

TITLE 7

FIRE PROTECTION AND FIREWORKS¹

CHAPTER

1. FIRE CODE.
2. LIFE SAFETY CODE.
3. AUTOMATIC FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS.
4. ALARM SYSTEM REGULATION.

CHAPTER 1

FIRE CODE

SECTION

- 7-101. Fire code adopted.
7-102. Modifications.

7-101. Fire code adopted. The International Fire Code, 2012 edition, plus appendices, as published by the International Code Council, is hereby adopted by reference as though it was copied herein fully. Any provisions in said code which conflict with existing ordinances of the Town of Nolensville shall prevail. (Ord. #97-18, Oct. 1997, as amended by Ord. #02-02, Aug. 2002, Ord. #05-05, April 2005, Ord. #07-21, Nov. 2007, and Ord. #14-17, Nov. 2014)

7-102. Modifications. Within the fire code, when reference is made to the duties of a certain official named therein, that the designated official of the Town of Nolensville who has duties corresponding to those of the named official in the fire code shall be deemed to be the responsible official insofar as enforcing the provisions of the fire code are concerned. (Ord. #97-18, Oct. 1997)

¹Municipal code reference

Building, utility and housing codes: title 12.
Fires in streets, etc.: § 16-112.

CHAPTER 2

LIFE SAFETY CODE

SECTION

- 7-201. Life Safety Code adopted.
- 7-202. Application.
- 7-203. Equal applicability.
- 7-204. Enforcement of chapter.
- 7-205. Board of adjustments and appeals.
- 7-206. Modifications.
- 7-207. Violations.
- 7-208. Penalties.
- 7-209. Definitions.

7-201. Life Safety Code adopted. Pursuant to the authority granted by Tennessee Code Annotated, § 6-54-502 et seq., and for the purpose of prescribing regulations governing the design, operation and maintenance of buildings and other structures for safety to life from fire and similar emergencies, the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2012 edition as published by the National Fire Protection Association, is hereby adopted by reference and included herein as part of the code. Pursuant to the requirement of Tennessee Code Annotated, § 6-54-502, one (1) copy of said NFPA 101, Life Safety Code has been filed with the town recorder and is available for public use and inspection. Said NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, Chapter 33, Referenced Publications, of the National Fire Protection Association shall be the latest editions available by the National Fire Code Subscription Service. (Ord. #02-05, Aug. 2002, as amended by Ord. #05-05, April 2005, Ord. #07-21, Nov. 2007, and Ord. #14-17, Nov. 2014)

7-202. Application. The provisions of the codes adopted by reference in § 7-201, shall govern the manner in which:

- (1) The codes are applied to new construction and existing buildings.
- (2) Occupancies and types of construction are classified for the purpose of determining minimum code requirements.
- (3) The minimum requirements of codes may be modified to permit the use of alternate materials or methods of construction.
- (4) Where, in any specific case, there is a conflict between this code and another code or standard the most applicable shall govern as determined by the fire chief. (Ord. #02-05, Aug. 2002)

7-203. Equal applicability. The provisions of NFPA 101, Life Safety Code shall apply equally to both public and private property, and it shall apply to all structures and their occupancies, except as otherwise specified. Exception: One and two family dwellings. (Ord. #02-05, Aug. 2002)

7-204. Enforcement of chapter. (1) The fire chief, or duly authorized representative known as fire inspector shall enforce the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code herein adopted by reference.

(2) The fire chief and fire inspector shall be authorized to inspect all property within the Town of Nolensville and any future area that shall be annexed to the Town of Nolensville.

(3) The fire chief shall have the authority to enforce traffic and parking rules and regulations relating to life safety.

(4) The fire chief and fire inspector shall be authorized to issue summons, citations, and written notices and take any action required to remove or abate any situation that poses an immediate threat to life and/or property.

(5) The fire chief shall be authorized to require the submittal of drawings and specifications for review and approval; and insure all fire protection and life safety conditions are satisfactory prior to authorizing the issuance of a certificate of completion or certificate of occupancy.

