

**FIRE PROTECTION CODE FOR LARGE BUILDINGS
AS AMENDED MARCH 8, 2011**

**SECTION 1
CLASSIFICATION OF BUILDINGS**

1-A Buildings in the Town shall be classified in the following manner:

1-A.1 Class I: Class I buildings are defined as buildings that are not Class II or Class III. Class I buildings are not subject to this Code.

1-A.2 Class II: A building is considered a Class II building if it meets any of the following conditions but does not meet any of the conditions under Class III:

1-A.2.a Any newly constructed or substantially renovated building containing three or more living units;

1-A.2.b Any newly constructed or substantially renovated building containing sleeping accommodations for 15 or more persons not members of the same family;

1-A.2.c Any newly constructed or substantially renovated building licensed by the State of New Hampshire and used as a home for the elderly, the partially or totally incapacitated, or a health care facility, where there are sleeping accommodations for more than three persons;

1-A.2.d Any newly constructed or substantially renovated building of 5,000 or more square feet gross floor area;

Exception: Providing that the total gross floor area of all buildings (excluding that of the covered passageways) connected as below does not exceed 15,000 square feet, nor does the gross floor area of any individual building equal or exceed 5,000 square feet, one or more buildings located 80 or more feet from one another may be connected by covered passageways described as follows:

- maximum 16 feet in width;
- maximum 14 feet in height;

with the area of the intersection of the covered passageway with each building having a wall of 8-inch solid masonry construction with the width of such wall extending at least 12 inches beyond the outside dimensions of the covered passageway, and any openings protected by a single listed 3-hour fire door; with a four foot by four foot listed smoke and heat vent located equidistant from the connected buildings, such vent being operated by electrical or mechanical sensors located within this covered passageway and between 10 and 20 feet from each fire door;

- the interior finish of the covered passageway shall be Class A;
- the covered passageway shall be used only as a passageway.

Buildings subject to this exception shall be subject only to Section 8 of this Code.

1-A.2.e Any building which is part of a Planned Building Group as defined by Section 5 of this Code, unless such building is classified as Class III;

1-A.2.f If determined by the Fire Chief, any newly constructed or substantially renovated building(s), structure(s), or any material(s) which because of its nature constitutes a severe occupancy hazard as defined by NFPA Standard 1142, "Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting (2001)", or is deemed as unacceptable life hazard, or a severe health hazard to the citizens of the Town in the event of an emergency to which the Fire Department(s) would respond.

1-A.3 Class III: A building is considered a Class III building if it meets any of the following conditions:

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1-A.3.a Any newly constructed or substantially renovated building containing 12 or more living units;

1-A.3.b Any newly constructed or substantially renovated building in which there are sleeping accommodations for more than 40 persons not members of the same family or where sleeping accommodations are provided below grade or more than one story above the first floor;

1-A.3.c Any newly constructed or substantially renovated building licensed by the State of New Hampshire and used as a home for the elderly, the partially or totally incapacitated, or a health care facility, where there are sleeping accommodations for more than six persons, or where there are sleeping accommodations above the first floor or below grade level;

1-A.3.d Any newly constructed or substantially renovated building of more than 5,000 but less than 20,000 square feet gross floor area, and not divided by one or more fire resistive partitions and floor-ceiling assemblies into areas not exceeding 5,000 square feet gross floor area per story. Such fire resistive partitions shall be of 8-inch solid masonry construction and such floor-ceiling assemblies shall be a minimum two hour fire resistive design. All openings in such fire resistive partitions that are permitted shall be protected by listed materials with a three hour fire rating. All openings in such floor-ceiling assemblies that are permitted shall be protected by listed materials with a two hour rating;

1-A.3.e Any newly constructed or substantially renovated building of more than 20,000 square feet gross floor area;

1-A.3.f Any newly constructed or substantially renovated building of more than 35 feet in height;

1-A.3.g Any newly constructed or substantially renovated building of more than 20,000 square feet gross floor area;

1-A.3.f Any newly constructed or substantially renovated building of more than 35 feet in height;

1-A.3.g Any place of assembly with a rated capacity of more than 200 persons, or any place of assembly located below grade level or more than one story above the first floor;

1-A.3.h If determined by the Fire Chief, any newly constructed or substantially renovated building(s), structures(s), or any material(s) which because of its nature constitutes a severe occupancy hazard as defined by NFPA Standard 1142, "Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting (2001)", or is deemed an unacceptable life hazard, or a severe health hazard to the citizens of the Town in the event of an emergency to which the Fire Department(s) would respond.

