



EULESS FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

EFD-FMO 41-3

POLICY STATEMENT: *APPLICATION OF FIRE SPRINKLERS*

Effective 7/2016

Fire Chief: Wes Rhodes Fire Marshal: Paul Smith

2015 International
Fire & Building Code
as Amended

NFPA Standards
Adopted

DISCLAIMER:

The information contained herein is not all inclusive, but is prepared and presented to assist you in complying with Fire Department regulations concerning the application of City Requirements and Fire Code requirements in new and existing buildings. **Any specific questions should be directed to the Euleless Fire Marshal's Office at 817-685-1600.**

The Information contained herein is based on the 2015 International Codes and local amendments to the code. For specific information related to the INSTALLATION of fire sprinkler systems, refer to Policy Statement FMO 4-4 *Sprinkler and Standpipe Systems*.

NOTE: Square footage is based on the total square footage. Fire walls are not considered in the calculations and are specifically excluded when determining if a sprinkler system is required.

NEW CONSTRUCTION:

Fire sprinklers are required in the following:

- 1) Any provision in the base International Fire or Building Code that would require a sprinkler system in a specific use or occupancy as amended; or
- 2) Any building which is 6000 square feet or greater in size; or
- 3) Any building which is expanded to a finished size of 6000 square feet or greater requires the new AND existing portion of the building to be sprinkled; or
- 4) Any multifamily structure (apartments, condominiums, townhomes, etc.) containing three (3) or more dwelling units regardless of square footage; or
- 5) Any hotel or motel; or
- 6) Any self-service storage facility; or
- 7) Any building, regardless of square footage, that has a floor level that is located more than thirty-five (35) feet above the lowest level of fire department access; or
- 8) Buildings governed by the high piled combustible storage provisions of Chapter 32 of the International Fire Code; or
- 9) Spray booths and spray rooms

EXISTING BUILDINGS:

Fire sprinklers are required under the following conditions in existing buildings:

- 1) When a building that exceeds the limits established in Section 903.2.11.3 (greater than 35 feet in height) or Section 903.2.11.9 (Six thousand square feet or greater in size) experiences a change in occupancy classification use

- that results in a more hazardous use or a use that would require a sprinkler system under another provision of this code; or
- 2) When the square footage or height of an existing building is increased to exceed the limits established in Section 903.2.11.3 or Section 903.2.11.9, the entire building must be sprinkled (see #3 under new construction above); or

For an example of item #1 above, if a non-sprinkled existing "M" Mercantile of 14,000 square feet becomes vacant, it can be repopulated by another M occupancy with no fire sprinkler requirements imposed. If, however, it was to be converted to a Group A-3 occupancy, an A-3 under the base code requires a fire sprinkler system if the fire area exceeds 12,000 square feet or has an occupant load of 300 or more. Therefore a fire sprinkler system would be required as a condition of re-occupancy.