(6) The fire chief and fire inspector shall be authorized to grant an extension of up to a 30-day time limit to correct violations upon proof and receipt of a written request not less than three days prior to expiration of notice. (Ord. #02-05, Aug. 2002)

7-205. Board of adjustments and appeals. The building code and fire code board of adjustments and appeals shall hear any filed appeal and the established laws, ordinances, and rules regulating such board shall govern. (Ord. #02-05, Aug. 2002)

7-206. Modifications. The fire chief may recommend to the board of mayor and aldermen modifications of the provisions of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code upon application, in writing, by any property owner or lessee, or the duly authorized agent of either, when there are practical difficulties in the way of carrying out the strict letter of the code, provided that the spirit or the code shall be observed, public safety secured, and substantial justice done. The particulars of such modifications when granted or allowed shall be contained in an amendment to this chapter or by resolution of the board of mayor and aldermen. (Ord. #02-05, Aug. 2002)

7-207. Violations. It shall be unlawful for any person to violate any of the provisions of this chapter, or the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code hereby adopted, or fail to comply therewith, or violate or fail to comply with any order made hereunder, or build in violation of any detailed statement of specifications or plans submitted and approved thereunder, or any certificate or permit issued thereunder, and from which no appeal has been taken, or fail to comply with such order as affirmed or modified by the board of mayor and aldermen or by a court of competent jurisdiction, within the time fixed herein. (Ord. #02-05, Aug. 2002)

7-208. Penalties. (1) Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter, the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, or the conditions of any permit issued hereunder, shall be served by the authority having jurisdiction with a summons, citation, or written notice stating the nature of the violation and providing up to thirty (30) working days time limit for the satisfactory correction thereof.

(2) The offender shall, within the time period stated in such notice, permanently cease all violations as prescribed by the authority having jurisdiction. Any permit issued hereunder shall be void until such time as the violation is corrected.

(3) Any person who shall continue any violation beyond the time provided in § 7-208(1) may be punished by the issuance of a penalty not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00) per violation.

(4) Each day any violation of any provision of this chapter or the failure to perform any act or duty required by this chapter continues shall constitute a separate offense.

(5) Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall become liable to the town for expense, loss or damage occasioned by town personnel or equipment by reason of such violation. (Ord. #02-05, Aug. 2002)

7-209. Definitions. (1) "Authority having jurisdiction." The Fire Chief of the Nolensville Volunteer Fire Department, or duly authorized representative appointed by the Mayor of the Town of Nolensville known as fire inspector.

(2) "Fire chief." The Fire Chief of the Nolensville Volunteer Fire Department.

(3) "Fire inspector." The person appointed by the Town of Nolensville who enforces the provisions of applicable codes and standards adopted by the Town of Nolensville.

(4) "Jurisdiction." Town of Nolensville, Tennessee.

(5) "Person." Any individual, partnership, firm, corporation, company, association, joint stock company, trust, estate, limited liability company, political subdivision and agency, authority, commission, or department of the United States, or of the State of Tennessee, or any other legal entity, or their legal representative, agent, or assigns. (Ord. #02-05, Aug. 2002)

CHAPTER 3

AUTOMATIC FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

SECTION

- 7-301. Automatic fire sprinkler systems required.
- 7-302. Definitions.
- 7-303. Buildings requiring sprinkler systems.
- 7-304. Standard of construction and installation.
- 7-305. Requirements for existing buildings.
- 7-306. Miscellaneous provision.
- 7-307. Schedule of fees.

7-301. Automatic fire sprinkler systems required. Automatic fire sprinkler systems shall be installed and maintained in operable condition in the buildings and at the locations specified in this chapter. Such systems shall be installed in each building that shall be built or for which a building permit is issued after the effective date of the ordinance comprising this chapter. (as added by Ord. #04-02, Feb. 2004)

7-302. Definitions. Whenever in this chapter the words or phrases hereinafter in this section defined are used, they shall have the following meaning:

(1) "Automatic fire extinguishing system." An approved system of devices and equipment that automatically detects a fire and discharges an approved fire-extinguishing agent onto or in the area of a fire.

(2) "Automatic fire sprinkler system." An integrated system of piping connected to a water supply, with listed sprinklers that automatically initiate water discharge over a fire area. Where required, the sprinkler system shall also include a control valve and a device for actuating an alarm when the system operates.

(3) "Building." Any structure that encloses a space used for sheltering any occupancy. Each portion of a building separated from other portions by a firewall shall be considered as a separate building.

(4) "Existing building." Any structure erected prior to the adoption of this code.

(5) "Dwelling." Any building that contains not more than one- or two-dwelling units intended to be used, rented, leased, let, or hired out to be occupied or that are occupied for habitation purposes.

(6) "Dwelling unit." One or more rooms arranged for the use of one or more individuals living together, as in a single housekeeping unit, that normally have cooking, living, sanitary, and sleeping facilities.

(7) "Fire chief." The fire chief of the Nolensville Volunteer Fire Department.

(8) "Fire department connection." A hose connection at grade level or street level for use by the fire department only for the purposes of supplying water to standpipes and/or sprinkler systems.

(9) "Fire marshal." The fire and life safety code enforcement official appointed by the fire chief and approved by the board of mayor and aldermen of the Town of Nolensville, Tennessee.