1-B Definitions

1-B.1 General: Terms used in this Code shall be consistent with the definitions used in the National Fire Protection Association (herein referred to as NFPA) Standard 101, "Code for Safety to Life From Fire in Buildings and Structures (2000)".

1-B.2 Specific definitions

1-B.2.a Fire Area: Fire area shall mean the gross floor area determined by fire resistive partitions of 8-inch solid masonry construction or exterior walls and floor-ceiling assemblies having a minimum two hour rating. (All fire resistive partitions and floor ceiling assemblies shall be designed and constructed in accordance with Section 3, Part N of this Code.)

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1-B.2.b First Floor: The first floor of a building is the lowest story of which one-half or more is above grade level. However, if the level below grade is used for purposes other than storage and building services, then it shall be considered the first story of the building.

1-B.2.c Grade or Grade Level: The grade or grade level of a building shall be the average height of the ground on those sides of the building with means of access for fire department apparatus.

1-B.2.d Gross Floor Area: The gross floor area of a building shall be the sum of the areas within the outside of the exterior walls of all levels with no deductions.

1-B.2.e Hazardous Material: Any material that possesses one or more characteristics equal to or more hazardous than the following descriptions:

HEALTH: Materials which on intense or continued exposure could cause temporary incapacitation or possible residual injury unless prompt medical treatment is given, including those requiring use of respiratory protective equipment with an independent air supply. This degree should include:

- Materials giving off toxic combustion products;
- Materials giving off highly irritating combustion products;
- Materials which either under normal conditions or under fire conditions give off toxic vapors lacking warning properties.

FLAMMABILITY: Materials that must be moderately heated or exposed to relatively high ambient temperatures before ignition can occur. Materials in this degree would not under normal conditions form hazardous atmospheres with air, but under high ambient temperatures or under moderate heating may release vapor in sufficient quantities to produce hazardous atmospheres with air. This degree should include:

- Liquids having a flash point below 200 degrees Fahrenheit;
- Solids and semi-solids which readily give off flammable vapors.

REACTIVITY: Materials which in themselves are normally stable but which may become unstable at elevated temperatures and pressures or which react with water and some release of energy but not violently. Caution must be used in approaching the fire and applying water.

1-B.2.f Height: As applied to a building, height means the vertical distance from grade to the average elevation of the roof of the highest story.

1-B.2.g Listed: When used specifically in this Code, listed shall mean equipment or materials included in a list published by a nationally recognized testing laboratory that maintains periodic inspection of production of listed equipment or materials, and whose listing states either that the equipment or materials meet nationally recognized standards or has been tested and found suitable for use in a specific manner.

1-B.2.h Living Unit: A living unit is a single unit providing complete living facilities for one or more persons including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation.

1-B.2.i Occupancy: The use or intended use of an area, building, floor, or other part of a building.

1-B.2.j Place of Assembly: A place of assembly shall include but not be limited to all buildings or portions of buildings used for gathering together of 35 or more persons (as

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determined by Section 4) and used for such purposes as deliberation, worship, entertainment, amusement, or awaiting transportation.

1-B.2.k Planned Building Group: A planned building group is a number of structures constructed on a parcel of land which meets any of the following conditions (unless subject to 1-A.2.d):

- a) The sum of the gross floor areas of all buildings located within 80 feet of one another equals 5,000 square feet or more;
- b) The sum of the gross floor areas of all buildings, except residential buildings, equals 15,000 square feet or more;
- c) There are three or more living units.

1-B.2.l Residential: Residential occupancies are those occupancies in which sleeping accommodations are provided for normal residential purposes and include all buildings designed to provide sleeping accommodations.

1-B.2.m Solid Fuel Device: Any chimney-connected device that burns wood, coal or other similar organic materials or any combination of them for the purposes of heating, cooking, or both.

1-B.2.n Story: A story is that portion of a building included between the upper surface of a floor and the upper surface of the floor or roof next above. A mezzanine shall be considered a story if it exceeds 33 1/3 percent of the area of the floor immediately below. A penthouse shall be considered a story if it exceeds 10,000 square feet or 33 1/3 percent of the roof area.

