CHAPTER 23.45
LOCAL AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, 2000 EDITION

SECTIONS
23.45.100 Local Amendments To The International Fire Code, 2000 Edition
23.45.102.1 Construction and Design Provisions
23.45.105.1.2 Types of Permit
23.45.105.2.2 Inspection Authorized
23.45.105.6 Required Operational Permits
23.45.202 "A” Definitions And Abbreviations
23.45.202[B] Educational Group E, Day Care
23.45.202[B] Institutional Group I, Group I-2
23.45.202[B] Institutional Group I, Group I-2, Child Care Facility
23.45.311.1.1 Abandoned Premises
23.45.401.3 Emergency Forces Notification
23.45.405 Emergency Evacuation Drills
23.45.408 Use and Occupancy-Related Requirements
23.45.508.2 Type Of Water Supply
23.45.508.3 Fire Flow
23.45.508.5.4 Obstructions
23.45.901.4 Marking Of Fire Protection Equipment And Fire Hydrants
23.45.901.6.2.1 Reports
23.45.901.9 Certification
23.45.901.10 Damage Protection
23.45.903.2 Where Required
23.45.903.2.2 Group E
23.45.903.2.9 Group R-4
23.45.903.2.12.1 Stories and Basements Without Openings
23.45.903.3.1.1.1 Exempt Locations
23.45.903.4.1 Signals
23.45.903.6.2 Alterations and Additions to E Occupancies
23.45.907.2.1.1 System Initiation In Group A Occupancies With An Occupancy Load Of 1,000 Or More
23.45.907.2.8 Group R-1
23.45.907.2.9 Group R-2
23.45.907.15.1 Connection To Municipal Fire Alarm Circuit
23.45.1011.1 Means Of Egress Obstructions
23.45.3404.2.13.1.3 Underground Tanks Out Of Service One Year
23.45.3404.2.14.1 General
23.45.APPENDIX B, Section B103.3
23.45.APPENDIX B, Table B105.1

23.45.100 Local Amendments To The International Fire Code, 2000 Edition
The amendments to the 2000 Edition of the International Fire Code are listed hereinafter by section. The last digits of the section number (after the title and chapter digits) refer to the section of the International Fire Code to which the amendment applies, i.e., 23.45.103.3.1.1 refers to Section 103.3.1.1 of the International Fire Code (2000 Edition).

The 2000 International Fire Code and its Appendices except for Appendix A shall be adopted as amended.

23.45.102.1 Construction and Design Provisions
Add the following to the end of Item 3:
…except in reference to voluntary upgrades, as defined and governed by the Anchorage Existing Buildings Code.

23.45.105.1.2 Types of Permit
Delete Item 2, Construction Permit.

23.45.105.2.2 Inspection Authorized
Amend paragraph to read:
Except as otherwise provided in AMC 15.35.100A.7, before a permit may be issued, the code official or his authorized representative is authorized to inspect and approve the receptacles, vehicles, buildings, devices, premises, storage spaces or areas to be used to determine compliance with this code or any operational restraints required.

23.45.105.6 Required Operational Permits
Amend 105.6 as follows:
Delete sections 105.6 and subsections 105.6.1 through 105.6.46
Replace 105.6 with the following:
The code official is authorized to issue operational permits for the operations set forth in 105.6.1 through 105.6.7.

Add seven new subsections as follows:
105.6.1 Amusement Buildings. An operational permit is required to operate a special amusement building as defined in Section 202 of this code.
105.6.2 Carnivals and Fairs. An operational permit is required to operate a carnival or fair.
105.6.3 Battery Systems. A permit is required to install stationary lead-acid battery systems having a liquid capacity of more than 50 gallons (189 L).
105.6.4 Connection to Municipal Fire Alarm. An operational permit is required to connect a private fire alarm system to the municipal fire alarm circuit.
105.6.5 Places of Assembly. An operational permit is required to operate a place of assembly with an occupant load of 500 or more.

105.6.6 Pyrotechnics Special Effects Material. An operational permit is required for use and handling of pyrotechnic special effects material as defined in Section 3302.1 of this code.

