: the following standards are added to section 2.2;

NFPA 53, Recommended Practice on Materials, Equipment, and Systems in Oxygen-Enriched Atmospheres, 2021 edition.
NFPA 54, National Fuel Gas Code, 2021 Edition including Annex G.
NFPA 73, Residential Safety Code, as adopted by the Vermont Electrician's Licensing Board.
NFPA 101A, Guide on Alternative Approaches to Life Safety, 2019 edition.
NFPA 291, Recommended Practice for Fire Flow Testing and Marking of Hydrants, 2019 edition.

-delete & replace in part- section 1:2.2 **Reference Publications**: Any reference to NFPA 5000, Building Construction and Safety Code, 2021 Edition, shall be to the International Building Code, 2021 edition, or International Existing Building Code, 2021 edition, as amended by this Code.

-delete & replace- section 1:3.3.199.11 **Definition of Health Care Occupancy**: An occupancy used for purposes of medical or other treatment or care of more than three (3) persons on an inpatient basis, where such occupants are mostly incapable of self-preservation due to age, physical or mental disability, or because of security measures not under the occupant's control.

-delete & replace- section 1:3.3.199.28 **Definition of Residential Board & Care Occupancy**: A building or portion thereof that is used for lodging or boarding of three (3) or more residents, not related by blood or marriage to the owners or operators, for the purpose of providing personal care services.

-add- section 1:4.5.7.3 Place of Assembly: **A place of assembly that changes ownership**, OR is leased to an alternate party, OR increases the occupant load, shall not be occupied or used until a permit for use and occupancy has been issued by the authority having jurisdiction.

-delete & replace- section 1:4.5.8.7 **Periodic Inspection and Test of Fire Protection Systems**: Inspections and tests of fire sprinkler (other than multipurpose piping systems), suppression, emergency electrical generation, alarm, detection and any other fire protection systems, devices and equipment shall be conducted for the owner by a certified technically qualified person (TQP) who has obtained the required certificate of fitness according to section 1.13.

Inspections and tests shall be conducted at least annually as required by a specific standard. Kitchen hood and Gas Island suppression systems shall be inspected semi-annually as required by NFPA 96 & NFPA 17A respectively. Annual or semi-annual testing by a technically qualified person does not prohibit owner from inspection and testing at more frequent intervals.

Household fire alarm systems in accordance with NFPA 72 Chapter 29 as adopted by these rules shall be inspected by a technically qualified person (TQP) who has obtained the required certificate of fitness according to section 1.13 annually and be provided with proof of inspection in accordance with NFPA 1 Section 4.5.8.9.

A technically qualified person shall file a written inspection report with the Division of Fire Safety within 14 days of completion of each inspection. The technically qualified person shall also file a duplicate copy of the written inspection report with the local AHJ in communities holding a current Municipal Inspection Agreement.

-add- section 1:4.5.8.8 **Identification of fire protection systems**: A fire protection system identification number, provided by the Division of Fire Safety, shall be affixed to the control panel, control valve or riser of the fire protection system to provide a unique identification number for the fire protection system.

-add- section 1:4.5.8.9 **Proof of Inspection**: Proof of inspection, approved by the Division of Fire Safety shall be affixed by a technically qualified person to the control panel, control valve or riser of the fire protection system after any required inspection has been completed as evidence of that inspection. Facilities with limited use may request kitchen hood inspection frequency to be annual, when reviewed and approved by the Division of Fire Safety. Intent of this code is to provide one proof of inspection sticker annually, regardless of inspection frequency.

-add- section 1:10.1.4.3: **Structural Failure or Collapse**: A building owner shall immediately report any structural failure or collapse that involves personal injury to the AHJ. Where the structural failure or collapse does not involve personal injury, the report shall be made within 48 hours. A registered design professional investigating an incident on behalf of the owner shall advise the owner of the requirement to report the incident. [For AHJ emergency contact during normal business hours call 1-800-640-2106. Outside of normal business hours call The State Emergency Operations Center at 1-800-347-0488]

-add- section 1:10.9.4.5 No Smoking label for small-size **Oxygen Cylinders**: All small-size oxygen cylinders shall be provided with a conspicuous no smoking precautionary label in the form of the international "no smoking" symbol, not less than 2" by 2" in size.

-delete & replace- Section 1:10.10.1 **Permits for Open Fires & Burning**: A permit is not required under these rules, but a permit shall be obtained from the Town Forest Fire Warden in accordance with Title 10 V.S.A. Chapter 83; 2645.

-add- section 1:10.11.1.9 **Truss Construction Signage**: All buildings containing light weight truss construction assemblies shall be provided with signage permanently affixed at a height 4 feet above the ground located at the left side of the main entrance door on the address side of the building, at the location of the remote fire alarm annunciation panel or at the fire department connection for the fire

sprinkler+ system. The sign shall be triangular in shape measuring 12 inches horizontally and 6 inches vertically and of contrasting color to the background containing the letter “F” for the truss floor assemblies, the letter “R” for truss roof assemblies and “FR” for truss floor and roof assemblies. “Light-weight truss construction” means a type of floor or roof construction whose primary structural elements are formed by a regularly spaced system of pre-engineered trusses composed of standard dimensional lumber or light gauge steel framing members.

-add- section 1:10.11.5 **Appliance Vent Termination**: All through the wall vents for fuel burning appliances, located less than 7 feet above ground level, shall be provided with signage permanently affixed at a height of 7 feet above ground level directly above the through the wall vent. The sign shall be a “V” shape, not less than 4 ½ inches in height, with the principal stroke of the letter “V” not less than ¾ inch in width, colored black on a white background. The sign shall contain the wording “Appliance Vent” using plainly legible letters.

-add- section 1:10.13.1.1.1 **Combustible Vegetation**: In other than Health Care, Detention and Correctional occupancies, combustible vegetation, including natural cut Christmas trees otherwise prohibited under table 10.13.1.1 shall be permitted when located in areas protected by an approved automatic fire sprinkler system.

-delete- section 1:10.14.11.1 **Permits for Crop Mazes**

-delete- section 1:10.16.1 **Permits for Parade Floats**

-delete & replace- section 1:11.1.2.1 **Electrical Systems**: All electrical wiring and equipment shall be installed and maintained in accordance with NFPA 70, National Electrical Code and NFPA 73, Residential Safety Code, as adopted and modified by the Vermont Electrical Safety Rules and approved by the Electricians Licensing Board.

-add- section 1:11.1.2.3.4 **GFCI Existing Buildings:** Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter shall be provided per NFPA 70:210.8A, as amended by the Vermont Electrical Safety Rules.

-add- section 1:11.4.3 **Application of NFPA 54**: Coverage of piping systems shall extend from the point of delivery to the appliance connections. For other than undiluted liquefied petroleum gas systems, the point of delivery shall be considered to be the outlet of the service meter assembly or the outlet of the service regulator or service shutoff valve where no meter is provided. For undiluted liquefied petroleum gas systems, the point of delivery shall be considered to be the outlet of the first stage pressure regulator.

-add– section 1:11.4.4 **Change in LP Gas Delivery Service**: The building owner, tenant, or responsible party shall obtain a safety inspection that meets or exceeds NFPA 54 annex G, for gas utilization equipment by person(s) certified in accordance with section 1.13, when new fuel delivery service is provided.

-add- section 1:11.5.1.7.1 **Periodic Inspection of Heating Appliances**: All fuel fired heating appliances shall be cleaned and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions and shall be inspected at least once during any 2-year period by person(s) certified in accordance with section 1.13. Inspections shall be in accordance with the standards and recommended procedures for inspection of existing appliances established under NFPA 31, 54 and 211, including the measurement of carbon monoxide in the flue gas. At the time of inspection, the appliance shall be marked with the date of the inspection and the name and certificate number of the person who performed the inspection. When the inspection determines the existing situation involves a distinct hazard to life or property and requires immediate action, the violation(s) shall be immediately corrected or the certified inspector conducting the inspection shall contact the AHJ and disconnect the heating appliance from operation.

-delete- section 1:11.5.1.11.2 **Clothes Dryers in Dwelling Units**:

-add- section 1:11.5.4.1 **Carbon Monoxide Alarms for Through the Wall Vent Termination**: In buildings other than where people sleep, carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in areas adjacent to, but not outside of the distance established in the manufacturer’s instructions, for all fuel burning appliances vented through the wall and terminating less than 7 feet above ground level.

-add- section 1:11.5.5 **Ash Disposal**: Where wood- burning stoves or fireplaces are installed, a metal receptacle with lid for disposal of ashes shall be provided. Written instructions shall be provided to instruct occupants on the importance of proper disposal of fireplace or woodstove ashes.

-add- section 1:13.3.1.7.1 **Seismic Protection of Fire Protection Systems**: Earthquake protection of building systems shall be limited to those buildings or structures that are categorized as essential. For purposes of this paragraph IBC Table 1604.5 IV shall be limited to hospitals; fire, rescue, & police stations; emergency vehicle garages, water storage & pumping structures and Emergency Operation Centers.

-delete- section 1:13.3.2.12 **Fire Sprinkler Protection for Existing Detention and Correctional** (see NFPA 101 for requirements)

-delete- section 1:13.3.2.17.1 **Fire Sprinkler Protection for New Apartment Buildings** (see NFPA 101 for requirements)

-delete- section 1:13.3.2.19.1 **Fire Sprinkler Protection for One & Two-Family Dwellings** (see NFPA 101 for requirements)

-delete- section 1:13.3.2.20.1.1 **Fire Sprinkler Protection for New Small Residential Board and Care** (see NFPA 101 for requirements)

-delete- section 1:13.3.2.21.2.2 **Fire Sprinkler Protection for exception for New Small Residential Board and Care** (see NFPA 101 for requirements)

-delete & replace- section 1:13.3.2.26.5. **Mini-storage Building**: An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout all mini-storage buildings greater than 2,500 square feet. An automatic sprinkler system is not required when one of the following is provided:

(1) Each storage unit is separated by 1-hour fire rated barrier
(2) Fire areas not exceeding 2,500 square feet provided with 2-hour fire rated barrier
(3) Provide an NFPA 72 compliant automatic fire alarm system with detection & emergency force notification.

-add- section 1:13.5.3.2 **Underground Private Fire Service Mains supplying Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems**: As defined in NFPA 24, standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and their Appurtenances, and in regard to this section, an underground private fire service main is the pipe and its appurtenances on private property between a source of water and the base of the system riser for a water based fire protection system. A contractor installing an underground private fire service main shall install, flush and test the piping, including completion of the "Contractor's Material and Test Certificate for Underground Piping", in accordance with NFPA 24.

A licensed professional engineer, or a person exempted under 26 V.S.A. 1163, shall design an underground private fire service main in accordance with NFPA 24 and witness the acceptance flushing and testing. The person designing and/or installing a fire sprinkler system under 1:1.13.1(10) or (11) shall verify the testing and flushing of the underground private fire service main and obtain a copy of the "Contractor's Material and Test Certificate for Underground Piping" prior to connecting to the piping. Working plans for an underground private fire service main including the items specified under NFPA 24:4 shall be submitted in accordance with section 4 of this code for a construction permit.

-add- section 1:13.5.3.2 **Backflow Testing**: The sprinkler system TQP (Technically Qualified Person) shall be certified to conduct annual forward flow test through the sprinkler system backflow device to ensure proper water flow rate.

-add- section 1:13.5.3.3 **Backflow Prevention for Fire Protection Systems**: A backflow prevention device, dedicated to a water-based fire protection system, shall be sized, installed and tested by a TQP certified for design, installation and maintenance of water based fire protection systems. Annual testing shall be in accordance with NFPA 25 Section 13.6. On new installations a valved connection shall be provided to conduct the "forward Flow" test. Test forms can be found at: www.nfpa.org, www.nfsa.org, and www.sprinklernet.org.

-add- section 1:13.5.3.4 **Backflow Prevention for Existing Sprinkler Systems**: A backflow prevention device shall not be added to an existing fire sprinkler system that reduces the water supply or water pressure to a point lower than the minimum sprinkler system design. Sprinkler calculations verifying the modified sprinkler design shall be submitted to the AHJ.

-add- section 1:13.6.3.1.1.4 **Portable Fire Extinguishers**: Portable fire extinguishers inside individual dwelling units shall be required to be a minimum 2-1/2 pound dry chemical capacity. All other occupancy types or locations shall be provided with fire extinguishers in accordance with NFPA 1:13.6.

-add- section 1:13.7.1.4.4 **Fire Alarm Circuit Classification**: All newly installed fire alarm systems in healthcare, detention & correctional, residential board & care occupancies, assembly occupancies with more than 300 people, and all high-rise buildings, shall be electrically wired as a Class A system.

-delete & replace- section 1:13.7.1.8.7 **Power for Smoke Alarms**: All smoke alarms shall be directly wired to a non-dedicated electrical branch circuit for the building and by battery, or by other methods as approved by the AHJ.

-add- section 1:13.7.1.8.11 **Photoelectric Smoke Alarms**: All newly installed smoke alarms shall be the photoelectric-only-type **OR** UL 217 labeled.

-add- section 1:13.7.1.10.6 **Single Line DACT**: A digital alarm communicator transmitter (DACT) utilizing a single line, without a secondary transmission means as required by NFPA 72: Chapter 26 shall be permitted where a fire alarm system is not required to provide emergency forces notification under this Code when no other means is available. A secondary transmission means, ONLY when available, shall be employed as listed in 72: Chapter 26

-add- section 1:13.7.1.14.**1 Carbon Monoxide/Fire Alarm Interconnection**: Where desired, carbon monoxide alarms may be integrated into the fire alarm system control panel. Notification appliances installed as part of the fire alarm system may be used for CO alarm detection notification of the building occupants when the notification appliances have been installed in compliance with the appropriate sections of NFPA 72. The above requirements do not apply to single-station or multi-station Carbon Monoxide Alarm devices.

-add- section 1:14.10.2.3 **Snow Removal**: All portions of the means of egress, including outside stairs and fire escapes, shall be kept clear of any accumulation of snow and ice at all times that the building is occupied. For multi-family dwellings with direct exit access to the outside and one & two-family dwellings snow and ice shall be removed as soon as practicable.

-add- section 1:14.10.2.4 **Clearance for Inclined Lifts on Stairways**: Where a platform or chair lift is installed on an exit stair in an existing building the minimum clear width on the stair when the inclined lift is in the down position shall be:

- 18" when the stair serves fewer than 10 people
- 22" where the stair serves fewer than 50 people
- as required by this Code when the stair serves 50 or more people.

Where a platform or chair lift is installed on an exit stair in a

new building the minimum clear width on the stair when the inclined lift is in the down position shall be as required by this Code.