1-B.2.o Substantial Renovation: Substantial renovation means any improvements to a building which require a town building permit and result in more than 50 percent increase of the assessed valuation of the building.

1-B.2.p Types of Construction:

- **Fire Resistive:** A building constructed of non-combustible materials (reinforced concrete, brick, or stone and having any metal properly fireproofed) with major structural members designed to withstand collapse and to prevent spread of fire.
- **Non-combustible:** A building having all structural members (including walls, floors, and roofs) of non-combustible material and not qualifying as fire-resistive construction.
- **Ordinary Construction:** A building having exterior walls of masonry or other non-combustible material in which the other structural members are wholly or partly of wood or other combustible material.
- **Wood frame:** A building in which the structural members are wholly or partly of wood or other combustible material and the construction does not qualify as ordinary construction.

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**SECTION 2
WATER SUPPLY**

2-A Type of Water Supplies Required

- 2-A.1** Class II buildings shall provide fire protection water supplies according to Section 2-B and 2-D.
- 2-A.2** Class II buildings, unless specifically exempted by other provision of this Code, shall provide fire protection water supplies according to Section 2-B, Section 2-C, and Section 2-D of this Code.

2-B Static Water Supply

- 2-B.1** Unless specifically exempted by other provisions of this Code, any Class II or Class III building shall provide, as a minimum, a quantity of water for fire fighting purposes determined by and installed according to NFPA Standard 1142, "Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting (2001)", and subject to other provisions of this Code.
- 2-B.2** The water storage system must be capable of flowing water at a rate of 1,000 gallons per minute at draft for at least three-quarters of the required water supply.
- 2-B.3** A minimum quantity of water for any occupancy shall be 5,000 gallons.
- 2-B.4** Any natural source of water shall be certified in writing by the U.S. Soil Conservation Service or a registered professional engineer as having a 95 percent safe yield for the required quantity.
- 2-B.5** The fire department suction connection must not be closer than 70 feet from the nearest part of a building nor more than 600 feet truck travel distance from any building which it is to serve or the fire department connection of the building if required to have a standpipe system or automatic sprinkler system.
- Exception:** The maximum distance may be waived by the Fire Chief if, and only if, there are important advantages to a different water supply, but in no case shall the maximum truck travel distance be greater than 1,000 feet.
- 2-B.6** The fire department pumper must be able to connect to the suction piping with one ten-foot length of suction hose at any time of the year.
- 2-B.7** The fire department suction connection shall not be situated so that, when in use, a street, road, driveway, fire lane, or any other access way to a building is blocked to vehicle travel.

2-C Water Supplies for Automatic Sprinkler Systems

- 2-C.1** For any building not containing residential or place of assembly occupancies, the required water supplies shall be designed according to the following schedule:
- 2-C.1.a** If the sprinkler system water supply is designed according to the minimum requirements of NFPA Standard 13, "Installation of Sprinkler Systems (1999)", there is no requirement for a static water supply.
- 2-C.1.b** If the sprinkler system water supply is designed according to the minimum flow requirements and of sufficient quantity for a duration of one-half the minimum required time according to NFPA Standard 13, "Installation of Sprinkler Systems (1999)", there shall be provided a static water supply according to Section 2-B of this Code.

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2-C.1.c If the gross floor area is less than 15,000 square feet and the largest fire area less than 7,000 square feet, the sprinkler system water supply shall be designed according to the minimum flow requirements of NFPA Standard 13, "Installation of Sprinkler Systems (1999)", and sized for a duration of twenty minutes.

2-C.1.d In all cases the sprinkler system water supply shall not be less than 5,000 gallons.

2-C.2 For any building containing residential or place of assembly occupancies the water supply for the sprinkler system shall be designed in accordance with NFPA Standard 13, "Installation of Sprinkler Systems (1999)". Additionally, there shall be a static water supply designed and installed in accordance with Section 2-B of this Code.

2-D General Requirements for Water Supplies

2-D.1 The responsibility for maintenance of any required water supply system and the ground around the same is solely that of the property owner.

2-D.2 Any water supply system required by this Code must be capable of complete inspection and/or testing every year. At such time the Fire Chief may require alterations or repairs to correct deficiencies.

2-D.3 Any water supply system required by this Code shall be available for Fire Department use, at its discretion, in the event of an emergency. If used for an emergency on another property, the Fire Department shall be responsible for promptly refilling said water supply.