105.6.7 Temporary Membrane Structures, Tents and Canopies. An operational permit is required to operate an air-supported temporary membrane structure or tent having an area in excess of 200 square feet (19 m²), or a canopy in excess of 400 square feet (37 m²).

Exceptions:

1. Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.

2. Fabric canopies and awnings open on all sides which comply with all the following:

   2.1 Individual canopies shall have a maximum size of 700 square feet (65 m²).

   2.2 The aggregate area of multiple canopies placed side by side without a fire break clearance of 12 feet [3.658 m] shall not exceed 700 square feet [65 m²] total.

   2.3 A minimum clearance of 12 feet [3.658 m] to structures and other tents shall be provided.

23.45.202 "A" Definitions And Abbreviations

Amend by adding the following new definition between “Ammonium Nitrate” and “Annunciator”:

ANFIRS is the Alaska National Fire Incident Reporting System.

23.45.202 [B] Educational Group E, Day Care

Amend paragraph to read as follows:

The use of a building or structure, or portion thereof, for education, supervision or personal care services for more than five children older than 2-1/2 years of age, including children related to the staff, shall be classified as an E occupancy.

Add Exception to read as follows:

Exception: Family child care homes (R-3) operating between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. may accommodate a total of twelve children of any age without conforming to the requirements of an E occupancy except for smoke detectors as specified in Subsection 907.2.10, means of egress requirements of Section 1003, including emergency escape and rescue openings (as required by Section 1009) in napping or sleeping rooms, and fire extinguisher requirements as outlined in Section 906.

23.45.202 [B] Institutional Group I, Group I-2

Amend last sentence to read as follows:

A facility such as the above with five or fewer persons, including persons related to the staff, shall be classified as Group R-3.

23.45.202 [B] Institutional Group I, Group I-2, Child Care Facility
Amend paragraph to read as follows:

A child care facility that provides care on a 24-hour basis to more than five children 2-1/2 years of age or less, including children related to the staff.

23.45.311.1.1 Abandoned Premises
Amend paragraph by deleting reference to “the International Property Maintenance Code.”

23.45.401.3 Emergency Forces Notification
Amend by adding a new subsection 401.3.4 to read as follows:

401.3.4 False Alarm Charges.

Except as otherwise provided herein, the owner of a building containing a fire alarm system shall pay a charge in accordance with this section for each and every false alarm to which the Fire Department responds:
Exceptions:

1. First two false alarms at each identified separate location during a calendar year: No Charge
2. Each false alarm in excess of two at each identified separate location during a calendar year: $300.00

The Municipality shall bill the owner for false alarms at the end of every six months, and the owner shall pay those charges in the manner provided by the Municipality. If an owner fails to pay charges assessed pursuant to this section, the Municipality may seek payment by any lawful means.

All false alarm charges shall be deposited in the Fire Service Area Fund.

As used in this section, "false alarm" means an alarm signal generated by a privately owned fire alarm system reporting an alarm for which no fire or emergency actually exists; it includes system malfunctions, faulty operation of detectors, and false alarms not classified above. It does not include those incidents where the detector or system operated as designed; such as but not limited to: a smoke detector sounding from someone smoking under the detector or a manual pull station being pulled.

23.45.405 Emergency Evacuation Drills
Amend by adding a new subsection 405.10 to read as follows:

405.10 False Alarms.

False alarms may not be counted as a fire drill for the purposes of this article.

23.45.408 Use and Occupancy-Related Requirements
Amend by adding a new subsection 408.3.5 to read as follows:

408.3.5 False Alarms.

False alarms may not be counted as a fire drill for the purposes of this section.

23.45.508.2 Type Of Water Supply
Amend by adding a second paragraph and a new exception to 508.2 to read as follows:

The water system shall be designed to the standards of, and have the approval of the water utility which provides service in the area. If the water system for a structure is not in an area served by a water utility, it shall meet the standards of the nearest water utility.