(10) "Gross floor area." The area within the inside perimeter of the exterior walls with no deductions for corridors, stairs, closets, thickness of walls, columns or other features, exclusive of areas open and unobstructed to the sky.

(11) "Manufactured home." A structure, transportable in one or more sections, that in the traveling mode is 8 body ft (2.4 m) or more in width and 40 body ft (12 m) or more in length or, where erected on-site, is 320 square feet (28 meters squared) or more, and that is built on a permanent chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling with or without a permanent foundation where connected to the required utilities, and includes the plumbing, heating, air conditioning, and electrical systems contained therein.

(12) "New building." Any structure erected after adoption of this code.

(13) "Retrofit." The mandatory installation of an automatic fire sprinkler system in a structure that exists at the time of adoption of this code.

(14) "Shall." Indicates a mandatory requirement.

(15) "Structure." That which is built or constructed.

(16) "Substantially remodeled," or "rehabilitated." Any structural alteration or restoration of a building for which the cost or value exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the current replacement cost of the partial building; or where more than fifty percent (50%) of the current replacement cost of the particular building; or where more than fifty percent (50%) of the gross square footage has been structurally altered, such building shall conform to the requirements for new buildings. (as added by Ord. #04-02, Feb. 2004)

7-303. Buildings requiring sprinkler systems. (1) All new buildings classified as group E, I, R2, R3 and R4, as described in the 1999 Standard Building Code, shall be provided with an automatic fire sprinkler system regardless of the gross floor area, except as may otherwise be provided herein.

(2) All new buildings classified as group A, B, F, H, M, R1, and S, with uses and occupancies described in the 1999 Standard Building Code shall be provided with an automatic fire sprinkler system.

(3) New buildings more than two (2) stories in height shall be provided with an automatic fire sprinkler system.

(4) Any dwelling where people are confined or sleep must be sprinkled.

(5) For the purpose of this chapter, eaves, bay windows, chimneys and porticos and all permanent fixtures attached to a dwelling will be considered to be part of the dwelling that will be used to determine the distance between the dwellings. (as added by Ord. #04-02, Feb. 2004, and amended by Ord. #05-01, April 2005, Ord. #05-27, Dec. 2005, and Ord. #07-25, Jan. 2008)

7-304. Standard of construction and installation. Automatic fire sprinkler systems required by this code shall be designed and installed in accordance with the scope and purpose of the latest edition of the following standards as published by the National Fire Protection Association for the applicable occupancy.

- (1) NFPA 13, Standard of the Installation of Sprinkler Systems.
- (2) NFPA 13D, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two- Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes.
- (3) NFPA 13R, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Residential Occupancies up to and Including Four Stories in Height. (as added by Ord. #04-02, Feb. 2004)

7-305. Requirements for existing buildings. (1) An existing building that is substantially remodeled, or rehabilitated shall be equipped with an automatic fire sprinkler system if the subsequent building meets and of the conditions for new buildings in § 7-303 of this chapter. § 7-305(1) shall not apply to existing:

- (a) One- and two-family dwellings that are substantially remodeled or rehabilitated.
 - (b) Existing one- and two-family dwellings moved into or within the town.
 - (c) New or existing manufactured homes shall not require the installation of an automatic fire sprinkler system.
- (2) Any addition to an existing building which is over two thousand five hundred (2,500) square feet, or any addition which brings the building area to two thousand five hundred (2,500) gross square feet or more shall cause the entire building to conform to the requirements for new buildings.
- (3) Existing one- and two-family dwellings, existing one- and two-family dwellings moved into or within the town, existing one- and two-family dwellings that are added to, and new or existing manufactured homes are not required to be sprinklered.
- (4) Nothing herein shall be constructed as to discourage or deny any property owner from installing an automatic fire sprinkler system in any type of building located within the Town of Nolensville. (as added by Ord. #04-02, Feb. 2004)

7-306. Miscellaneous provisions. (1) Where an automatic fire sprinkler system is determined to increase the hazard to the property or occupants to be protected, other automatic fire extinguishing systems appropriate for the hazard shall be designed, installed, tested, inspected, and maintained in accordance with National Fire Protection Association standards. Such systems must be inspected and shall follow Rule 0780-2-7-08 of the Department of Commerce and Insurance for Fire Protection Sprinkler Contractors Installation, Inspection, and Service. The installer is required to

perform the inspection and supply to the Town of Nolensville the proper certificate from the State of Tennessee.

(2) An automatic fire sprinkler system or automatic fire extinguishing system provided as a requirement of this code, or otherwise installed shall be supervised in accordance with the Standard Fire Prevention Code, Standard Building Code, and NFPA 101 Life Safety Code. Automatic fire sprinkler systems in dwellings must be a looped flow through design. Final pressure in the system in dwellings must be at least seven (7) psi at the sprinkler head. Minimum size of sprinkler lines in dwellings shall be a minimum 3/4 inch and in no event shall be smaller than the minimum size line required for a looped flow through system.