2-D.4 Several buildings of a planned building group may utilize the same water supply as long as it is designed for the largest hazard of the group.

**SECTION 3
CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS**

Any Class II or Class III building shall be constructed and equipped to satisfy the following requirements.

3-A Chimneys, Fireplaces, and Vents

3-A.1 All chimneys of Class II or Class III residential buildings shall be lined, masonry chimneys constructed according to NFPA Standard 211, "Chimneys, Fireplaces, and Vents (2000)".

3-A.2 All chimneys of Class II or Class III non-residential buildings shall be constructed according to NFPA Standard 211, "Chimneys, Fireplaces, and Vents (2000)". Additionally, if a chimney is connected to a solid fuel device it shall be a lined, masonry chimney.

3-B Roof Coverings

Any Class II or Class III building shall have roof coverings of a material having not less than an Underwriters Laboratories Class C rating.

3-C Stairways and Doors

Note: All fire resistive partitions and floor-ceiling assemblies shall be designed and constructed in accordance with Section 3, Part N.

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3-C.1 Any Class II or Class III non-residential building of three or fewer stories in height, or any Class II or Class III residential building of four or more units having a stairway serving more than one unit, shall have all such stairways completely enclosed by a fire resistive partition having a one hour rating.

3-C.1.a All doors opening into this stairway from other than a living unit shall be listed one hour fire doors with hold-open, automatic release door controls activated by the local alarm system.

3-C.1.b All doors opening into this stairway from a living unit shall be listed one hour fire doors equipped with listed self-closers.

3-C.2 Any Class II or Class III building more than three stories in height or 35 feet in height shall have all stairways enclosed by a fire resistive partition having a two hour rating.

3-C.2.a All doors leading into such stairways shall be listed one and one-half hour fire doors equipped with hold-open, automatic release door controls.

3-C.2.b Each stairway shall have a listed, automatic opening smoke vent device of sufficient size at the top of the stairway.

3-C.2.c The automatic release door closures and the smoke vents shall be activated by the local alarm system.

3-D Smoke and Heat Venting

3-D.1 Any Class II or Class III non-residential building shall have automatic smoke and heat venting systems designed and installed in accordance with NFPA Standard 204, "Smoke and Heat Venting (2000)", and said vents shall be activated by heat and manually from a location at the annunciator panel.

Exception: If a building has a flat roof, and the eaves of that roof are 16 feet or less in height, then a means of remote manual activation may not be required by the Fire Chief. This exception will be granted by the Fire Chief if they determine that conditions surrounding the building provide sufficiently convenient access with ground ladders. However, an outside means of manual activation must be provided at each roof vent.

3-D.2 If the eaves of any Class II or Class III building are more than 30 feet above grade level or the chord of the rafters is longer than 16 feet, the building shall be equipped with smoke and heat vents installed in accordance with NFPA Standard 204, "Smoke and Heat Venting (2000)", and subject to the approval of the Fire Wards.

3-D.2.a If any such building with smoke or heat vents has a chimney that could be connected to a solid fuel device, the smoke or heat vent nearest the chimney shall be manually operable and shall provide access to the roof without the use of any portable equipment. Such access shall be from a common area of the building.

3-D.2.b Vents shall be activated by heat and manually from a location at the annunciator panel.

3-E Access to Attic or Cock Loft

Any Class II or Class III building shall provide access to any attic or cock loft area, and the clear dimensions of the opening shall be a minimum of 18 by 36 inches. Such access shall be in a common area of the building.

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3-F Access to Roof

If any Class II or Class III building has a flat or substantially flat roof, access shall be provided to the roof by bulkhead or hatch. The clear opening shall be a minimum of 18 by 36 inches. Access shall be provided so that it is not necessary to use portable equipment to attain the roof. Such access shall be in a common area of the building.

Exception: If a building has a flat roof, and permanent access to all roofs is provided at no greater than 16 feet in height, then an inside means of access may not be required. This exception will be granted by the Fire Chief if he determines conditions surrounding the building provide sufficiently convenient access with ground ladders.

3-G Heat or Smoke Detection Systems

Class II or Class III buildings shall have automatic heat or smoke detection systems designed, installed, and maintained according to:

- NFPA Standard 72, "National Fire Alarm Code (1999)";

3-G.1 All local alarm systems shall have automatic means of notifying the Fire Department in a manner approved by the Fire Chief. At such time as the Fire Chief adopts an approved auxiliary protective signaling system, upgrading of Class III buildings to conform will be required within three years of the notification of the property owner.