-delete- section 1:16.7.1 **Permits for Torch Applied Roofing Systems**

-delete- section 1:16.8.1.2- **Permits for the placement of Tar Kettles**

-delete- section 1:16.9 **Asbestos Removal:** [The Vermont Department of Health regulates the removal of asbestos containing materials, as well as the training for persons who remove asbestos containing materials. For additional information, contact the Vermont Department of Health, Health Protection Division (1-800-439-8550)]

-delete- **Chapter 17 Wildland Urban Interface**

-add- 1:18.4.1.1.1 **Water Supplies**: The alternative water supply allowed by Section 18.3.1.1 shall be capable of supplying the required fire flow for fire protection in accordance with NFPA 1142: Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting.

-delete- section 1:19.1.1 **Commercial Rubbish-Handling Operations Permit**

-delete & replace- section 1:20.2.4.2.3 **Emergency Egress and Relocation Drills**: Emergency egress and relocation drills, in accordance with the school's emergency preparedness plan, shall be conducted in accordance with the annual Drill Guidance Memorandum issued by the Vermont School Safety Center, The Division of Fire Safety and the Agency of Education.

-delete & replace- sections 1:20.9.2.2, 1:20.10.2 & 1:20.11.2 **Unvented Fuel-fired Heaters**: Unvented fuel-fired heaters shall not be used.

-add- section 1:20.12.2.2.3 **Smoke Alarm & Carbon Monoxide Alarm** – Consumer Information: Information provided by the AHJ, on the type, placement and installation of smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms, shall be posted in the retail sales area where the alarms are sold.

-delete- section 1:22.2 **Automobile Wrecking Yard Permit**

-add- section 1:25.1.2.1 **Permits for Tents and Canopies**: Permits shall not be required for a tent or canopy less than 1200 sq. ft.

-add- Section 1:25.1.7 **Detection, Alarm & Communications Systems:** Deleted for tents only, when tent is erected for less than 180 days (NFPA 102 section 9.6).

-add- section 1:29.1.2.1 **Enclosed Parking Garage Ventilation/Carbon Monoxide Detection**: A mechanical ventilation system in accordance with NFPA 88A in conjunction with carbon monoxide detection system shall be provided. The use of the 2021 International Mechanical Code Section 404 Mechanical Ventilation of Enclosed Parking Garage is an accepted alternative.

-add- section 1:29.1.5 **Ventilation for Occupied Spaces Adjacent or Accessory to Parking Structures**: In addition to ventilation requirements under 88A:6.3 or the 2021 edition of the International Mechanical Code section 404 for enclosed parking structures, all connecting spaces or contained spaces such as offices, waiting areas, ticket booths and similar areas shall be maintained at a positive pressure, or a method approved by the AHJ. This provision shall not apply to parking structures attached to one & two family dwellings.

-delete & replace- sections 1:30.3.4.4.1, **NEW Electric Vehicle Repair Garages Extinguishment Requirements**: Automatic sprinkler protection installed in accordance with the requirements of Section 13.3 shall be provided throughout all fire areas in newly constructed buildings containing electric vehicle maintenance and repair.

-delete- section 1:41.1.5 **Permits for Welding, Cutting & other Hot Work**

-add- section 1:42.7.2.6.4.1 **Extinguishing Agent**: A copy of the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for the extinguishing agent shall be kept at all locations where automatic fire suppression systems are installed.

-add- section 1:42.7.4.3.2 **Training for Attendants**: All attendants for self-service fuel dispensing facilities shall receive initial and periodic training regarding the requirements of the Fire Code including preventing the dispensing of gasoline into unapproved portable containers, making sure that the portable container is on the ground while filling, controlling sources of ignition such as smoking and requiring the motor of the vehicle to be shut off, activating emergency controls and notifying the fire department of any fire, and handling accidental spills and fire extinguishers as needed. A poster listing the duties of this section and section 42.7.4.5, approved by the AHJ, shall be posted at the normal workstation of the attendant.

-add- section 1:42.7.4.5 **Power Disconnect**: An attendant for a self-service fuel dispensing facility shall disconnect the power to any pump when the attendant observes the dispensing of gasoline into an unapproved portable container, filling of a portable container that is not on the ground, the motor of the vehicle had not been stopped, smoking materials are being used within 20 ft. of the fuel dispensing, a person has blocked open the hose nozzle valve or a person has left the pump unattended, and the power shall not be restored until the violation is abated.

-delete & replace- section 1:42.7.5.6 **Fire Suppression Systems**: Approved automatic fire suppression systems shall be required at all **unattended self- service fuel dispensing** facilities **including card-lock, key-lock and fleet-refueling facilities** where non- employee third parties are allowed to dispense Class 1 flammable liquids.

Approved automatic fire suppression systems shall also be

required where unique and special circumstances constituting a serious risk to public safety require the use of such systems in order to adequately protect users, as determined by the authority having jurisdiction.

Approved automatic fire suppression systems shall not be required at any full-service or self-service fuel dispensing facility where an employee is on duty during all hours of operation, and where such employee is able to view and supervise all fuel dispensing operations, in accordance with 42.7.4. Direct supervision shall not be achieved by the use of closed-circuit television or other audio/visual means.

-add- section 1:42.7.5.7 **Fire Suppression Systems – Alternative Design**: Where otherwise exempted under this code a fire suppression system shall be permitted to be installed in accordance with the appropriate NFPA standard and the manufacturers' instructions that do not meet the listing requirements of UL 1254.

-add- section 1:42.7.5.8 **Existing Fire Suppression Systems**: Systems currently in use that were installed prior to May 31, 2002, shall be inspected and certified annually and shall continue to meet the standards for installation and operation incorporated into the Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code. A system installed prior to May 31, 2002, that is no longer operable shall be removed and:

a) be replaced with a system that meets the listing requirement of UL 1254, or

b) be replaced by a previously listed system that does not meet the listing requirements of UL 1254, or.

c) be removed from service and not replaced after notification, inspection and approval from the AHJ.

-add- section 1:50.2.1.10 **Isolated Cooking Operations**: The requirements for the hood, grease removal devices, duct and fixed fire extinguishing system may be modified by the AHJ for cooking operations in free standing tents, mobile units or other small buildings located greater than 30' from grandstands or other public buildings and occupied by employees only, when the clearance to combustibles, safety controls, portable fire extinguishers, staff training, fuel use, storage and shut-off, and electrical shut off for equipment are in compliance with this Code.

-add- section 1:50.4.1.1 **Cooking Operations - Acceptance Testing of a Suppression System**: An acceptance test shall be conducted by person(s) holding Vermont TQP status to ensure the system functions as designed. This test shall include a "puff test" discharging nitrogen or other approved inert gas through the system's agent distribution piping to allow verification of piping continuity including verification of gas discharge to each of the discharge nozzle(s)/ or other approved acceptance test per manufacture requirements and accepted by the AHJ. In addition, this test shall also include a demonstration of all critical functions of the system including but not limited to any required gas or electric shut down, any required make-up air shut down, any required building fire alarm connection, and visually provide confirmation of nozzle size and placement per the design plans when completed.

-delete & replace- section 1:51.1.2.1 **Permits for Industrial Ovens and Furnaces**: Permits for new installations, alterations or extensions to existing equipment shall comply with 1.12.

-delete & replace- section 1:53.1.2.1 **Permits for Mechanical Refrigeration**: A permit is not required for an existing facility that is in compliance with reporting requirements under the Vermont Community Right to Know Law, Title 20 V.S.A. Chapter 1.

-add- section 1:60.1.1.1 **Permits for Hazardous Materials**: A permit is not required for an existing facility that is in compliance with reporting requirements under the Vermont Community Right to Know Law, Title 20 Chapter 1.

-delete & replace- section 1:65.1.1

Explosives:

A license is required to possess, purchase, store, use, transport, give, transfer or sell explosives. For license applications or additional information, contact the Department of Public Safety – Division of State Police at (802) 241-5200.

The Department of Public Safety - Division of Fire Safety retains jurisdiction over the construction, manufacturing, and storage of explosive materials within public buildings as regulated under this Code.

Fireworks:

The Department of Public Safety - Division of Fire Safety retains jurisdiction over the construction, manufacturing, and storage of fireworks within public buildings as regulated under this Code.

The Division of Fire Safety retains jurisdiction over the construction, manufacturing, storage, handling and use of fireworks for supervised public displays and pyrotechnic special effects under this Code.

-delete & replace- section 1:65.3.3 **Permits for Public Fireworks Displays**: A permit for a supervised public display of fireworks shall be obtained from the chief of the fire department, or in towns where there is no fire department the board of selectperson, after determining the display would not be hazardous to property or endanger the public. Application for a permit must be made at least 15 days in advance of the public fireworks display.

-add- section 1:65.10 **Consumer Fireworks**: The sale, handling and storage of consumer fireworks, including sparklers permitted for sale in Vermont, in both new and existing buildings, structures and facilities shall comply with NFPA 1124, 2017 edition.

-add- section 1:65.10.1 **Exempt Amounts of Consumer Fireworks**: Consumer fireworks retail sales facilities or stores where the fireworks and sparklers are in packages in accordance with the U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and where the total quantity of consumer fireworks and sparklers in the building does not exceed 125 lb. (net) of pyrotechnic composition shall be exempt.

-delete & replace- section 1:66.1.5 **Permits for Flammable & Combustible Liquids**: A permit is not required for an underground storage tank regulated by the Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation, according to NFPA 30. All USTs are required to be registered with the Agency except for:

(a) Tanks less than 1100 gallons containing fuel oil (#2-#6) which is used for on premises heating and domestic hot water, and
(b) Farm and residential tanks less than 1100 gallons containing motor fuel which is used for noncommercial purposes.

-add- section 1:69.1.1.4 **Record of Installation for LP Gas Containers**: Installers shall maintain a record of all installations for which a permit is not required by section 69.1.1.3, but not including replacing of portable cylinders, available for inspection by the AHJ.

-delete & replace- section 1:69.1.2 **LP Gas Tanks Installations – Permits Required:** any underground or above ground tank larger than 2000 gallons; or any multiple tank installation with an aggregate capacity of over 4000 gallons; or any container where liquid product is transferred from one to another tank or cylinder, such as portable tank filling stations.

-add- section 1:82 **Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Installation Requirements**

-add- section 1:82.1 All installations where **CNG trailers** will be utilized to supply energy will require a permit approved by the Vermont Division of Fire Safety and/or The Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) to ensure all safety concerns are considered prior to any use of the facility. The permit request shall have all drawings indicating piping and safety systems.

-add- section 1:82.2 The permit Requestor shall provide training to the local Fire Department, prior to the installation of the terminal for the trailer. The training will include as a minimum:

(a) Specifics in regard to the trailer
(b) Properties of Natural Gas
(c) Safety mechanisms built into the trailers
(d) Emergency Contact numbers for the permit Requestor

-add- section 1:82.3 All installations where trailers are used as the source of CNG shall be equipped with break-away protection. This requirement is to ensure that if a trailer is driven away or rolls away that the hose lines, if ruptured, will not allow product to escape.

-add- section 1:82.4 Trailers shall have an interlock device installed to disallow movement of the trailer, if the rear doors are open.

-add- section 1:82.5 Security will be addressed when the permit is requested. Security cameras and fencing shall be provided.

-add- section 1:82.6 Lighting shall be required at the sites, which meet electrical code, to provide a deterrent to vandals and provide heightened safety or workers.

-add- section 1:82.7 The location of the trailer, when parked for connection to the facility, shall not be underneath a roof or overhang of any structure.

-add- section 1:82.8 Each installation shall have a Fire Safety Analysis document completed, which includes:

(a) The effectiveness of product control measures
(b) An analysis of local conditions of hazard within the contained site.
(c) Exposure to or from other properties, population density and congestion.
(d) The probable effectiveness of plant Fire Brigades or local Fire Departments based on adequate water supply, response time and training.
(e) Consideration for the adequate application of water by hose stream or other method for effective control of leakage, fire or other exposures.
(f) If necessary, a designated time period for review of the Fire Safety Analysis with local emergency response agencies to ensure pre-planning and emergency response plans for the installation are current.

The IBC is adopted to the extent necessary to ensure compliance with the performance requirements of this Code and the intent of this Code regarding safeguarding of people and property in case of fire, explosion, dangerous structural conditions and the generation of carbon monoxide.

-delete- IBC Chapter 1 **Administration** except for section 107 (Submittal Documents) as appropriate and the following sections:

-delete & replace- IBC section 101.4 Referenced Codes: Where referenced under the IBC any reference to the:
***ICC Electrical Code**, shall be to the National Electrical Code, NFPA 70, as adopted by the Electricians Licensing Board,
***International Existing Building Code** (IEBC): 2021 edition, structural requirements only,
***International Fuel Gas Code**, shall be to the National Fuel Gas Code, NFPA 54 2021 edition including Annex G as adopted under this Code,
***International Mechanical Code**, shall be to the Fire Code, NFPA 1, 2021 edition, including NFPA 90A, as adopted under this Code, unless specifically adopted within these rules,
***International Plumbing Code** shall be as adopted by the Plumbers Examining Board,
***International Property Maintenance Code**, shall be to the Fire Code, NFPA 1, 2021 edition and the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101, 2021 edition, as adopted under this Code,
***International Fire Code**, shall be to the NFPA 1 Fire Code, 2021 edition, as adopted under this Code,
***International Energy Conservation Code**, with Vermont Specific additions and revisions shall be to the Vermont Building Energy Standards, as published by the Vermont Department of Public Service (802-828- 3183),
***International Residential Code**, or to R-3 Occupancy Classification for one- & two-family dwellings, shall be to the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101, 2021 edition as adopted under this Code, unless specifically adopted within these rules.

-delete & replace- IBC section 105 **Construction Permits**: Permits shall be obtained in accordance with section 8 of the Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section: 308.2.4 A facility with 3 or more clients receiving care shall be classified as an R-4 occupancy. A facility with 2 or less persons shall be classified and regulated in accordance with the applicable occupancy chapter of NFPA 101.

-add- IBC section: 310.4.3 R-3 **Detached One- & Two-Family Dwellings**: Detached one & two family dwellings shall be classified and regulated in accordance with the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101.

-delete- IBC section 406.6.2 **Enclosed Parking Garage**

-delete & replace- IBC Table 504.3 **Note (h):** New Group R occupancies are required to be protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system as required by NFPA 101 as adopted by this Code.

-delete- IBC Table 504.4 **Note (d)**

-delete & replace- IBC Table 504.4 **Note (h):** New Group R occupancies are required to be protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system as required by NFPA 101 as adopted by this Code.

-delete- IBC Table 506.2 **Note (d)**

-delete & replace- IBC Table 506.2 **Note (h):** New Group R occupancies are required to be protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system as required by NFPA 101 as adopted by this Code.