(3) Every new fire department connection for an automatic fire sprinkler system shall be located on the address side of the building. With the exception of one- and two-family dwellings, a fire hydrant shall be located not more than one hundred (100) feet from the fire department connection to the sprinkler system. Fire department connections shall be provided with a locking cap or caps of type approved by the fire chief.

(4) Occupancies shall be classified in accordance with chapter 3 of the Standard Building Code, 1999 edition.

(5) Where these requirements conflict with the Standard Fire Prevention Code, Standard Building Code, NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, or any state, or federal requirement, the more stringent requirement shall apply.

(6) The passage of this ordinance will not effect any development in which the owner has obtained an approved preliminary plat as of the date of the enactment of the ordinance comprising this chapter. (as added by Ord. #04-02, Feb. 2004, and amended by Ord. #05-01, April 2005, and Ord. #09-04, May 2009)

7-307. Schedule of fees. Residential and non-residential sprinkler permits one hundred dollars (\$100.00). If anyone commences work before obtaining permit and inspection, fees shall be doubled; and all fees shall be paid by the person to whom the permit is issued. (as added by Ord. #09-04, May 2009)

CHAPTER 4

ALARM SYSTEM REGULATION

SECTION

7-401. Definitions.

7-402. Operation and regulation of alarms.

7-403. Violation and penalty.

7-401. Definitions. The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicated a different meaning.

(1) "Alarm business" means the business of any individual, partnership, corporation, or other entity engaged in selling, leasing, maintaining, servicing, repairing, altering replacing, moving or installing any alarm system or in causing any alarm system to be sold, leased, maintained, service, repaired, altered, replaced, moved or installed in or on any building, structure of facility.

(2) "Alarm system" means any mechanical, electrical and/or electronic system designed to:

(a) Record, view, monitor, protect against, avoid or reduce the probability of personal or property loss or injury resulting from fire, smoke, heat, burglary, theft, shoplifting, pilferage or other losses of that type.

(b) Monitor, detect or prevent intrusion.

(c) Detect and summon aid for other emergencies.

Alarm system does not include any such system which is installed in a motor vehicle.

(3) "Alarm user" means the person or company or entity of any kind in control of any building, structure or facility or portion thereof wherein an alarm system is maintained.

(4) "False alarm" means an alarm signal eliciting a response by the police or fire department when a situation requiring a response by the police or fire department does not in fact exist; but this definition does not include an alarm signal caused by unusually violate conditions of nature nor does it include other extraordinary circumstances not reasonably subject to control by the alarm user. (as added by Ord. #07-05, May 2007)

7-402. Operation and regulation of alarms. (1) Whenever an alarm is activated in the city, thereby requiring an emergency response to the location by authority personnel, a police and/or fire officer on the scene of the activated alarm shall determine whether the emergency response was in fact required as indicated by the alarm system or whether in some way the alarm system malfunctioned and thereby activated a false alarm.

(2) If the police or fire officer at the scene of the activated alarm system determines the alarm to be false and no emergency exists, then such officer shall submit a report of the false alarm to the respective chief. A written notification of emergency response and determination of the response shall be mailed or delivered to the alarm user.

(3) The authority shall have the right to inspect any alarm system on the premises to which response has been made.

(4) It shall be a violation of this chapter to intentionally cause a false alarm, except in connection with the testing or servicing of an alarm system as permitted in this chapter. Any person who intentionally causes a false alarm in violation of this chapter shall be subject to the penalty provision in this chapter.

(5) There shall be provided to the alarm user a ten (10) day grace period during the initial installation of the alarm system. The penalty provisions in this chapter will not apply for false alarms activated during the grace period.

(6) Any alarm business testing or servicing any alarm system shall notify the authority and instruct such authority of the location and time of such testing and servicing, and upon completion of the test or service. This subsection shall apply to any testing period after the initial installation period has ceased. The provisions in this section regarding false alarms will not apply to the alarm user if prior notice of such testing has been made to the respective authority as outlined in this section. (as added by Ord. #07-05, May 2007)

7-403. Violation and penalty. It is hereby found and determined that more than three (3) false alarms are excessive and constitute a public nuisance. Whenever an alarm system has produced three (3) false alarms within a twelve (12) month period, the alarm user shall be guilty of violating this chapter for each subsequent false alarm. Each violation of this chapter shall be punishable by a fine of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), except that any person who intentionally causes a false alarm in violation of this article shall be subject to a penalty not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00). (as added by Ord. #07-05, May 2007)