3-G.2 All local alarm systems shall have control panels that permit the switching-out of any one zone while permitting the continuous performance of all other zones.

3-G.3 All local alarm systems shall have annunciator panels on the outside of the building or in a common unlocked entry hall at, or in close proximity to, the normal route of entry into the building.

3-G.4 Marking of Control and Annunciator Panels

3-G.4.a All identification on control and annunciator panels shall clearly designate the condition or area affected rather than simply indicating the zone affected.

3-G.4.b All indicator lights shall be as follows:

- Green lights shall indicate a normal condition;
- Orange or yellow lights shall indicate a trouble condition;
- Red lights shall indicate an alarm condition.

3-G.5 Outside Alarm Indicators

3-G.5.a Each building in a Planned Building Group shall have an outside alarm indicating light which is easily visible from the normal vehicle approach route to the building, and which requires a manual reset by the Fire Department to turn it off after an alarm.

3-G.5.b All Class II or Class III non-residential buildings shall have an outside audible device approved by the Fire Chief.

3-G.6 Class II or Class III residential buildings shall have an approved single station smoke detector, powered by the house electrical service, installed in an approved manner in every living unit.

3-G.7 Class II or Class III residential buildings of six or more units shall have, in addition to the other requirements, a local alarm system installed as follows:

- all common areas shall be protected by smoke detectors;

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- hallways shall have manual pull stations;
- each entry foyer shall have a manual pull station;
- each living unit shall have at least one heat detector.

3-G.8 If an alarm system installation results in an excessive number of unnecessary alarms, the Fire Chief can require that it be disconnected and a Notice of Hazard can be issued according to Section 8.

3-H Protection of Multi-Unit Residential Buildings

Note: All fire resistive partitions and floor-ceiling assemblies shall be designed and constructed in accordance with Section 3, Part N.

3-H.1 Residential buildings of three or more living units, of side-by-side construction, with no occupancy superimposed over another, and with separate entrance to each unit, shall have an unpenetrated, one hour fire resistive partition between any two living units.

In addition, this fire resistive partition shall be upgraded to a two hour rating so that there are a maximum of four living units between those two hour partitions.

3-H.2 Residential buildings of three or more living units, with one or more units superimposed over another, or with common entrance hallways, shall have a one hour fire resistive partition and floor-ceiling assembly between any two living units. In addition this partition and floor-ceiling assembly shall be upgraded to a two hour fire resistive partition so that no more than six living units are contained therein. Furthermore it is required that a four hour fire resistive masonry partition shall be constructed so that no more than twelve units are contained therein. These requirements shall also apply to any wall or floor-ceiling assemblies shared with common attic, cellar, or crawl spaces.

3-I Multi-Occupancy Buildings

Note: All fire resistive partitions and floor-ceiling assemblies shall be designed and constructed in accordance with Section 3, Part N.

When a building contains more than one occupancy, and each occupancy is separately classified as to use, each occupancy shall be completely separated by a fire resistive masonry partition of 8-inch solid masonry construction.

3-J Portable Fire Extinguishers

Class II and Class III buildings shall have portable fire extinguishers installed and maintained according to NFPA Standard 10, "Portable Fire Extinguishers (1998)", and shall meet the following requirement.

In residential buildings, a portable fire extinguisher having a minimum rating of 2A, 10BC shall be provided for, and installed in, every living unit.

3-K Unless otherwise specified in this Code, all doors opening into any common area shall be listed one-hour fire doors equipped with listed self-closers.

3-L If deemed necessary by the Fire Chief, keys to gain access to normally locked areas of a building shall be provided in a listed exterior lock box approved by the Fire Chief. All fire alarm components and other fire protection devices shall be keyed in a manner approved by the Fire Chief.

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3-M All structures more than three stories in height or 50 feet in height above grade and containing intermediate stories or balconies shall be equipped with a Class I dry standpipe system installed and maintained in accordance with NFPA Standard 14, "Installation of Standpipes and Hose Systems (2000)".

3-N Fire Resistive Divisions

The purpose of any fire resistive division is to contain heat and smoke on one side for a length of time. Any fire resistive partitions or floor-ceiling assemblies of specific fire resistance shall be designed and constructed in accordance with Underwriters Laboratories specifications. The design of all other fire resistive partitions required by this Code shall be specified in detail on plans submitted to the Fire Wards for review and approval.