-add- IBC section 703.5.1 **Penetration Labeling Penetrations and Joints**: In buildings 3 stories and greater, and in buildings listed in Table 1604.1 risk category III and IV the through penetration firestop systems and fire-resistant joint systems requiring protections shall be permanently identified with a marking system. The marking system shall be located within 2 inches of the through penetration firestop system. For fire-resistant joint systems, the marking system shall be located within 15 feet of the end of each wall or floor and at intervals not exceeding 30 feet measured horizontally along the wall or partition. The marking system shall be legible and contain, at a minimum, the following information. The required marking system shall provide the following information:

- Do Not Disturb - Firestop System
- System Design Listing Number (or Engineering Judgement)
- Date of Installation

-delete & replace- IBC Section 706 **Fire Walls**: The design and construction of new Fire Walls and High Challenge Fire Walls shall be in accordance with NFPA 1 Section 12.3.1 and NFPA 221. and the following: The minimum fire resistance rating for Fire Walls and High Challenge Fire Walls shall be three hours; for buildings with complete supervised automatic sprinkler systems on both sides of the fire wall, the minimum fire resistance rating shall be two hours. High Challenge Fire Walls shall be utilized for buildings containing an occupancy in categories “III” or “IV” listed on Table 1604.5 IBC.

-delete & replace- IBC chapter 8 **Interior Finishes**: Interior finishes shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 902 **Fire Pump and Riser Room**: Fire Pump and Riser Room shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 and Fire Code NFPA 1,

as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 903.2.8: New Group R occupancies are required to be protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system as required by NFPA 101 & NFPA 1 as adopted by this code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 903.2.11.1.1 **Opening Dimensions and access:** Openings shall have a minimum dimension of not less than 30 inches. Access to such openings shall be provided for the fire department from the exterior and shall not be obstructed in a manner such that firefighting or rescue cannot be accomplished from the exterior. An overhead garage door is not considered an opening.

-delete & replace- IBC section 904 **Alternative Automatic Fire Extinguishing Systems**: Alternative Automatic Fire Extinguishing Systems shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 and Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 905 **Standpipe Systems**: Standpipe Systems shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 and Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 906 **Portable Fire Extinguishers**: Portable Fire Extinguishers shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 and Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 911 **Fire Command Center**: Fire Command Center shall be in accordance with the Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 912 **Fire Department Connection**: Fire department connections shall be in accordance with the Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 913 **Fire Pumps**: Fire Pumps shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 and Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 915 **Carbon Monoxide Detection**: Carbon Monoxide Detection shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 and Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 917 **Mass Notification Systems**: Mass Notification Systems shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 and Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC section 918 **Emergency Responder Radio Coverage**: Emergency Responder Radio Coverage shall be in accordance with the Fire Code NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC chapter 10 **Means of Egress**: Means of Egress shall be in accordance with the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC chapter 11 **Accessibility**: All new construction and alterations shall be in accordance with the currently adopted "Vermont Access Rules" as adopted by the Vermont Access Board.

-delete- IBC chapter 12 **Interior Environment** except for section 1208.1 Crawl Spaces & 1208.2 Attic Spaces Access to Unoccupied Spaces.

-delete & replace- IBC chapter 13 **Energy Efficiency**: Certification, approved by the Department of Public Service, indicating compliance with the current Vermont Commercial Building Energy Standards (CBES), for the design and construction of any public building, other than one & two family dwellings and multi-family dwellings three stories or less in height, shall be affixed in a visible location inside the building, in the vicinity of the heating or cooling equipment or the electrical service panel, as a condition for a final occupancy permit.

[Note: The Department of Public Service provides technical assistance and expert advice regarding the energy standard requirements for new construction. This includes criteria that builders may use in lieu of computer or systems analysis of the building. For additional information contact the Vermont Department of Public Service at 1-888-373-2255.]

-delete & replace- IBC Section 1608.2 **Ground Snow Loads**: The map "Ground Snow Loads for Vermont by Town or City" from Annex VII of these rules shall be used in determining the minimum ground snow load. Ground snow loads above 2500 feet above sea level shall be approved by the AHJ and shall be based on an extreme value statistical analysis of data available in the vicinity of the site using a value with a 2-percent annual probability of being exceeded (50-year mean recurrence interval), or other means acceptable to the AHJ.

-add- IBC Section 1608.2.1 **Minimum Roof Snow Load**: The total roof snow load, including additional loading effects due to drifting snow, sliding snow, unbalanced loading conditions and partial loading conditions, shall not be less than 40 psf for roofs with a slope less than or equal to 5 degrees, and shall not be less than the slope factor (Cs) times 40 psf for roofs with a slope greater than 5 degrees. This minimum roof snow load shall not apply to the windward side for unbalanced loading conditions, or to the partially loaded spans for partial loading conditions.

-delete & replace- IBC section 1612.3 **Establishment of Flood Hazard Area**: Where established by a municipality by ordinance or zoning standard the flood hazard area shall be identified by one of the following:

(1) Special flood hazard area designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), or
(2) Most recent flood insurance rate map (FIRM), or
(3) Area subject to flooding during the design flood and shown on a municipal flood hazard map.

-delete & replace – IBC 1705.18 **Fire-resistant penetrations and joints.** In high-rise buildings, in buildings assigned to *Risk Category* III or IV in Table 1604.1, or in fire areas containing Group R occupancies that are three or greater stories, special inspections for through-penetrations, membrane penetration firestops, fire-resistant joint systems and perimeter fire containment systems that are tested and listed in accordance with Sections 714.4.1.2, 714.5.1.2, 715.3.1 and 715.4 shall be in accordance with Section 1705.18.1 or 1705.18.2.

-delete & replace- IBC section 1809.5 **Frost Protection**. Except where otherwise protected from frost, foundations and other permanent supports of buildings and structures shall be protected from frost by one or more of the following methods:

(1) Extending below the frost line of the locality, but not less than 5'-0" below finished grade.
(2) Constructing in accordance with ASCE 32.
(3) Erecting on solid rock.

-delete & replace- IBC sections 2111, 2112 & 2113: **Masonry Fireplaces, Heaters and Chimneys**: Masonry fireplaces, heaters and chimneys shall be in accordance with the Standard for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents and Solid Fuel-Burning Appliances, NFPA 211, as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC chapter 27 **Electrical**: Electrical components, equipment and systems shall be in accordance with the National Electrical Code, NFPA 70, as adopted by the Electricians' Licensing Board.

-delete & replace- IBC chapter 28 **Mechanical Systems**: Mechanical equipment and systems shall be installed in accordance with the Fire Code, NFPA 1, including NFPA 90A as adopted under this Code.

-delete & replace- IBC chapter 29 **Plumbing Systems**: Plumbing work is regulated under the Vermont Plumbing Rules as adopted by the Plumbers Examining Board.

-delete & replace- IBC section 3001 **Elevators and Conveying Systems**: Elevator and conveyance work is regulated under the Vermont Elevator Safety Rules as adopted by the Elevator Safety Review Board.

-add- section IBC section 3002.1.3 **New Elevator Hoistway:** All new elevator hoistways 3 or more stories in height shall be non-combustible or limited combustible construction and the car enclosure materials shall meet the requirements of ASME A17.1, Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators as currently adopted by the Vermont Elevator Safety Rules.

-delete & replace- IBC section 3002.4. **Required Locations**: An **elevator car** of such a size and arrangement to accommodate an ambulance stretcher (24" X 84") as specified in section 3002.4 shall be provided where a passenger elevator is newly installed in a building **three or more stories in height** above or below grade plane/grade level. This section shall not apply to the installation of a Limited-Use / Limited- Application elevator approved by the Vermont Access Board.

-delete & replace- IBC section 3004.4 **Personnel and Material Hoists**: Personnel and Material Hoist work is regulated under the rules of the Vermont Occupational and Safety Administration.

-delete & replace- IBC section 3005.5 **Shunt Trip**: Elevator shunt-trip is not permitted under Vermont Elevator Safety Rules, section 2.8.3.3.2.

-delete- IBC section 3107 **Signs**

-delete- IBC section 3108 **Telecommunication and Broadcast Towers**

-delete- IBC section 3109 **Swimming Pool Enclosures and Safety Devices**

-delete- IBC section 3110 **Automatic Vehicular Gates**

-delete & replace- IBC **Solar Energy Systems** section 3111.2 through 3111.3.5. Solar photovoltaic systems shall be in accordance with NFPA 1 as adopted under this Code.

-delete- IBC Chapter 32 **Encroachments into the Public Right-of-Way**

-delete & replace– IBC chapter 33 **Safeguards During Construction**: Safety during construction shall be in accordance with the Standard for Safeguarding Construction, Alteration and Demolition Operations, NFPA 241 and Chapter 16 of NFPA 1, as adopted under this Code.

INTERNATIONAL EXISTING BUILDING CODE (IEBC) 2021 Edition

: The purpose and intent of IEBC adoption is for structural requirements only, no other requirements within the IEBC shall apply in buildings undergoing renovation, demolition, reconstruction, modification and repair.

Section 6 Amendments to Referenced Codes & Standards

This section shall amend specific sections within Codes and Standards adopted by reference in Sections 3, 4 & 5

NFPA 13 (2019):

-delete & replace- section 13: 9.3.6.5 **Elevator Hoistway**: Sprinklers shall not be installed at the top of elevator hoistways as required by the Vermont Elevator Safety Rules.

-delete- section 13:9.3.6.6 **Elevator Hoistway Construction:**

-delete & replace- section 13:16.12.5.4 **Arrangement of Fire Department Connections**: All new fire department connections shall be arranged so that water from the fire department connection shall reach the sprinkler system regardless of any manually closed control valve. This section does not apply to remote electrically supervised zone/floor control valves on systems installed in accordance with NFPA 13.

-delete & replace- section 13:16.12.5.5 **Fire Department Connections and underground piping.** Fire department connections shall not be attached to underground piping

NFPA 13D (2019):

-add- section 13D:11.3 **Residential Sprinkler Functional Flow Testing:** A bucket test shall be required as the functional flow test to ensure adequate water delivery to the remote design location. The contractor shall complete the Contractor's Material and Test Certificate(s) and forward the certificate(s) to the AHJ.

NFPA 13R (2019):

-add- section 13R:6.6.5.1.2 Where NFPA 13R sprinkler systems are installed and only a single means of egress or escape is provided, sprinklers shall be required in any portion of a building that is a part of the single means of egress or means of escape including any exterior porch or balcony, exterior stair, canopy, porte-cocheres, or carport.

-add- section 13R:10.3 **Residential Sprinkler Functional Flow Testing:** A bucket test shall be required as the functional flow test to ensure adequate water delivery to the remote design location.

NFPA 22 (2018):

-add- section 22:11.3.1: Tank Specification: Polyethylene water storage tanks or tanks meeting AWWA D120 shall be permitted for water supply storage for 13R sprinkler systems.

NFPA 25 (2020):

-add- section 25:13.7.4 **International Plumbing Code Requirements.** In addition to the requirements of Sections 13.7.1, 13.7.2 and 13.7.3, all Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of backflow prevention assemblies shall also comply with the applicable section of the International Plumbing Code and Vermont Plumbing Rules as currently adopted.

-add- section 25:13.8.6 **Arrangement of Existing Fire Department Connections**: All existing fire department connections shall be arranged so that water from the fire department connection shall reach the sprinkler system regardless of any manually closed control valve. This section does not apply to remote electrically supervised zone / floor control valves on systems installed in accordance with NFPA 13.

-add- section 25:13.8.7 **Fire Department Connections for Existing Sprinkler Systems**: Where there is no fire department connection for an existing NFPA 13 or 13R sprinkler system, or the threads do not meet NFPA 13 section 6.8, it shall be listed as a deficiency under NFPA 25: 5.1.1 by the technically qualified person conducting the annual inspection and corrected by the owner or occupant in accordance with NFPA 25: 4.1.5.

NFPA 30A (2021):

-add- section 30A:4.3.6.7 **Aboveground Storage Tanks for Fuel Dispensing**: All aboveground tanks storing Class I liquids shall be fire resistant tanks in accordance with Section 4.3.4

-delete & replace- section 30A:4.3.2.4 **Location of Aboveground Tanks for Fuel Dispensing:** Tanks involved with fuel dispensing storing Class I liquids shall be located in accordance with Table 4.3.2.4. Tanks containing other liquids regulated under this chapter shall be permitted to be located with minimum separation requirements ½ of the distances in Table 4.3.2.4

NFPA 54 (2021):

-add- section 54:4.2.3 **Interruption or Discontinuance of Gas Service**: Whenever service to a customer is discontinued one of the following must be complied with:

(1) The valve that is closed to prevent the flow of gas to the customer must be provided with a locking device or other means designated to prevent the opening of the valve by persons other than those authorized by the operator.
(2) A mechanical device or fitting that will prevent the flow of gas must be installed in the service line or in the meter assembly.
(3) The customer's piping must be physically disconnected from the gas supply and the open pipe ends sealed.

-delete & replace- section 54:10.22.3 **Room Heater Installations:** Unvented room heaters and unvented fireplaces shall not be used in any building or structure regulated under this code.

[It is not the intent of this section to prohibit heaters defined under NFPA 54 section, 3.3.57.1, Industrial Air Heaters, Direct Gas- Fired Non-Recirculating, or 3.3.57.2, Industrial Air Heaters, Direct Gas-Fired Recirculating, used for large well-ventilated areas.]

NFPA 58 (2020)

-add- section 58:6.8.6.1(C)(1) All other Underground Containers shall be provided with a reflective marker or other readily visible marker acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction, at 4' in height to mark the location of the housing cover.

NFPA 96 (2021)

-delete- section 96:8.2.3.2 **Exhaust Fan Activation**

-delete- section 96:8.2.3.3 **Exhaust Fan Activation**

NFPA 211 (2019)

-add- section 211:10.7.3.3.1 **Clothes Dryer Vents**: A vent-less clothes dryer shall be permitted when listed by an approved testing agency for an electric dryer only. The vent-less clothes dryer shall have a feature that removes and disposes moisture and condensate. Vent- less gas dryer is not allowed.

NFPA 232 (2017):

-delete & replace- section 232:6.10.2 The vault door shall have a minimum fire resistance rating of 4 hours.

NFPA 855 (2020):

-add- section 4.3.5.1**(4)** Signage shall be located on the exterior of the building on the primary electrical service entrance equipment and on any ancillary control equipment servicing the ESS system.

-add- section 4.3.5.2**(6)** location designator: **B** – Basement, **G** – Garage, **L(#)**, Floor level where the ESS equipment is located if other than the basement.