Exception: In areas of jurisdiction which are not served by a water utility, the requirements for water systems as outlined in Sections 508 need not be met, provided all structures other than R-3 and U occupancies are at least type A construction as defined in the International Building Code, 2000 Edition, or are provided with a fire extinguishing system designed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 of this code.

23.45.508.3 Fire Flow
Amend by deleting the existing paragraph and replace with the following paragraph:

Water supplies for the fire flow requirements for buildings or portions of buildings and facilities shall be calculated using the provisions of Appendix Chapter B and Table B105.1.
23.45.508.5.4 Obstructions
Amend by adding a third sentence at the end of the paragraph to read as follows:

No vehicle shall be parked within 15 feet of the front and 10 feet of the sides of a fire hydrant, fire department connection, or fire protection control valve on private or public property.

23.45.901.4 Marking Of Fire Protection Equipment And Fire Hydrants
Amend by adding a new second paragraph to read as follows:

Fire Department connection devices for building sprinkler systems in new and existing buildings shall be identified by the installation of approved reflective markers or signs installed above the device in an unobstructed location at approximately 7 feet above grade.

23.45.901.6.2.1 Reports
Add a new subsection 901.6.2.1 to read as follows:

901.6.2.1 Reports. A copy of all services reports shall be sent to the Fire Prevention Division. Each system shall be tagged by the inspection agency, indicating the date of service and whether or not the system is in conformance with the associated standards.

23.45.901.9 Certification
Add a new subsection to read as follows:

901.9 Certification. Companies installing and/or performing maintenance on sprinkler systems shall have at least one individual certified to a minimum of NICET Level II in Sprinkler Systems as required under 13AAC 50.035.

23.45.901.10 Damage Protection
Add a new subsection to read as follows:

901.10 Damage Protection. When exposed to probable vehicular damage due to proximity to alleys, driveways or parking areas, standpipes, post indicator valves and sprinkler system or standpipe system, connections shall be protected in an approved manner.

23.45.903.2 Where Required
Amend section by adding a second paragraph and related exceptions to read as follows:

All new buildings of type III, IV, or V construction that exceed a total floor area of 12,000 square feet shall be provided with an automatic sprinkler system meeting the standards of Section 903.3. Where an addition to an existing building of type III, IV, or V construction causes the total combined floor area to exceed 12,000 square feet, an automatic sprinkler system meeting the standards of Section 903.3 shall be provided throughout.

Exceptions:
1. R-3 and U Occupancies
2. Airport Control Towers
3. Open Parking Garages
4. Buildings used exclusively for participant sports where the main floor is located at the same level as the level of the main entrance and exit, and the observation occupant load does not exceed 300, and an automatic fire alarm system installed in accordance with NFPA 72 and Section 907.1.2 is provided.

5. F-2 Occupancies

**23.45.903.2.2 Group E**

Delete paragraph and substitute with the following:

An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout all Group E occupancies. An automatic system shall also be provided for every portion of educational buildings below the level of exit discharge.

**Exceptions:**

1. Buildings with E occupancies having an occupant load of 49 or less.
2. Day care uses not otherwise required to have automatic sprinkler systems by other provisions of the code.

Day care uses that are licensed to care for more than 5 persons between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. shall be equipped with an automatic sprinkler system designed and installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.3 or an approved equivalent system.

**23.45.903.2.9 Group R-4**

Amend paragraph by deleting the words “with more than eight occupants.”

**23.45.903.12.1 Stories and Basements Without Openings**

Amend paragraph by deleting the words “where the floor area exceeds 1,500 square feet and”

**23.45.903.3.1.1 Exempt Locations**

Amend by adding a new item to read as follows:

6. Elevator machine rooms may delete the sprinklers within the machine room where such room is: (1) separated from the remainder of the building in accordance with the International Building Code Section 3006.4; (2) smoke detection is provided in accordance with NFPA 72 and, (3) notification of alarm activation is received at a constantly monitored location.

**23.45.903.4.1 Signals**

Amend paragraph by adding a new sentence to read as follows:

Central stations, remote stations or proprietary monitoring stations shall be located within the Municipality of Anchorage or shall have a local representative capable of responding to the location within 60 minutes of notification.