Specifically, as a minimum, any fire resistive partition shall extend from the floor of the lowest level of the building to the inside surface of the roof sheathing, and from the inside of the sheathing of one to the inside sheathing of another outermost wall.

Specifically, as a minimum, any fire resistive floor-ceiling assembly shall extend from the inside of the sheathing of an outside wall or fire resistive partition to the inside of the sheathing of another outside wall or fire resistive partition.

Any openings in fire resistive partitions or floor-ceiling assemblies that are permitted, and any joints between these and roof or wall sheathing shall be protected with materials of equal or greater fire resistance.

3-O Means of Access for Fire Department Apparatus

3-O.1 General Requirements

3-O.1.a Means of access for fire department apparatus shall consist of driveways, fire lanes, private streets, parking lot lanes, or a combination thereof.

3-O.1.b Means of access for fire department apparatus shall be provided to all Class II or Class III buildings in accordance with the applicable sections of this Code and other local zoning or subdivision requirements.

3-O.1.c For any building containing residential or place of assembly occupancies, means of access shall be constructed of a hard surface adequately designed to support the heaviest piece of fire apparatus likely to be operated on the means of access, unless specifically exempted by the Fire Chief.

For any other building means of access shall be constructed of a hard surface or crushed bank-run gravel adequately designed to support the heaviest piece of fire apparatus likely to be operated on the means of access.

3-O.1.d Every dead-end means of access more than 300 feet in length shall be provided with a turn-around at the closed end at least 60 feet radius of usable road.

3-O.1.e Turns in means of access shall maintain the minimum width and shall be constructed with minimum radius of 25 feet at the inside of the curb line and a radius of 50 feet at the outside curb line.

3-O.1.f Means of access shall not be less than 20 feet wide provided no parking is allowed, not less than 28 feet wide if parallel parking is allowed on one side, and not less than 36 feet wide if parallel parking is allowed on both sides.

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3-O.1.g Parking in any means of access shall not be permitted within 10 feet of a fire department water source or any other manner which will obstruct or interfere with the fire department's use of water sources.

3-O.1.h "No Parking" signs or other designations indicating that parking is prohibited shall be constructed at all normal and emergency access points to structures and within 10 feet of each fire department water source.

3-O.2 Fire Lanes

3-O.2.a Fire lanes or driveways shall be at least 20 feet in width with the road edge closest to the structure at least 10 feet from the structure. A fire lane in a green belt need only be 12 feet wide if there are no turns.

3-O.2.b Fire lanes or driveways connecting to public streets, roadways, or private strategies shall be provided with curb cuts extending at least two feet beyond each edge of the fire lane.

3-O.2.c Chains or other barriers may be provided at the entrance to fire lanes or driveways provided they are installed with acceptable locks.

3-O.2.d Responsibility for the maintenance of any private road, fire lane, driveway, or parking lot is solely that of the property owner. Maintenance shall be such that they can be used in an emergency at any time of the year.

3-O.2.e Parking lot lanes shall have a minimum of 25 feet clear width between rows of parked vehicles for vehicular access and movement.

3-O.2.f Curbs across fire lanes shall be sloping.

3-P Location of Structures

3-P.1 For any building containing residential or place of assembly occupancies, at least three perimeter walls of structures, all exterior doors into structures, and all fire department connections to standpipe and sprinkler systems shall be within 125 feet of an approved fire lane or street.

3-P.2 Structures exceeding 35 feet in height shall not be set back more than 50 feet from a fire lane or driveway on any of its required sides.

3-P.3 At least 14 feet of nominal clearance shall be provided over fire lanes, driveways, and other required means of vehicular access.

3-P.4 Landscaping or other obstructions shall not be placed around structures in a manner so as to impair or impede accessibility for fire fighting and rescue operations.

3-P.5 The location of structures and access to each structure shall be approved by the Fire Chief before Permit(s) for Construction can be issued.

3-P.6 The location of all fire department connections and their method of marking shall be approved by the Fire Chief before Permit(s) for Construction can be issued.

3-P.7 The final assigning of legal addresses to buildings shall be done by the Fire Chief, and will be done during the final construction phase.