NFPA 2001 (2018):

-add- section 2001:4.1.1.2.1 A building which is not required to be protected with an automatic sprinkler system is not required to provide reserve agent supply.

-add- section 2001:4.1.1.2.2 Reserve agent supply is not required when the protected area is 300 square feet or less in area when the building is protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system. Sprinkler heads may be omitted from the clean agent protected area. The clean agent protected area shall be separated from other adjacent rooms or building areas by 1-hour fire resistive rated construction with a self-closing, positive latching fire door assembly of at least 45 minutes.

-add- section 2001:4.1.1.2.3 Protected areas greater than 300 square feet in sprinklered buildings shall have sprinkler protection and shall comply with one of the following:

(1) Sprinkler system may be controlled by a visible operating valve outside the protected room.

(2) A reserve agent supply must be provided that can be manually operated by fire department personnel using the same piping system and must be capable of being activated/discharged by the fire department from outside of the protected room.

Section 7 Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspection

A. Intent:

It is the intent of these rules to prescribe standards and procedures for the safe design, construction, use and maintenance of boilers and pressure vessels to protect all persons from harm arising from fire and explosions related to boilers and pressure vessels.

B. Adopted Standards:

The following nationally recognized safety standards are adopted and shall apply to all boilers and pressure vessels covered under these rules:

(1) National Board Inspection Code (NBIC) 2021 Edition, Parts 1, 2 & 3.

(2) American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code- 2021 Edition (a) through (j):

(a) Section I – Power Boilers

(b) Section II – Material Specifications, Part A – Ferrous

(c) Section II - Material Specifications, Part B – Nonferrous

(d) Section II - Material Specifications, Part C – Welding Rods, Electrodes and filler Metals

(e) Section IV – Heating Boilers

(f) Section V – Nondestructive Examination

(g) Section VIII – Pressure Vessels, Division I

(h) Section VIII – Pressure Vessels, Division 2 – Alternative Rules

(i) Section IX – Welding and Brazing Qualifications

(j) Section X – Fiber-Reinforced Plastic Pressure Vessels

(3) B31.1 Power Piping, ANSI 2020 Edition,

(4) ASME CSD-1 2021 Edition, Controls and Safety Devices for Automatically Fired Boilers.

C. Application:

These rules apply to all new and existing boilers and pressure vessels. A boiler is defined as a closed vessel in which water is heated, steam is generated, steam is superheated, or any combinations thereof, under pressure or vacuum by the direct application of heat from the combustion of fuel or from electricity. The term boiler includes a fired unit for the heating or vaporizing of liquids other than water where the unit is separate from a processing system and is complete within itself. An unfired pressure vessel is defined as a container with pressure obtained from an external source that exceeds 15 psi.

D. Exemptions:

These rules shall not apply to the following boilers and pressure vessels:

(1) A boiler or pressure vessel located on a common carrier subject to the regulations under the Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation, Federal Railroad Administration or Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

(2) Pressure containers that are integral parts or components of rotating or reciprocating mechanical devices such as pumps, compressors, turbines, generators, engines and hydraulic or pneumatic cylinders where the primary design consideration and/or stress is derived from the functional requirements of the device.

(3) Water heaters and potable water storage tanks with a heat input of less than 200,000 BTU/HR, water temperature less than 210 degrees F and less than 120 gallons water capacity.

(4) Steam cleaners or coil type boilers without steam space where water flashes into steam when manually released through a nozzle for cleaning machinery, equipment, etc.; when the water capacity is less than 6 gallons, and the water temperature is less than 350 degrees F.

(5) A system for heating a building or other process using an open vessel (characterized by a continuously open vent or vents of adequate size designed so that the vessel will not operate above atmospheric pressure) is not regulated under the NBIC but is subject to other requirements of this code and other rules and standards adopted by the Division, including obtaining all required permits and inspections. Units exempted under this section shall be equipped with approved pressure/temperature safety relief devices in accordance with the NBIC.

(6) Buffer tanks shall be considered a component of piping.

E. Design, Construction, Controls, and Notification

All boilers and pressure vessels shall be designed, manufactured, constructed and assembled in accordance with the relevant standards published by the:

(1) American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code.

Canadian Standards Association;

(2) European Committee for Standardization, for boilers with a maximum water jacket size of 60 gallons, a maximum input of 250,000BTU/HR, and a maximum relief valve setting of 30 pounds per square inch gauge (psig), or

(3) European Committee for Standardization, for boilers or pressure vessels with an input of greater than 250,000 BTU/HR or a water jacket size of greater than 60 gallons, as approved by the Commissioner of Public Safety.

(4) All boilers shall be installed with controls and safety devices and pressure vessels shall be installed with over-pressure protection in accordance with the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Sections I, IV, and VIII, or by the European Committee for Standardization of Boilers.

(5) The manufacturer's design information, instructions, data plates and warning labels for all boilers and pressure vessels shall be in English. All numerical values may be expressed in either inch-pound or metric (SI) units.

(6) The owner or person installing a boiler or pressure vessel shall report to the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ), the location, type, capacity, age and date of installation of the boiler or pressure vessel.

F. Required Inspections:

(1) Prior to being placed in service, any boiler or pressure vessel shall be inspected by a commissioned inspector. When the boiler or pressure vessel is found to be in compliance with this Code, the commissioned inspector shall attach an identification number, approved by the AHJ, and an **initial inspection certificate** in a format approved by the AHJ. The inspection certificate shall be posted at the site of the operation. The identification number, initial inspection by a commissioned inspector and operating certificate shall not be required for boilers designed to heat individual dwelling units. Boilers connected to a single system with a total aggregate heat output capacity of less than 199,000 BTU/HR serving apartments or residential condominiums are not required to have a commissioned inspection and operating certificate.

(2) The **periodic inspection** of boilers and pressure vessels shall be performed by a Vermont Commissioned inspector at intervals listed in this section. A commissioned inspector may require additional external (an inspection made when a boiler or pressure vessel is fully intact so all safety features can be inspected) or internal (an inspection made when a boiler or pressure vessel is shut down and hand-holes, manholes or other inspection openings are opened for inspection of the interior) inspections when unsafe conditions or operations are observed or suspected. The AHJ may order the owner or user to stop operation of a boiler or pressure vessel operating in violation of this Code.

i) Each high-pressure power boiler in which steam is generated at a pressure of more than 15 pounds per square inch, and high temperature water boilers shall be inspected both internally and externally while not under pressure on an **annual** basis, and externally, while in operation and under pressure, approximately six months from the internal inspection.

ii) Each low-pressure hot water heating boiler installed to operate at pressures not to exceed 160 pounds per square inch and/or temperatures not exceeding 250 degrees F., and each low-pressure **steam boiler** operating at a pressure not exceeding 15 pounds per square inch, shall be inspected externally every **two years**. A steam heating boiler operating at a pressure not exceeding 15 pounds per square inch shall be inspected externally, and internally where construction permits, every **two years.** An inspection shall not be required for boilers designed to heat **individual dwelling units.**

iii) **Cast iron boilers** shall be inspected externally every **two years**. Steel boilers shall be inspected every **two years**. When the type of construction of the boiler permits, such inspection shall be an

iv) vessels insured, insurance cancelled or not renewed or refused within 30 days.

v) Participate in training as may be directed by the AHJ.

vi) Not engage in the sale of, or have any interest in, internal inspection at least every **three years** for steam boilers and an internal inspection at least once every **five years** for hot water boilers, in addition to the **two-year** external inspection. A grace period beyond the periods specified above may be permitted at the discretion of the Commissioner of Public Safety.

iv) New **steam boiler** installations shall provide at least one testable low water cutoff operating control and one testable high limit control with manual reset. This does not preclude having additional low water cutoff controls.

v) All new low-pressure hot water heating boilers and hot water supply boilers shall provide at least one testable low water cutoff with a manual reset. Each automatically fired low-pressure hot water heating boiler shall have an automatic low-water fuel cutoff which has been designed for hot water service, and it shall be so located as to automatically cut off the fuel supply when the surface of the water falls to the level established by the boiler manufacturer.

vi) Each pressure vessel greater than 5 cubic feet and operating with a relieving pressure greater than 125 pounds per square inch shall be inspected externally, and internally where construction permits, every **three years**. An internal inspection is **not** required for a rubber-lined pressure vessel.

G. Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors:

(1) An employee of an insurance company, licensed to insure boilers and pressure vessels in Vermont, shall obtain a current Vermont commission to inspect boilers and pressure vessels prior to conducting any inspections. A current commission from the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors is required to obtain a Vermont commission. A Vermont commission may be revoked or suspended for violation or misrepresentation of responsibilities established under this Code. A person who has a Vermont commission revoked or suspended shall be given written notification and the opportunity for a hearing following due process.

(2) An employee of an insurance company licensed to insure boilers and pressure vessels in Vermont, who has obtained a Vermont commission, and/or the insurance company licensed to insure boilers and pressure vessels in Vermont **shall:**

i) Inspect all boilers and pressure vessels insured by the insurance company in accordance with this Code and at time frames established under this Code.

ii) Report the results of all inspections to the AHJ within 30 days of the inspection in a format approved by the AHJ.

iii) Notify the AHJ of new boilers or pressure any appliance or device related in any way to the construction, operation or maintenance of boilers and pressure vessels covered under this Code.

(3) The owner, user or commissioned inspector shall immediately report any accident, incident or

explosion involving a boiler or pressure vessel that involves personal injury to the AHJ at 1-800-347-0488 and secure the scene to prevent any change that would hamper the investigation of the incident. Where the accident, incident or explosion does not involve

(4) A personal injury the report shall be made within 48 hours.

(5) The insurance company of record shall pay a fee of $30.00 to the Division of Fire Safety for each inspection certificate or periodic inspection sticker.

H. Boiler Room Exits:

(1) Two means of egress shall be provided for boiler rooms exceeding 500 sq. ft. or containing one or more boilers having an aggregate fuel input capacity of 1,000,000 BTU/HR or more. Each elevation shall be provided with at least two means of egress located remotely from each other. A platform at the top of a single boiler is not considered an elevation.

-delete & replace- section I-3724(a) **Low Water Cutoff**: Each automatically fired low-pressure hot-water heating boiler shall have an automatic low-water fuel cutoff which has been designed for hot-water service, and it shall be so located as to automatically cut off the fuel supply when the surface of the water falls to the level established by the boiler manufacturer.

Section 8 Application for a Construction Permit

(1) The owner, or a designated representative, of a building or premises shall obtain a construction permit before beginning any construction, addition, alteration, rehabilitation, demolition or installation of fixed building equipment at the building site unless specifically waived by the AHJ.

(2) To obtain a construction permit the applicant shall:
   a. Complete a **Construction Permit Application** form and submit it along with the required construction permit fee to the Division of Fire Safety regional office.
   b. Provide **construction documents** relating to the construction work and equipment under consideration unless specifically waived by the AHJ based on the size, use, occupancy or complexity of the work.
   c. For buildings where the applicant is requesting special consideration for a **historic building, documentation** shall be included on the historic designation of the building, including identification and evaluation of historic adjacent structures and site elements such as sheds, walkways, and fencing; historic construction features such as sheathing, facade or roofing materials, chimneys, skylights, cornices or molding, windows or doors, wainscoting, cabinets and finishes; and historic spaces such as archways, lobbies or rooms which are important to the understanding and application of the building.

(3) The **construction documents** shall be prepared by a registered designed professional, stamped and signed, where required by 26 V.S.A. chapters 3 & 20. [Excerpts from the Architects & Professional Engineering Licensing and Registration Statutes are included in Annex II of this code]

(4) Plans required under this Code shall be drawn to scale, using customary inch-pound units and English language, and shall be sufficiently clear, comprehensive, detailed and legible when submitted to the AHJ so that, together with any accompanying specifications and data, the AHJ can readily determine whether or not the proposed building, addition, or alteration, and all proposed building equipment will conform to this Code.

(5) The AHJ shall review the application for a construction permit and the construction documents where applicable and shall issue a permit, a conditional permit with specific terms and conditions, or deny the application. The AHJ may require additional information before issuing, or denying the application for a construction permit. Any conditions of the permit or reasons for denial of the permit shall be transmitted to the applicant in writing.

(6) The AHJ may provide consultation or preliminary plan review for proposed construction to identify high priority code issues when deemed warranted by the significance or complexity of the project.

(7) A **construction permit shall expire** if the work authorized under the permit is not commenced, or is suspended or abandoned, for a time period of **12 months**. When a project is resubmitted for review beyond the 12 months and where no extension was granted, and no major building design change has occurred a 50% plan review fee will be assessed.

(8) **Construction permit fees** are established by the Vermont Legislature under Title 20 V.S.A. section 2731. The current construction permit fees are available on the Division's website or by contacting any office of the Division.
   a. The Commissioner or designated representative may **rebate up to $2,000** of the construction permit fee paid the department toward the cost of a qualified fire sprinkler system installed in an existing building in a designated downtown area.
   b. In the case of **abandonment or discontinuance of a building project** involving a construction permit fee greater than $150 the construction permit fee may be refunded, upon written request to the AHJ, prorated on construction work, services, reviews and inspections conducted prior to such abandonment. Such a request shall be received within 12 months of the date that the construction permit was issued.
   c. The AHJ may refuse to issue a construction or occupancy permit if the owner or a designated representative owes the Department fees or penalties.

(9) The AHJ shall be authorized to require the owner to engage, and designate on the construction permit application, a registered design professional who shall act as the **design professional in responsible charge** in accordance IBC 107.1, who shall be responsible for reviewing and coordinating submittal documents prepared by others for compatibility with the approved design of the building.

(10) The AHJ shall be authorized to order all, or part of, work regulated under this Code to stop when the work is unsafe or being performed contrary to the provisions of this Code.

PERMIT AND LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

When do you need a state permit or license?

	DFS State Construction Permit	DFS Electrical		DFS Plumbing		Notes
		State Permit	License	State Permit	License	
Projects within a **Single-Family Owner-Occupied home** that includes: new construction, alterations, renovations or the installation of fixtures.	**No**	**No**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes**	For plumbing only if connected to a public water or sewer system
Projects within a **Rental Property or Apartment Buildings** having more than two units that includes: new construction, alterations, renovations or the installation of fixtures.	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	
Projects within a **Duplex/ Rental single-family home OR rental ADU** that includes: new construction, alterations, renovations or the installation of fixtures.	**Yes**	**Yes**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes**	
Maintenance projects within a public building such as painting, replacement of broken fixtures with fixture that is an exact match.	**No**	**No**	**Yes**	**No**	**Yes**	
Public Building Renovations, Additions, Alterations, Modifications and New Building Projects. See Annex I for definition of Public Building	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	Includes Fire protection systems, Fire alarm system, Fire sprinkler, Kitchen hood & suppression, Elevators Etc.
The erection of temporary tents greater than 1,200 square feet in a public location	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**N/A**	**N/A**	
Accessory Dwelling unit if RENTED	**Yes**	**Yes**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes**	For plumbing only if connected to a public water supply

To obtain a construction permit the applicant shall:
(1) Complete a Construction Permit Application form and submit it to the DFS regional office.
(2) Provide construction documents relating to the construction work and equipment under consideration unless specifically waived by the Commissioner or designated representative based on the size, use, occupancy or complexity of the work.
(3) Submit the required construction permit fee.
(4) Installation of fire or sprinkler system, kitchen hood system or elevator requires an electrical permit in addition to a construction permit.