**23.45.903.6.2 Alterations and Additions to E Occupancies**

Add a new subsection 903.6.2 to read as follows:

903.6.2 Alterations and Additions to E Occupancies. An approved automatic fire extinguishing system must be installed in an E Occupancy in accordance with Section 903.2.2 whenever alterations or additions are made to an existing structure containing an E Occupancy.
23.45. 907.2.1.1 System Initiation In Group A Occupancies With An Occupancy Load of 1,000 or More

Amend by adding a new exception 2 to read as follows:

2. Churches that are sprinklered throughout.

23.45.907.2.8 Group R-1

Amend by deleting exception 3.

23.45.907.2.9 Group R-2

Amend in two places:

Amend by deleting exception 2.

Amend first paragraph to read as follows:

A manual fire alarm system and an automatic fire detection system with smoke detection in the public areas shall be installed in Group R-2 occupancies where:

23.45.907.15.1 Connection To Municipal Fire Alarm Circuit

Amend by adding a new section 907.15.1 to read as follows:

907.15.1 Connection to municipal fire alarm circuit. A person having a private fire alarm system for one building may connect the system to a municipal fire alarm circuit, or directly connect the system to the fire department communications center, after obtaining a permit for the connection from the fire chief. The fire chief may issue a permit for the connection if it is determined that the connection:

1. Will be compatible with the municipal fire alarm circuit or system.

2. Will connect an adequate, properly installed and maintained private alarm system.

3. Will substantially benefit the municipal fire prevention system.

The permit required by this section will be issued subject to the Fire Department rules and regulations and shall be conditional upon such reasonable requirements, terms and conditions as the fire chief may require.

A permit may be revoked by the fire chief for noncompliance with the permit standards, rules, regulations, conditions, or restrictions. The permit may be revoked by the fire chief if, in the fire chief’s discretion, it is found that the disconnection of the private alarm system is in the best interests of the Municipality. The permit holder may appeal a decision to revoke a permit to the Building Board.

The permit holder shall pay the Municipality for the cost of a radio fire alarm box or for covering an existing radio fire alarm box, and for the cost of the initial hookup (one box per building). The permit holder shall pay the cost of providing, installing and maintaining the private system, up to the radio fire alarm box. The maintenance of the private system must be by a qualified person engaged in the business of installing and maintaining a supervisory fire alarm system, who shall use NFPA 72 as an installation and maintenance standard.

It shall be unlawful for a person not authorized by the fire chief to connect or disconnect, temporarily or otherwise, a private fire alarm system, or other wires or conduits leading to a municipal fire alarm circuit or municipal fire system. The fire chief shall authorize specific connection or disconnection by written permit.
The permit holder shall pay the following fees for the connection of the private fire alarm system, for one building, to the municipal fire system:

1. Permit Fee $10
2. Initial Connection Fee $150
3. Annual Inspection Fee $1,200

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, association, or corporation to do any act prohibited under this section or to fail to do any act required under this section. Any person, firm, association, and/or corporation who violates this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to the penalties and remedies set forth in AMC 23.10.025.

23.45.1011.1 Means Of Egress Obstructions
Amend by adding a new paragraph after the first paragraph to read as follows:

No kiosks, merchandise or similar obstructions may be placed in such a way to restrict the minimum clear width required by the International Building Code.

23.45.3404.2.13.1.3 Underground Tanks Out Of Service One Year
Amend by adding a new sentence at the end of the paragraph to read as follows:

This shall not apply to residential R-3 occupancies (single family and duplex) properties.

23.45.3404.2.14.1 General
Amend by adding new item 6 to read as follows:

6. The internal tank environment shall be monitored by a combination gas detector during the removal of the tank.

23.45.APPENDIX B, Section B103.3
Amend by deleting the reference to “NFPA 1231” and replace with “NFPA 1142.”

23.45.APPENDIX B, Table B105.1
Amend by deleting top three rows of the table and replace with the following:

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