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**SECTION 4
LIFE SAFETY**

4-A All Class II and Class III buildings shall conform to NFPA Standard 101, "Code for Safety to Life From Fire in Buildings and Structures (2000)", in addition to conforming to the other provisions of this Fire Protection Code.

4-B Any Class II or Class III residential building with six or more living units and where stairways and entrances serve more than one living unit shall have emergency lighting in accordance with NFPA Standard 101, "Code for Safety to Life From Fire in Buildings and Structures (2000)".

**SECTION 5
PLANNED BUILDING GROUPS**

5-A In addition to satisfying the other applicable requirements of this Code, Class II and Class III buildings that are part of a Planned Building Group shall be separated from other structures on that parcel by at least 80 feet of clear space between structures, and 60 feet from a common property line.

**SECTION 6
FIRE PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS III BUILDINGS**

6-A Any Class III building, in addition to satisfying the other requirements of this Code, shall be fully protected by automatic sprinkler systems installed and maintained in accordance with NFPA Standard 13, "Installation of Sprinkler Systems (1999)", and NFPA Standard 13A, "Care and Maintenance of Sprinkler Systems (1999)", and subject to the following provisions.

6-A.1 All sprinkler systems shall be engineered pipe schedule systems unless specifically exempted by the Fire Chief.

6-A.2 All areas of a building, including concealed spaces, shall be protected by sprinklers unless specifically exempted by the Fire Chief.

6-A.3 All components of the sprinkler system shall be fully supervised by the local fire alarm system. Any trouble condition in the sprinkler system shall be specifically indicated by the alarm system.

6-A.4 Each building shall have a fire department connection serving only that building.

6-A.5 The flow of water equal to the discharge of one sprinkler head shall activate the local alarm system of the building, which shall automatically notify the occupants of the building and the fire department.

6-A.6 The local fire alarm system shall have a separate zone allocated for the sprinkler system. Any building with multiple sprinkler systems shall have a separate zone of the local fire alarm system allocated for each sprinkler system.

6-A.7 The sprinkler system shall indicate alarm from both the flow of water and low pressure.

6-A.8 Any particular hazard which cannot be adequately protected by automatic sprinklers shall be fully protected by automatic extinguishing equipment designed and installed in accordance with an applicable nationally recognized standard and approve by the Fire Chief.

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**SECTION 7
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PLACARDING**

7-A Any Class II or Class III building, or an associated building, storing a hazardous material in excess of a reasonable quantity necessary for retail sale or building maintenance shall placard such storage in accordance with NFPA Standard 704, "Identification of Fire Hazards of Materials (2001)", and in the following manner.

7-B Manner of Placarding

7-B.1 All main entrances to buildings storing hazardous materials shall be placarded with six inch signals.

7-B.2 All other entrances to buildings storing hazardous materials shall be placarded with four inch signals.

7-B.3 All areas inside a building used for storage of a hazardous material shall be placarded with three inch signals.

7-C Variances

Any requested variance in placarding shall be reviewed and may be approved at the judgment of the Fire Chief.

**SECTION 8
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**

8-A This code is intended to insure minimum levels of fire safety protection to life and property. The provisions of this Code should not be considered maximum limits of desirable or necessary fire protection. Nor is this Code intended to guarantee sufficient fire safety protection for any building or occupancy, nor does it take precedence over any other code or requirement, whether state, local, or federal, which may be more stringent.

8-B Plans Review and Approval and Construction

8-B.1 All plans for buildings or occupancies subject to this Code shall be submitted to, and approved by, the Fire Chief before a Permit for Construction can be issued. The period for plans review shall be two weeks for Class II buildings and four weeks for Class III buildings. Each period shall commence when all required information has been received by the Fire Chief.

The plans review timetable can be extended at the discretion of the Fire Chief depending on the complexity of the proposal.

8-B.2 These plans shall include a small scale, topographical drawing of the site surrounding the area showing streets, access points, water sources, and other items of fire suppression interest.

8-B.3 The Fire Chief may require that any or all provisions taken to satisfy the requirements of this Code shall be certified by a professional engineer of the appropriate field, and the criteria for each provision shall be specifically cited.

8-B.4 Due to special situations, the Fire Chief may require that additional information through the hiring of consultants or expert witnesses may be necessary. Such consultants, expert witnesses, or studies undertaken shall be at the expense of the applicant and at no cost to the

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Town. The firm, individual, or agency hired shall be mutually acceptable to the Fire Chief and the applicant.