Some municipalities have adopted local rules, regulations or ordinances that exceed State codes. Please contact your local municipality directly to learn what their requirements are and how they may affect your project.

[Updated June 2024]

Section 9 Variance, Exemption and Reconsideration

(1) The Commissioner may grant a variance approving a different solution to compliance that meets the intent of this code, or may exempt a portion of a building, or equipment including non-standard boilers and pressure vessels, from the requirements of this Code. It is the policy of the Commissioner that whenever possible the determination of a variance or exemption request be made by the Regional Managers.

(2) In order for a variance or exemption request to be reviewed the owner or designated representative shall submit:
   a. Evidence that the proposed or existing building or premises is not in compliance with this Code.
   b. Evidence, letters, statements, test results, construction documents, computations, chemical and physical properties or other supporting information as prepared by licensed or certified professionals that is required to justify the request.
   c. Evidence that strict compliance with the Code would entail practical difficulty, unnecessary hardship or otherwise found unwarranted.
   d. Evidence that any such variance or exemption secures the public safety and health and that the methods, means or practices proposed provide equal protection of the public safety and health.

(3) Review of the variance or exemption request shall consider evidence that the code or standard from which the variance or exemption is sought has not been promulgated as a rule or standard under the Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Act.

(4) The determination on the variance or exemption request shall be made in writing to the applicant and shall advise the applicant of the reconsideration process as contained in Section (e).

(5) The Director may reconsider an interpretation or decision made by a designated representative pursuant to this Section. To request reconsideration, the owner or designated representative shall submit a written request including:
   a. Evidence of the proposed or existing building or premises is not in compliance with this Code.
   b. Evidence, letters, statements, test results, construction documents or other supporting information as required for justifying the request.
   c. Evidence that the true intent of the Code has been incorrectly interpreted, or the provisions of the Code do not fully apply; or the decision is unreasonable or arbitrary as it applies to alternatives or new materials.

(6) The request for reconsideration shall be submitted to the deputy director no later than 30 days after receiving the decision.

(7) A request for a variance relating to access to a public building for people with disabilities shall be referred for decision to the Access Board established under Title 20 V.S.A. chapter 174.

(8) A request for a variance from this Code for historical buildings that is not resolved under section 8(a) shall be determined by the Historic Variance Appeals Board as established by 20 V.S.A. 2732.

Section 10 Duty to Observe

A request for variance, exemption, or reconsideration, or request for an appeal pursuant to the rules for Administrative Citations and Penalties, or request for an appeal of orders issued pursuant to 20 V.S.A. 2733, or request for an appeal of any finding of violation of this Code shall not relieve a person from complying with this Code, permit or occupancy requirements, unless the Commissioner expressly authorizes an extension of compliance period pending review of the request.

Section 11 Municipal Enforcement and Coordination

(1) Each municipality shall provide information regarding building permits issued by the municipality to the Division of Fire Safety upon request.
(2) The Commissioner may assign the responsibility for the enforcement of all or part of these rules to municipalities that meet the qualifications established in 20 V.S.A. sections 2736 and 2884.
(3) Any fire, building or similar code standards adopted by any municipality shall be consistent with the standards adopted under this Code.

Section 12 Effective Dates and Severability

(1) These rules shall take effect TBD and shall be known as the Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code – 2025.

(2) This Code shall not require changes in the construction documents or construction, that are in compliance with the 2015 code, for a building or portions of a building for which a construction permit has been issued and construction has started within 180 days of the effective date of this Code, or as otherwise been approved by the AHJ prior to submission of plans. A building or portion of a building built under this provision shall also meet or exceed the requirements for existing buildings under the 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code.

(3) In the event any part or provision of these rules is held to be illegal, this shall not have the effect of making void or illegal any of the other parts or provisions of these rules. Under Sections 3-7 of this code certain Vermont amendments have been cross-referenced for clarity and ease of use. Failure to cross-reference an amendment does not affect the enforcement of that amendment.

Annex I - Excerpts from Vermont Law

Pertaining to the Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code

Title 20: Internal Security and Public Safety

Chapter 173: Prevention and Investigation of Fires

Subchapter 1: General Provisions

§ 2685. Record of fires

Subchapter 2: Fire Safety Division

§ 2729. General provisions

§ 2730. Definitions

§ 2731. Rules; inspections; variances

§ 2732. Historic variance appeals board; variances; exemptions

§ 2733. Orders to repair, rehabilitate, or remove structure

§ 2734. Penalties

§ 2736. Municipal enforcement

§ 2737. Building permits

Subchapter 3A: Fire Hazards And Dangerous Substances

§ 2799. Definitions

§ 2800. Rules and standards

§ 2801. Seizure of materials

§ 2802. Orders

Subchapter 4: Investigation of Fires

§ 2833. Reports to fire marshal

Subchapter 5: Boilers And Pressure Vessels

§ 2881. General provisions

§ 2882. Rules; installation standards

§ 2883. Boiler inspections

§ 2884. Qualifications of inspectors

§ 2885. Penalties

For full text please refer to; http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/20/173

Chapter 177: Explosives and Fireworks

Subchapter 3: Fireworks

§ 3131. Definitions

§ 3132. Prohibitions; permits

§ 3136. Construction

For full text please refer to; http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/20/177

Chapter 201: Public Assemblies

A commercial public assembly permit issued by the Vermont State Police is required for an outdoor gathering of two thousand or more people in a public place when payment is required for admission. A permanent stadium used for sporting events, or a fairground having permanent seats for patrons, does not require a commercial public assembly permit. An application for a commercial public assembly permit must be filed with Vermont State Police Headquarters, 45 State Drive, Waterbury, VT 05671, at least 30 days prior to the event.
For additional information contact (802) 241-5270, or online at http://vsp.vermont.gov/

For full text please refer to; http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/20/201

Municipal Inspection Agreements:

The Division of Fire Safety enters into municipal inspection agreements with some cities and towns. A current list of these cities and towns and brief descriptions of jurisdictional responsibilities can be found at: https://firesafety.vermont.gov/buildingcode/municipalinsp

Annex II - Excerpts from the Architects and Professional Engineering Licensing and Registration Laws

Title 26 Professions and Occupations

Chapter 3: ARCHITECTS

§ 121. Definitions

§ 124. Construction; exemptions

Subchapter 3: Licensure

§ 208. Seal

For full text please refer to; http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/26/003

Chapter 20: Professional Engineering

§ 1161. Definitions

§ 1163. Exemptions

Subchapter 3: Licensing and Specialty Certifications

§ 1188. Seal

For full text please refer to; http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/26/020

Public Building (20 V.S.A § 2730) Single Station Smoke Alarm (Detector) Installation

		Occupancy	Type	Required Power Supply	Required Locations	Reference	Notes
1	New Buildings	**All Public Buildings**	Photoelectric or UL 217 only alarms required to be installed.	Hardwired into the building electric system with battery backup.	In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, inside each sleeping room and on all floor levels including the basement.	NFPA 101 Section 24.3.4.1 Section 30.3.4.5 And 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code	All smoke alarms within the dwelling unit must be interconnected. See General Note # 1,2 and 3 4 & 5
2	Existing Buildings	**1 or 2 DWELLING UNITS IN THE SAME BUILDING**	Photoelectric or UL 217 only alarms required to be installed	Hardwired into the building electric system with battery backup Built before **01/01/1994:** 10-year lithium battery smokes alarms only in sleeping rooms allowed	In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, inside each sleeping room, and on all floor levels including the basement.	NFPA 101 Section 24.3.4.1.1 Section 9.6.2 And 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code	See General Note #1, 2, 3 and 4 & 5
		3 OR MORE DWELLING UNITS IN THE SAME BUILDING	Photoelectric or UL 217 only alarms required to be installed	Hardwired into the building electric system with battery backup Built before **01/01/1994:** 10-year lithium battery smokes alarms only in sleeping rooms allowed	In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, inside each sleeping room, and on all floor levels including the basement.	NFPA 101 Section 31.3.4 Section 31.3.4.5.3 And 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code	See General Note #1, 2, 3 and 4 & 5
3	**Smoke Alarm General Notes:**	1. "Public Buildings": includes any residential rental unit, duplexes, accessory dwelling units that are rented, residential condos, apartments, hotels & dormitories, rooming & lodging, residential care facility and apartments. 2. Smoke alarms shall not remain in service longer than 10 years from the date of manufacture.			3. All smoke alarms within the dwelling unit must be hardwired and interconnected in new buildings or existing buildings undergoing reconstruction or extensive modification. 4. Sleeping rooms for buildings built prior to 01/01/1994, photoelectric smoke alarms are permitted to be lithium battery powered, 10-year tamper-resistant alarms. 5. **Smoke alarms are permitted to be UL 217 labeled multi-sensing type**		

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM REQUIREMENTS

	Occupancy	Power Supply	Code Reference	Location	** Notes
1.	1 or 2 family dwellings- including any rental units (short or long term)	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up. 10- year tamper resistant carbon monoxide (CO) alarm shall be allowed in existing sleeping rooms in dwelling constructed prior to 1994	(VFBSC) Vermont Fire &Building Safety Code Page 8 – add section 24.3.4.2 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) Outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms. 2) On every occupied level of dwelling unit, including basements. ** 3) An additional detector shall be installed in each sleeping room that contains a fuel- burning appliance or fireplace. ** See Notes	Carbon Monoxide alarms are required outside sleeping rooms, on each occupied level and in the basement. Attics and crawl spaces do not require alarms. Your heating appliance shall be serviced by a certified fuel service technician.
2.	New/Existing Apartment Buildings (3 or more units)	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up. 10- year tamper resistant carbon monoxide (CO) alarm shall be allowed in existing sleeping rooms in dwelling constructed prior to 1994	(VFBSC) Page 10 –Add Sections 30.3.4.6 & 31.3.4.6 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) Outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms. 2) On every occupied level of dwelling unit, including basements. ** 3) An additional detector shall be installed in each sleeping room that contains a fuel- burning appliance or fireplace. ** See Notes	Carbon Monoxide alarms are required outside sleeping rooms, on each occupied level and in the basement. Attics and crawl spaces do not require alarms. Your heating appliance shall be serviced by a certified fuel service technician.
3.	Lodging and Rooming (sleeping accommodations for 16 or fewer people)	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up. 10- year tamper resistant carbon monoxide (CO) alarm shall be allowed in existing sleeping rooms in dwelling constructed prior to 1994	(VFBSC) Page 9 –Add section 26.3.4.6 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) Outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms. 2) On every occupied level of lodging or rooming house, including basements. ** 3) An additional detector shall be installed in each sleeping room that contains a fuel- burning appliance or fireplace. ** See Notes	Carbon Monoxide alarms are required outside sleeping rooms, on each occupied level and in the basement. Attics and crawl spaces do not require alarms. Your heating appliance shall be serviced by a certified fuel service technician.
4.	New/Existing Hotels, Dormitories (sleeping accommodations for more than 16 people)	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up. 10- year tamper resistant carbon monoxide (CO) alarm shall be allowed in existing sleeping rooms in dwelling constructed prior to 1994	(VFBSC) Page 9 –Add Sections 28.3.4.7 & 29.3.4.6 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) In any section of corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms, or where there is no corridor or common area, in each sleeping room. 2) On every occupied level of hotel or dormitory, including basements. ** 3) An additional detector shall be installed in each sleeping room that contains a fuel- burning appliance or fireplace. ** See Notes	Carbon Monoxide alarms are required outside sleeping rooms, on each occupied level and in the basement. Attics and crawl spaces do not require alarms. Your heating appliance shall be serviced by a certified fuel service technician.
5.	Single-family owner-occupied home	Newly constructed homes directly wired into the house electrical circuit. Existing homes (prior to 07/01/2005) battery, directly wired into house circuit, or plug-in.	9 V.S.A. § 2882	Outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms. **See Notes	Should have your heating appliance serviced by a certified fuel service technician.

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM REQUIREMENTS

	Occupancy	Power Supply	Code Reference	Location	** Notes
6.	New/Existing Educational	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up or part of a fire alarm detection system in accordance with NFPA 72	(VFBSC) Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code Page 7 – Sections 14.3.4.4, add section 15.3.4.4 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment. 2) Inside any separate room or area where occupants may sleep.	
7.	New/Existing Day-Care	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up or part of a fire alarm detection system in accordance with NFPA 72	(VFBSC) Page 7 –Add Sections 16.3.4.6 & 17.3.4.6 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment. 2) Inside any separate room or area where occupants may sleep. ** See Notes	Day-Care Homes Sections 16.6.3.4.6: ** Required also on every occupied level of day-care home, including basements; excluding attics and crawl spaces.
8.	New/Existing Health Care	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up or part of a fire alarm detection system in accordance with NFPA 72	(VFBSC) Page 7 –Add section 18.3.4.6 & 19.3.4.6 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) In each nursing station 2) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment. 3) In any sleeping room that contains a fuel burning appliance.	
9.	New/Existing Residential Care (Large and Small)	Directly hardwired into the building's electrical circuit, with battery back-up or part of a fire alarm detection system in accordance with NFPA 72	(VFBSC) Pages 10 & 11 – Add Sections 32.2.3.4.4 & 32.3.3.4.9, 33.2.4.4.8 & 33.3.3.4.9 to NFPA 101, 2021	1) In each nursing station 2) In any section of a corridor or communal area that is in the immediate vicinity of the door(s) opening to any room containing a fuel burning appliance or carbon monoxide producing equipment. 3) In any sleeping room that contains a fuel burning appliance.	

Annex III Information for Historic Buildings

Vermont has an unusually high proportion of older buildings. These buildings contribute substantially to the sense of community and place that makes Vermont unique. At the same time, these buildings may be particularly challenging to adaptively reuse. Owners of older and historic buildings should seek the assistance of experienced designers specializing in the preservation of these structures. Division for Historic Preservation and Division of Fire Safety staff will assist in using the features of this Code to preserve and enhance historic buildings. Clear and comprehensive information on the significant historic features needs to be provided to the Division to facilitate review.