8-B.5 Prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy, in the event of code violations, the Fire Chief may revoke the Permit for Construction. At that time a cease and desist order will be issued.

8-B.6 Any applicant who feels aggrieved by a decision(s) of an inspector may appeal to the Fire Chief by filing a factual brief on said subject.

This factual brief must be received by the Fire Chief within 14 calendar days of the notification of the violation(s).

All proceedings pursuant to this appeal shall be held in public hearing. Notice of said hearing shall be published in a newspaper of accepted local distribution at least 10 calendar days before said hearing.

8-C Certificate of Occupancy

8-C.1 Any building or occupancy which because of its size or intended use is subject to this Code shall have fire protection fully operational, and such construction as required fully constructed before the Certificate of Occupancy can be issued.

8-C.2 No building or occupancy shall be used for occupied in whole or in part, until a Certificate of Occupancy has been issued by the Fire Chief.

8-D Inspections and Penalty

8-D.1 The Fire Chief shall inspect all portions of any Class II or Class III property with reasonable frequency to ensure compliance with this Code.

8-D.2 Whenever the Fire Chief observe an apparent or actual violation of a provision of this Code or other code or ordinance, a written Notice of Hazard shall be served upon the owner or other person responsible for the conditions under violation.

8-D.3 A time limit for the required repairs or improvements shall be mandated by the Fire Chief according to the nature of the violation and all such repairs and improvements shall be completed before the time limit expires. In no case shall the time limit exceed 60 days.

8-D.4 Any person who shall violate any provision of this Code, or shall fail to comply with any provisions thereof, shall be guilty of a violation punishable by a fine not to exceed two hundred dollars for each violation. Each day a violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.

8-E Saving Clause

The invalidity of any section or provision of this Code shall not be held to invalidate any other section or provision.

8-F Existing Occupancies and Buildings

All non-conforming properties in active use when this Code is passed and adopted may continue indefinitely in their present use so long as they are not substantially renovated.

Any non-conforming property which is partially or totally destroyed by reason of obsolescence, fire, flood, or other act of God may be restored, remodeled and operated, if started and reasonably continuing within two years.

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Any Permits for Construction issued will remain in effect if construction is started and reasonably continuing within two years.

Any and all non-conforming building(s) and/or property may be altered and expanded as the business and conditions warrant, providing however that any such expansion does not make any building(s) or property more non-conforming.

Any and all existing conforming building(s) and/or property may be altered and expanded as the business and conditions warrant, providing, however, that any such expansion does not make any building(s) or property non-conforming.

8-G Equivalency Concepts and Discretionary Power

Nothing in this Code is intended to prevent the use of systems, methods or devices of equivalent quality, strength, fire resistance, effectiveness, durability and safety to those prescribed by this Code, providing satisfactory technical data is submitted to the Fire Chief to demonstrate equivalency and the system, method, or device is approved for the intended purpose.

In cases of practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship, the Fire Chief may grant exceptions from this Code, but only when it is clearly evident that reasonable compliance is thereby secured.

**SECTION 9
ADMINISTRATORS**

9-A The Fire Chief may pass on his inspection authority to qualified individuals, such as the Building Inspector, but all reviews and waivers of this Code must be done by the Fire Chief.

9-B The Fire Chief will also be responsible for administration of all other Fire Codes and Life Safety Codes required by local, state and federal requirements.

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CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION AND FILING

In accordance with New Hampshire RSA 675:3, Method of Enactment in Certain Towns and Village Districts, one question regarding the Town of Barnstead - Fire Protection Code for Large Buildings appeared on the Official Ballot for the election held on March 8, 2011. The question passed with a majority vote in the affirmative. The Planning Board hereby certifies this revised Fire Protection Code for Large Buildings to be correct.

David F. Murley, Chairman

Clarke Goodrich

Michael Kowalski, Vice-Chairman

Amy Jennings

Nancy Carr, Secretary

Kathy Preston

William Evans, Alternate

Katherine Grillo, Selectmen's Rep.

Christopher Carazzo, Alternate

I do hereby certify that on _____, 2011 the Town of Barnstead - Fire Protection Code for Large Buildings with original signatures was filed with the Town Clerk, Town Hall, Barnstead, New Hampshire.

Cynthia L. Treadwell, Town Clerk