There are a number of codes that are part of this Code specifically written for existing and historic buildings;

* IEBC, International Existing Building Code addresses structural requirements for existing buildings.

* NFPA 1, Fire Prevention Code, primarily addresses maintenance and the operation of buildings with performance guidelines for historic buildings.

* NFPA 73, Residential Electrical Code, addresses electrical code requirements in existing residential units.

* NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, principally addresses life safety issues and has specific chapters for existing buildings.

* NFPA 909, Protection of Cultural Resources including Museums, Libraries and places of worship, brings together the design and implementation of fire protection plans designed to protect both people and property.

* NFPA 914, Code for Fire Protection of Historic Structures, addresses the identification of existing conditions, planning, and fire protection practices for historic buildings.

The regional offices of the Division of Fire Safety are staffed with safety professionals who have training and experience in developing solutions to meet both safety and historic preservation concerns.

If a solution to a problem has not been developed after plan review or inspection, the owner or designated representative should contact the regional manager for assistance. With more experience and resources to draw on the regional manager often will develop a solution without requesting a formal variance.

For many buildings there are alternatives for certain code requirements that will provide an equivalent level of safety for the people using the building. To facilitate the review process for historic buildings, a fire safety plan should be developed. Guidance for that plan is found in Section 10.3 of NFPA 914 and Section 5.1 of NFPA 909. Additional flexibility is provided for historic buildings having the option to use the Alternative Approaches to Life Safety contained in NFPA 101A.

Fire Alarm and Detection Systems

Fire alarm and detection systems provide early warning of a fire allowing for safe evacuation of the building and a prompt response of fire suppression activities. There are numerous types, styles and designs of fire alarm and detection equipment that provide options and flexibility for sympathetic installation in historic buildings.

(See NFPA 914, Annex F or NFPA 909, Annex C for a general discussion of fire alarm systems and NFPA 101 Section 9.6)

Fire Extinguishing Systems

Automatic fire sprinkler systems and other types of automatic fire extinguishing systems provide early warning of a fire allowing for safe evacuation of the building and provide prompt suppression of the fire using a minimal amount of water.

Each sprinkler head has to be heated to a certain temperature by a fire before water is released. Most fires are extinguished by the operation of just one or two sprinkler heads due to the prompt response by the sprinkler system. The amount of water applied to a fire is much less than what would need to be applied by a fire hose line.

(See NFPA 914, Annex D or NFPA 909 Annex C for a general discussion of fire extinguishing systems and NFPA 101 Section 9.7)

Automatic fire sprinkler systems have an excellent record of success in saving both people and property. Because of the excellent experience of automatic fire sprinkler systems, the Codes have fewer requirements for buildings that have automatic fire sprinkler systems. For example, the Codes would drop or "trade off" certain requirements for historic buildings that have an automatic fire sprinkler system.

To promote the installation of fire sprinkler systems in existing buildings in designated downtown areas, a **rebate of up to $2,000** of the construction permit fee is available to applicants where a complete fire sprinkler system is installed.

The process for receiving the rebate includes providing documentation from the City or Town Clerk that the building is in a designated downtown area; completion of the fire sprinkler system in accordance with appropriate codes and final acceptance testing and approval of the fire sprinkler system.

Vermont tax credits are also available for the installation of sprinkler systems and elevators in designated downtown or village center, contact the Division for Historic Preservation at 802-828-3047.

Maintenance and Testing of Fire Protection Systems

To help assure that fire protection systems will function properly when needed, all fire protection systems such as a fire alarm, sprinkler or kitchen hood exhaust systems are required to be tested periodically by a technically qualified person who is certified by the Division of Fire Safety. Upon completion of the test, the technically qualified person will affix an inspection sticker and notify the Division of Fire Safety of the results of the inspection.

Use of Archaic Building Materials

Building materials used within buildings are evaluated for "interior finish ratings" and "fire resistance ratings."

1) Interior finish ratings include evaluations for flame spread, fuel contribution and smoke development. Interior finish ratings are classified as A, B or C. Common archaic finish material such as plaster, tile flooring, wood flooring and metal ceilings will normally meet the standards for interior finish.

Wood trim and incidental finish which is less than 10% of the aggregate wall and ceiling areas will also meet the standards for interior finish. Wood paneling which consists of more than 10% of the aggregate wall and ceiling areas will also meet the standards for interior finish in a number of historic buildings such as a bed and breakfast with 16 or fewer guests. However, in some buildings such as schools, the wood paneling would need to be treated with a fire-retardant finish. The fire-retardant finishes are available in both clear and solid color. The application of a fire-retardant finish would not be required for wood paneling in a building provided with an automatic fire sprinkler system.

2) Fire resistance ratings evaluate building walls, ceilings or doors for the amount of time that it would resist the passage of fire. Construction assemblies can be evaluated by standard tests, rating guidelines published by nationally recognized authorities or by engineering analysis. Many common archaic construction assemblies have substantial resistance ratings while other assemblies may need to be enhanced to meet fire resistance requirements.
Fire resistance requirements are commonly found in the code for separation walls that separate a more hazardous area from the rest of the building, such as a boiler room or stairway walls which protect the means of egress from a building.

The requirements for construction or wall assemblies with fire resistance ratings in a building are reduced or totally eliminated for existing buildings with an automatic fire sprinkler system.

Field Guide for Historic Buildings

The Field Guide is designed to be used by those involved at all levels in the alteration process of historic and older buildings, including trades persons, planners, architects, engineers, and property owners.

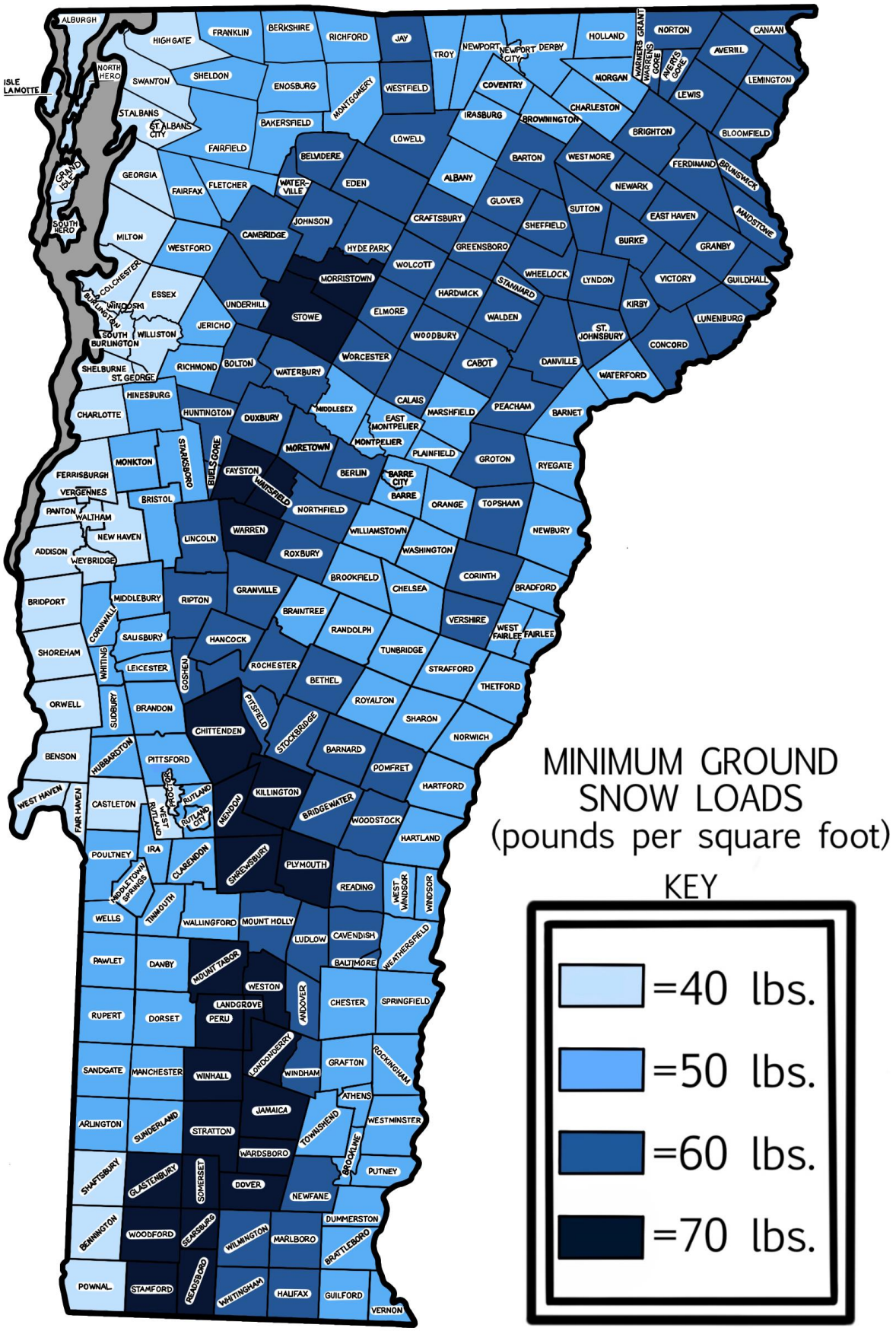
The purpose of the Field Guide is to illustrate and describe successful examples of code compliance that reconcile safety considerations with preservation goals. In addition to explaining the code requirements and listing sources for further referencing, this guide also encourages and outlines the early and continued cooperation between those directly involved in the project with local code and preservation officials.

For a downloadable copy go to:
http://firesafety.vermont.gov/sites/firesafety/files/files/Documents/dfs_document_historicpreservation.pdf

Note: Based on newer technology and preservation methods, some of the solutions found in the Field Guide may not be acceptable in a current rehabilitation project.

Annex IV Index by Topic & Occupancy

Annex V Minimum Ground Snow Loads for Vermont by Town or City



Annex VI – Contact Information:

Division of Fire Safety Central Office
45 State Drive, Waterbury VT 05671
P:802.479.7561 F:802.479.7562
Toll Free: 800.640.2106

Waterbury Regional Office
45 State Drive Waterbury, VT 05671
P:802.479.4434 F:802.479.4446
Toll Free:888.870.7888

Rutland Regional Office
56 Howe Street Bldg A – Suite 200 Rutland, VT 05701 P:802.786.5867 F:802.786.5872
Toll free:888.370.4834

The Vermont Fire Academy
93 Davison Drive Pittsford, VT 05763
P:802.483.2755 F:802.483.2464
Toll Free:800.615.3473

Springfield Regional Office
100 Mineral Street – Suite 307 Springfield, VT 05156
P:802.885.8883 F:802.885.8885
Toll free: 866.404.8883

Williston Regional Office
380 Hurricane Lane – Suite 101 Williston, VT 05495
P:802.879.2300 F:802.879.2312
Toll free:800.366.8325

www.firesafety.vermont.gov

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VERMONT **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The Vermont Statutes Online

The Statutes below include the actions of the 2024 session of the General Assembly.

NOTE: The Vermont Statutes Online is an unofficial copy of the Vermont Statutes Annotated that is provided as a convenience.

Title 20 : Internal Security and Public Safety

Chapter 172 : Rental Housing Health and Safety

(Cite as: 20 V.S.A. § 2677)

§ 2677. Rental housing; rules; inspections; penalty

(a) Rules. The Commissioner of Public Safety may adopt rules to prescribe standards for the health, safety, sanitation, and fitness for habitation of rental housing that the Commissioner determines are necessary to protect the public, property owners, and property against harm.

(b) Inspections.

(1) After adopting rules pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the Commissioner shall design and implement a complaint-driven system to conduct inspections of rental housing.

(2) When conducting an inspection, the Commissioner shall:

(A) issue a written inspection report on the unit or building that:

(i) contains findings of fact that serve as the basis of one or more violations;

(ii) specifies the requirements and timelines necessary to correct a violation;

(iii) provides notice that the landlord is prohibited from renting the affected unit to a new tenant until the violation is corrected; and

(iv) provides notice in plain language that the landlord or agents of the landlord must have access to the rental unit to make repairs as ordered by the Commissioner consistent with the access provisions in 9 V.S.A. § 4460;

(B) provide a copy of the inspection report to the landlord, to the person who requested the inspection, and to any tenants who are affected by a violation:

(i) electronically, if the Department has an electronic mailing address for the person; or

(ii) by first-class mail, if the Department does not have an electronic mailing

address for the person;

(C) if an entire building is affected by a violation, provide a notice of inspection directly to the individual tenants, and may also post the notice in a common area, that specifies:

(i) the date of the inspection;

(ii) that violations were found and must be corrected by a certain date;

(iii) how to obtain a copy of the inspection electronically or by first-class mail; and

(iv) if the notice is posted in a common area, that the notice shall not be removed until authorized by the Commissioner; and

(D) make the inspection report available as a public record.

(c) Penalties. If the person responsible for a violation does not comply with the requirements and timelines specified in an inspection report issued pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the Commissioner may impose an administrative penalty that is reasonably related to the severity of the violation, not to exceed $1,000.00 per violation. (Added 2021, No. 181 (Adj. Sess.), § 1, eff. June 7, 2022.)

VERMONT **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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Title 20 : Internal Security and Public Safety

Chapter 173 : Prevention and Investigation of Fires

Subchapter 002 : DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

(Cite as: 20 V.S.A. § 2731)

§ 2731. Rules; inspections; variances

(a) Rules.

(1) The Commissioner is authorized to adopt rules regarding the construction of buildings, maintenance and operation of premises, and prevention of fires and removal of fire hazards, and to prescribe standards necessary to protect the public, employees, and property against harm arising out of or likely to arise out of fire.

(2)(A) The Commissioner shall require each of the following certificants to complete an education module regarding the State's energy goals and how each certificant's specific profession can further those goals:

(i) gas appliance installers, inspectors, and servicers certified under subdivision (c)(4)(C) of this section;

(ii) oil burning equipment installers, inspectors, and servicers certified under subdivision (c)(4)(D) of this section; and

(iii) limited oil burning equipment installers, inspectors, and services certified under subdivision (c)(4)(F) of this section.

(B) The education module shall be not more than two hours and shall be required as a condition of initial certification and certification renewal. The module shall include education on any State or utility incentives relevant to the profession.

(i) The education module for initial certification shall provide general information regarding the State's energy goals.

(ii) The education module for certification renewal shall provide any updates on the State's energy goals and any updates regarding corresponding State energy programs applicable to the profession.

(C) The Commissioner shall consider any recommendations on these education modules provided by relevant stakeholders and approve education modules in consultation with the Agency of Natural Resources and the Department of Public Service.

(b) Inspections.

(1) The Commissioner shall conduct inspections of premises to ensure that the rules adopted under this subchapter are being observed and may establish priorities for enforcing these rules and standards based on the relative risks to persons and property from fire of particular types of premises.

(2) The Commissioner may also conduct inspections to ensure that buildings are constructed in accordance with approved plans and drawings.

(c) Fees. The following fire prevention and building code fees are established:

(1) The permit application fee for a construction plan approval shall be based on $8.00 per each $1,000.00 of the total valuation of the construction work proposed to be done for all buildings, but in no event shall the permit application fee exceed $185,000.00 nor be less than $50.00.

(2) When an inspection is required due to the change in use or ownership of a public building, the fee shall be $125.00.

(3) The proof of inspection fee for fire suppression, alarm, detection, and any other fire protection systems shall be $30.00.

(4) Three-year initial certificate of fitness and renewal fees for individuals performing activities related to fire or life safety established under subsection (a) of this section shall be:

(A) Water-based fire protection system design:

(i) Initial certification: $150.00.

(ii) Renewal: $50.00.

(B) Water-based fire protection system installation, maintenance, repair, and testing:

(i) Initial certification: $115.00.

(ii) Renewal: $50.00.

(C) Gas appliance installation, inspection, and service: $60.00.

(D) Oil burning equipment installation, inspection, and service: $60.00.

(E) Fire alarm system inspection and testing: $90.00.

(F) Limited oil burning equipment installation, inspection, and service: $60.00.

(G) Domestic water-based fire protection system installation, maintenance, repair, and testing:

(i) Initial certification: $60.00.

(ii) Renewal: $20.00.

(H) Fixed fire extinguishing system design, installation, inspection, servicing, and recharging:

(i) Initial certification: $60.00.

(ii) Renewal: $20.00.

(I) Emergency generator installation, maintenance, repair, and testing: $30.00.

(J) Chimney and solid fuel burning appliance cleaning, maintenance, and evaluation: $30.00.

(d) Permit processing. The Commissioner shall make all practical efforts to process permits in a prompt manner. The Commissioner shall establish time limits for permit processing as well as procedures and time periods within which to notify applicants whether an application is complete.

(e) Variances; exemptions. Except for any rules requiring the education module regarding the State's energy goals described in subdivision (a)(2) of this section, the Commissioner may grant variances or exemptions from rules adopted under this subchapter where strict compliance would entail practical difficulty, unnecessary hardship, or is otherwise found unwarranted, provided that:

(1) any such variance or exemption secures the public safety and health;

(2) any petitioner for such a variance or exemption can demonstrate that the methods, means, or practices proposed to be taken in lieu of compliance with the rule or rules provide, in the opinion of the Commissioner, equal protection of the public safety and health as provided by the rule or rules;

(3) the rule or rules from which the variance or exemption is sought has not also been adopted as a rule or standard under 21 V.S.A. chapter 3, subchapters 4 and 5; and

(4) any such variance or exemption does not violate any of the provisions of 26 V.S.A. chapters 3 and 20 or any rules adopted thereunder.

(f) State-funded building energy standards. The Commissioner shall, in State-funded buildings or new additions to State-funded buildings on which construction is begun after June 30, 2001, meet the standards contained in "The Vermont Guidelines for Energy Efficient Commercial Construction" as published in its most recent edition by the Department of Public Service.

(g) Definition. "Publicly funded building" as used in this section means any public

building or an addition thereto that is paid for in whole or in part with federal, State, or municipal monies.

(h) Older and historic renovations. A building owner or contractor engaged in an older and historic renovation project may propose innovative, performance-based alternatives in lieu of strict fire and building code compliance. The Commissioner shall consider such alternatives and shall accept those that provide equivalent protection of the public safety and health. A decision to accept or deny a proposed alternative shall be in writing and explain the reasons for accepting or denying the alternative.

(i) Plan reviews.

(1) The Department approves stamped architectural plans by issuing a plan review letter. If, upon final inspection, the Department requires structural changes, additional life safety modifications, or State-mandated accessibility modifications, and the modifications or changes are not the result of design or construction changes by the owner, the owner or architect:

(A) may apply for a variance or exemption as provided in subsection (e) of this section, section 2732 of this title, or 26 V.S.A. § 124; and

(B) if the variance or exemption request is denied, upon the completion of the structural changes or additional life safety, or State-mandated accessibility modifications, as the case may be, may apply to the Commissioner for a reimbursement of some or all of the plan review fee paid for the project.

(2) The decisions of the Commissioner pursuant to this subsection shall be final. The Commissioner shall adopt rules to carry out the provisions of this subsection. This subsection shall not apply to design or construction changes necessary to comply with an alternative method of life safety code or State-mandated accessibility compliance requested by the owner after the plan review.

(j) Detectors. Rules adopted under this section shall require that information written, approved, and distributed by the Commissioner on the type, placement, and installation of photoelectric smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors be conspicuously posted in the retail sales area where the detectors are sold.

(k) Building codes. Pursuant to his or her authority under this section, the Commissioner of Public Safety shall:

(1) Develop and maintain on the Department website a graphic chart or grid depicting categories of construction, including new construction, major rehabilitation, change of use, and additions, and the respective building codes that apply to each category.

(2) Whenever practicable and appropriate, offer the opportunity to construction and design professionals to participate in Division of Fire Safety staff training.

(3) Update building codes on three-year cycles, consistent with codes developed by code-writing authorities, to keep pace with technology, products, and design.

(4) Create a publicly accessible database of decisions that are decided on appeal to the Commissioner.

(l) Energy standard certificates. Provision of a certificate as required by 30 V.S.A. § 51 (residential building energy standards) or 53 (commercial building energy standards) shall be a condition precedent to the issuance of a certificate of use or occupancy for a public building under the rules adopted pursuant to this section.

(m) Refrigerants. No rule adopted under this section or any other requirement of this title shall prohibit or otherwise limit the use of a refrigerant designated as acceptable for use pursuant to and in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 7671k or 10 V.S.A. § 586, provided any equipment containing such refrigerant is listed and installed in accordance with safety standards and use conditions imposed pursuant to such designation. (Added 2003, No. 141 (Adj. Sess.), § 3, eff. April 1, 2005; amended 2003, No. 122 (Adj. Sess.), § 294aa, eff. April 1, 2005; 2005, No. 72, § 15; 2007, No. 180 (Adj. Sess.), § 4, eff. May 29, 2008; 2009, No. 134 (Adj. Sess.), § 1; 2011, No. 137 (Adj. Sess.), § 5, eff. May 14, 2012; 2013, No. 89, § 5; 2015, No. 149 (Adj. Sess.), § 37; 2017, No. 113 (Adj. Sess.), § 143; 2019, No. 178 (Adj. Sess.), § 34, eff. July 1, 2021; 2021, No. 121 (Adj. Sess.), § 3, eff. July 1, 2022.)

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Title 20 : Internal Security and Public Safety

Chapter 173 : Prevention and Investigation of Fires

Subchapter 002A : FIRE SAFETY AND CIGARETTES

(Cite as: 20 V.S.A. § 2757)

§ 2757. Cigarettes; reduced ignition propensity

(a) As used in this section:

(1) “Cigarette” means any product that contains any amount of nicotine, irrespective of size, shape, or presence of other ingredients, and is intended to be burned or heated under ordinary conditions of use and consists of or contains any roll of tobacco wrapped in paper or in any other substance, other than tobacco, and because of its appearance, the type of tobacco used, and its packaging or labeling is offered to or purchased by consumers as a cigarette.

(2) “Manufacturer” means any person or a successor that manufactures or produces cigarettes or causes cigarettes to be manufactured or produced, whether in-state or out-of-state, and intends to sell the cigarettes in Vermont directly or through an importer, including any first purchaser that intends to resell cigarettes.

(3) “Quality control and quality assurance program” means laboratory procedures implemented to ensure that operator bias, systematic and nonsystematic methodological errors, and equipment-related problems do not affect the results of the testing and to ensure that the testing repeatability remains within the required repeatability value for any test trial used to certify cigarettes under this section.

(4) “Repeatability” means the range of values within which the repeat results of cigarette test trials from a single laboratory will fall 95 percent of the time.

(5) “Retail dealer” means any person other than a wholesale dealer engaged in the sale of cigarettes or tobacco products.

(6) “Sale” or “selling” means any transfer of title or possession, exchange or barter, conditional or otherwise, and includes the giving of cigarettes as samples, prizes, or gifts and the exchange of cigarettes for any consideration.

(7) [Repealed.]

(8) “Wholesale dealer” means any person that sells cigarettes or tobacco products to retail dealers or other persons for resale, and includes the dealer’s agent.

(b) No cigarettes may be manufactured in this State or sold or offered for sale to any person in this State unless the cigarettes have been tested in accordance with the test method and meet the performance standard specified in this subsection, and the manufacturer has filed a written certification with the Commissioner in accordance with subsection (c) of this section. The performance standard for cigarettes sold or offered for sale in Vermont includes all the following:

(1) Testing of cigarettes shall be conducted in accordance with the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) standard E2187-04 “Standard Test Method for Measuring the Ignition Strength of Cigarettes.” The Commissioner may adopt a subsequent ASTM Standard Test Method for Measuring the Ignition Strength of Cigarettes upon a finding that the subsequent method does not result in a change in the percentage of full-length burns exhibited by any tested cigarette when compared to the percentage of full-length burns the same cigarette would exhibit when tested in accordance with ASTM Standard E2187-04 and the performance standard of this subsection.

(2) Testing of cigarettes shall be conducted on ten layers of filter paper.

(3) No more than 25 percent of the cigarettes tested in a test trial shall exhibit full-length burns. Forty replicate tests shall comprise a complete test trial for each cigarette tested.

(4) The performance standard required by this subsection shall only be applied to a complete test trial.

(5) Laboratories that conduct tests in accordance with this subsection (b) shall implement a quality control and quality assurance program that includes a procedure to determine the repeatability of the testing results. The repeatability value shall be no greater than 0.19.

(6) Each cigarette listed in a certification that uses lowered permeability bands in the cigarette paper to achieve compliance with the performance standard in this subsection shall have at least two nominally identical bands on the paper surrounding the tobacco column. At least one complete band shall be located at least 15 millimeters from the lighting end of the cigarette. For cigarettes on which the bands are positioned by design, there shall be at least two bands located at least 15 millimeters from the lighting end and ten millimeters from the filter end of the tobacco column. In the case of an unfiltered cigarette, the two complete bands shall be located at least 15 millimeters from the lighting end and ten millimeters from the labeled end of the tobacco column.

(7) The manufacturer of a cigarette that the Commissioner determines cannot be

tested in accordance with the test method required by this subsection shall propose to the Commissioner a test method and performance standard for that cigarette. The Commissioner may approve a test method and performance standard that the Commissioner determines is equivalent to the requirement of this subsection, and the manufacturer may use that test method and performance standard for certification pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

(8) A manufacturer shall retain all data from testing conducted under this section for a period of three years. The manufacturer shall provide that data to the Commissioner and the Attorney General upon request in order to ensure compliance with the performance standard required by this subsection.

(c) Each manufacturer shall submit to the Commissioner written certification attesting that each cigarette has been tested in accordance with and has met the performance standard required under subsection (b) of this section. The description of each cigarette listed in the certification shall include the brand; style; length in millimeters; circumference in millimeters; flavor, if applicable; filter or nonfilter; package description, such as a soft pack or box; and the mark approved pursuant to subsection (d) of this section. Upon request, this certification shall be made available to the Attorney General and Department of Liquor and Lottery. Each cigarette certified under this subsection shall be recertified every three years. For the certification or recertification of each brand style, the fee shall be $1,000.00. The fees shall be paid into the Fire Prevention and Building Inspection Special Fund established in section 2738 of this title.

(d) Cigarettes that have been certified pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall be marked pursuant to the following requirements:

(1) The marking shall be in a font of at least eight-point type and shall include one of the following:

(A) Modification of the product UPC Code to include a visible mark printed at or around the area of the UPC Code. The mark may consist of one or more alphanumeric or symbolic characters permanently stamped, engraved, embossed, or printed in conjunction with the UPC Code.

(B) Any visible combination of alphanumeric or symbolic characters permanently printed, stamped, engraved, or embossed on the cigarette package or the cellophane wrap.

(C) Printed, stamped, engraved, or embossed text that indicates that the cigarettes meet the standards of this section.

(2) A manufacturer shall request approval of a proposed marking from the Commissioner. Any marking approved and in use for the sale of cigarettes in the State of New York shall be approved unless the Commissioner determines that the New York Fire Safety Standards for Cigarettes have changed significantly since those standards

were effective on June 28, 2004. A marking shall be deemed approved if the Commissioner fails to act within 10 business days of receiving a request for approval. A manufacturer shall not use a modified marking unless the modification has been approved in accordance with this subdivision. A manufacturer shall use only one marking on all brands that the manufacturer markets. A marking or modified marking approved by the Commissioner shall be applied uniformly on all brands marketed and on all packages, including packs, cartons, and cases marketed by that manufacturer.

(e) A manufacturer shall provide a copy of certifications to all licensed wholesale dealers to which the manufacturer sells cigarettes and shall provide sufficient copies of an illustration of the packaging marking approved and used by the manufacturer pursuant to subsection (d) of this section for each of the retail dealers that purchases cigarettes from any of those licensed wholesale dealers. Licensed wholesale dealers shall provide a copy of the illustration to all retail dealers to which they sell cigarettes. Licensed wholesale dealers and retail dealers shall permit the Commissioner of Public Safety or the Commissioner of Liquor and Lottery or their designees to inspect markings on cigarette packaging at any time.

(f) The Commissioner:

(1) may adopt rules necessary to implement and administer this section;

(2) in consultation with the Commissioner of Liquor and Lottery, may adopt rules regarding the conduct of random inspections of licensed wholesale dealers, importers, and retail dealers to ensure compliance with this section; and

(3) shall ensure that the implementation and substance of this section is in accordance with the implementation and substance of the New York Fire Safety Standards for Cigarettes.

(g) The following civil penalties may be assessed:

(1) Against a manufacturer, wholesale dealer, unlicensed retailer, or any other person that knowingly sells cigarettes, except by licensed retail sales, in violation of subsection (b) of this section a civil penalty not to exceed $10,000.00 for each sale.

(2) Against a manufacturer that knowingly makes a false certification pursuant to subsection (c) of this section a civil penalty not to exceed $10,000.00 for each false certification.

(3) Against a licensed retail dealer that knowingly sells or offers for sale cigarettes in violation of subsection (b) of this section a civil penalty not to exceed $500.00 for each sale or offer of sale of 1,000 cigarettes or fewer.

(4) Against a licensed retail dealer that knowingly sells or offers for sale cigarettes in violation of subsection (b) of this section a civil penalty not to exceed $1,000.00 for each sale or offer of sale of more than 1,000 cigarettes.

(5) Against any other person that violates any provision of this section a civil penalty not to exceed $1,000.00 for each violation. Any cigarettes sold or offered for sale that do not comply with the safety standard required by subsection (b) of this section shall be deemed to be contraband and subject to the provisions of 7 V.S.A. § 1009.

(h) In addition to any other remedy provided by law, the Attorney General may file an action in Superior Court for a violation of this section, including petitioning for injunctive relief, recovery of costs or damages suffered by the State as the result of a violation of this section, including enforcement costs relating to the specific violation and attorney's fees. In any such action, the Attorney General shall have the same authority to investigate and obtain remedies, except civil penalties under subsection (g) of this section, as if the action were brought pursuant to the Consumer Protection Act, 9 V.S.A. chapter 63. Each violation of this section or of any rule adopted under this section shall constitute a separate civil violation for which the Attorney General may obtain relief. (Added 2005, No. 68, § 1, eff. May 1, 2006; amended 2009, No. 134 (Adj. Sess.), § 3; 2011, No. 109 (Adj. Sess.), § 3, eff. May 8, 2012; 2011, No. 136 (Adj. Sess.), § 1b, eff. May 18, 2012; 2019, No. 73, § 33; 2021, No. 105 (Adj. Sess.), § 392, eff. July 1, 2022.)

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Title 20 : Internal Security and Public Safety

Chapter 173 : Prevention and Investigation of Fires

Subchapter 005 : BOILERS AND PRESSURE VESSELS

(Cite as: 20 V.S.A. § 2882)

§ 2882. Rules; installation standards

(a) The Commissioner may adopt rules pertaining to boilers and pressure vessels, and standards to be observed, necessary for the safety and protection of the public, employees, and property. The Commissioner may provide for operating certificates to be issued before a boiler or pressure vessel may be used.

(b) A boiler or pressure vessel regulated by the rules adopted under this section shall be designed, manufactured, and assembled in accordance with the relevant standards published by the:

(1) American Society of Mechanical Engineers;

(2) Canadian Standards Association;

(3) European Committee for Standardization, for boilers with a maximum water jacket size of 60 gallons, a maximum input of 250,000 Btu, and a maximum relief valve setting of 30 pounds per square inch gauge; or

(4) European Committee for Standardization, for boilers or pressure vessels with an input of greater than 250,000 Btu or a water jacket size of greater than 60 gallons as approved by the Commissioner.

(c) A boiler or pressure vessel regulated by the rules adopted under this section shall be installed in accordance with the National Board Inspection Code, as amended, including control, safety, and pressure relief devices in accordance with the relevant standards published by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

(d) A boiler or pressure vessel regulated by the rules adopted under this section shall provide the manufacturer’s design information, instructions, data plates, and warning labels in English.

(e) In reviewing an application for a variance, the Commissioner may rely upon decisions or information from other states or governmental entities that have reviewed and approved a boiler or pressure vessel that does not meet one of the standards set forth under subsection (b) of this section. (Added 2003, No. 141 (Adj. Sess.), § 4a, eff. April 1, 2005; amended 2009, No. 86 (Adj. Sess.), § 1.)

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Title 20 : Internal Security and Public Safety

Chapter 174 : Accessibility Standards for Public Buildings and Parking

(Cite as: 20 V.S.A. § 2901)

§ 2901. Access Board

(a) An access board is created consisting of ten members. The members of the board shall be the Commissioner of Public Safety or designee; the Chair of the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions or designee; the Chair of the Senate Committee on Institutions or designee; the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services or designee; the State Historic Preservation Officer or designee; and five members appointed by the Governor, including an independent architect, a builder or contractor, and three individuals with disabilities representing organizations for persons with disabilities in this State, appointed by the Governor. The Governor shall also appoint one additional individual with a disability to act as an alternate for the three members with disabilities in the event one of those members is unable to attend a Board meeting. The alternate may attend all meetings and shall be paid a per diem for those meetings attended. The alternate shall vote only in the absence of an appointed member with a disability. Members and the alternate appointed by the Governor shall serve for a term of six years.

(b) The Commissioner of Public Safety or designee, shall be the Chair of the Access Board and shall convene the Board whenever an application is made for a variance. Five members of the Board shall constitute a quorum. A decision of the Board based upon a majority vote of members present shall be binding. Members of the Board who are not State employees shall receive a per diem of $50.00 for each day devoted to official duties and reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses. These expenses shall be reimbursed from the appropriation to the Department of Public Safety.

(c) The Access Board may adopt, amend, and repeal rules under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to carry out the provisions of this chapter. (Added 2003, No. 141 (Adj. Sess.), § 5, eff. April 1, 2005.)

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

VERMONT STATE ARCHIVES & RECORDS ADMINISTRATION (VSARA)

(802) 828-2863

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	St. Albans Messenger Legals (legals@samessenger.com; cfoley@orourkemediagroup.com)	Tel: 524-9771 ext. 117 FAX: 527-1948 Attn: Legals
	The Islander (islander@vermontislander.com)	Tel: 802-372-5600 FAX: 802-372-3025
	Vermont Lawyer (hunter.press.vermont@gmail.com)	Attn: Will Hunter

FROM: APA Coordinator, VSARA **Date of Fax:** September 18, 2025

RE: The "Proposed State Rules " ad copy to run on **July 3, 2025**

PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER MEMO: **3**

NOTE **8-pt font in body. 12-pt font max. for headings - single space body. Please include dashed lines where they appear in ad copy. Otherwise minimize the use of white space. Exceptions require written approval.**

If you have questions, or if the printing schedule of your paper is disrupted by holiday etc. please contact VSARA at 802-828-3700, or E-Mail sos.statutoryfilings@vermont.gov, Thanks.

PROPOSED STATE RULES

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By law, public notice of proposed rules must be given by publication in newspapers of record. The purpose of these notices is to give the public a chance to respond to the proposals. The public notices for administrative rules are now also available online at https://secure.vermont.gov/SOS/rules/ . The law requires an agency to hold a public hearing on a proposed rule, if requested to do so in writing by 25 persons or an association having at least 25 members.

To make special arrangements for individuals with disabilities or special needs please call or write the contact person listed below as soon as possible.

To obtain further information concerning any scheduled hearing(s), obtain copies of proposed rule(s) or submit comments regarding proposed rule(s), please call or write the contact person listed below. You may also submit comments in writing to the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, State House, Montpelier, Vermont 05602 (802-828-2231).

2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 25P022

AGENCY: Department of Public Safety - Division of Fire Safety

CONCISE SUMMARY: The 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code establishes the minimum standards to protect the public from the risks of fire, explosion, hazardous materials, dangerous structural conditions and carbon monoxide poisoning within public buildings. These amended rules provide updates and incorporate more recent editions of the same national codes and standards that are currently adopted. These rules include requirements for the addition of carbon monoxide detection in some occupancies, protection of lithium-ion batteries, building energy storage systems, escape window clarifications, sprinkler system, requirement modifications, and the inclusion of grab bars to prevent slips and falls. These amendments are also intended to provide clarity of the intent of currently adopted codes and standards and to incorporate existing interim operational guidance.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Landon Wheeler, Division of Fire Safety, 45 State Drive Waterbury, VT 05671 Tel: 802-479-7566 Fax: 802-479-7562 E-Mail: Landon.Wheeler@vermont.gov URL:

https://firesafety.vermont.gov/.

FOR COPIES: Michael Desrochers, Division of Fire Safety, 45 State Drive Waterbury, VT 05671 Tel: 802-479-7566 Fax: 802-479-7562 E-Mail: landon.wheeler@vermont.gov

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2023 Vermont Electrical Safety Rules.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 25P023

AGENCY: Electricians Licensing Board

CONCISE SUMMARY: The Proposed 2023 Vermont Electrical Safety Rules (VESR) will update the technical codes and standards, including the adoption of the 2023 edition of the National Electrical Code (NEC) also known as the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 70. This will better coordinate the license examination with the state apprenticeship program, establish an expiration date for a permit and a process for refunding permit fees. These rules also provide requirements for filing an electrical work notice, inspection

and energizing procedures, details powers of enforcement and licensing disciplinary procedure.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Dennis Blair, Dept. of Public Safety-Division of Fire Safety, 45 State Drive, Waterbury, Vermont 05671 Tel: 802-760-7408 Fax: 802-479-4446 E-Mail: dennis.blair@vermont.gov URL: https://firesafety.vermont.gov/.

FOR COPIES: Landon Wheeler, Dept. of Public Safety-Division of Fire Safety , 45 State Drive, Waterbury, Vermont 05671 Tel: 802-479-7566 Fax: 802-479-4446 E-Mail: landon.wheeler@vermont.gov.

The 2025 Vermont Plumbing Rules.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 25P024

AGENCY: Plumbers Examination Board

CONCISE SUMMARY: The primary focus of these rules is to update the currently adopted 2021 International Plumbing Code to the 2024 edition. The 2024 International Plumbing Code and updated rules will allow for more current methods and materials to be utilized. Rules are amended to clarify intent of the code and answer frequently asked questions. Some of the new changes include gender neutral/multi user restroom provisions, a clarification of specialist license fields, new definitions, additional clarifications and terminology.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: John A. Hammer, Dept. of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety, 45 State Drive Waterbury, VT 05671 Tel: 802-249-0271 Fax: 802-479-7562 E-Mail: john.hammer@vermont.gov URL: https://firesafety.vermont.gov/.

FOR COPIES: Landon Wheeler, Dept. of Public Safety-Division of Fire Safety, 45 State Drive, Waterbury, Vermont 05671 Tel: 802-479- 7566 Fax: 802-479-7562 E-Mail: landon.wheeler@vermont.gov.

Proposed Rules Postings
A Service of the Office of the Secretary of State

Search Rules

Deadline For Public Comment

Deadline: Aug 05, 2025

The deadline for public comment has expired. Contact the agency or primary contact person listed below for assistance.

Rule Details

Rule Number:	25P022
Title:	2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code.
Type:	Standard
Status:	Proposed
Agency:	Department of Public Safety - Division of Fire Safety
Legal Authority:	20 V.S.A. §§ 2677, 2731, 2757, 2882
Summary:	The 2025 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code establishes the minimum standards to protect the public from the risks of fire, explosion, hazardous materials, dangerous structural conditions and carbon monoxide poisoning within public buildings. These

	amended rules provide updates and incorporate more recent editions of the same national codes and standards that are currently adopted. These rules include requirements for the addition of carbon monoxide detection in some occupancies, protection of lithium ion batteries, building energy storage systems, escape window clarifications, sprinkler system requirement modifications, and the inclusion of grab bars to prevent slips and falls. These amendments are also intended to provide clarity of the intent of currently adopted codes and standards and to incorporate existing interim operational guidance.
Persons Affected:	These rules affect several governmental and private entities which include, but are not limited to the following: general contractors, general public, builders, for profit and non-profit developers, business owners, churches, private clubs, state owned/leased buildings, fire and rescue services, engineers & architects, municipal government organizations, Vermont Landlords Association, Vermont Realtors Association, Vermont Human Rights Commission, Vermont Center for Independent Living, Agency of Commerce and Community Development, American Institute of Architects, Associated General Contractors, Vermont Chamber of Commerce, Department of Buildings & General Services, Department for Children and Families, Department of Aging & Independent Living and The Division for Historic Preservation. Several entities are exempted from this rule and include single family owner occupied homes, small working farms, registered day care facilities and some home businesses.
Economic Impact:	This rule is designed to reduce economic impact while providing built-in protection to reduce loss of life, injury, property and to reduce the economic impact from fire, wind, snow in public places. Many businesses and residential properties that have a fire do not re-open further contributing to the negative economic impact. Loss of residential structures from fire or structural failure further contribute to the increase in housing scarcity across the State. Incorporating modern codes and technologies into building construction creates building resiliency and improves sustainability. This code is adopted to provide minimum safety requirements to include the addition of carbon monoxide detection systems in schools and other occupancies as well as the inclusion of grab bars to prevent injury from slips and falls. These changes often realize reductions in

	insurance and reduce owner liability resulting from injury litigation.
Posting date:	Jun 25,2025

Hearing Information

Information for Hearing # 1

Hearing date:	07-25-2025 09:00 AM ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR
Location:	Alumni Hall
Address:	20 Auditorium Hill
City:	Barre
State:	VT
Zip:	05641
Hearing Notes:	Also virtually via MS Teams at https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting Meeting ID: 280 583 322 082 Passcode: Mk3qL6NY Dial in by phone +1 802-828-7667,,224348786# United States, Montpelier Phone conference ID: 224 348 786#

Information for Hearing # 2

Hearing date:	07-25-2025 09:00 AM ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR
Location:	Virtually via MS Teams
Address:	https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting Meeting ID: 280 583 322 082 Passcode: Mk3qL6NY Dial in by phone +1 802-828-7667,,224348786# United States, Montpelier Phone conference ID: 224 348 786#
City:	n/a
State:	VT
Zip:	n/a
Hearing Notes:	Virtually via MS Teams at: https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting Meeting ID: 280 583 322 082 Passcode: Mk3qL6NY Dial in by phone +1 802-828-7667,,224348786# United States, Montpelier Phone conference ID: 224 348 786#

Contact Information

Information for Primary Contact

PRIMARY CONTACT PERSON - A PERSON WHO IS ABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CONTENT OF THE RULE.

Level:	Primary
Name:	Landon Wheeler
Agency:	Department of Public Safety - Division of Fire Safety
Address:	45 State Drive
City:	Waterbury
State:	VT
Zip:	05671
Telephone:	802-479-7566
Fax:	802-479-7562
Email:	landon.wheeler@vermont.gov SEND A COMMENT
Website Address:	https://firesafety.vermont.gov/ VIEW WEBSITE

Information for Secondary Contact

SECONDARY CONTACT PERSON - A SPECIFIC PERSON FROM WHOM COPIES OF FILINGS MAY BE REQUESTED OR WHO MAY ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT FORMS SUBMITTED FOR FILING IF DIFFERENT FROM THE PRIMARY CONTACT PERSON.

Level:	Secondary
Name:	Michael Desrochers
Agency:	Department of Public Safety - Division of Fire Safety
Address:	45 State Drive
City:	Waterbury
State:	VT
Zip:	05671
Telephone:	802-479-7566
Fax:	802-479-7562
Email:	landon.wheeler@vermont.gov SEND A COMMENT

Keyword Information

Keywords:

Fire Code
Vermont Fire Safety
Building Codes
National Fire Protection Association International Building Code Vermont Smoke alarm requirements

Carbon monoxide alarms
Division of Fire Safety
grab bars
building energy storage

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