

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Commercial

City of Rolling Meadows Fire Code

International Fire Code, 2009 Edition, as amended.

(Ord. 10-50. Code of Ordinances Sec. 42-141)

Code of Ordinances can be found online at www.cityrm.org.

Fire Alarms

General Requirements

- The alarm system shall be installed in accordance with NFPA-72 2007 and according to the manufacturer's directions.
- Fire alarm systems shall be compatible with the City's/Northwest Central Dispatch's system.
- The alarm user shall make arrangements with the company installing the alarm system and the designed proprietary agent for the installation of a wireless transmitter. The designated proprietary agent shall be the only authorized installer of the approved radio transmitters.
- The alarm user shall purchase and install a standard security lock box in the manner and location prescribed by the fire department and contain keys to all entrances and exits to the building to allow immediate access in emergency situations.
- All fire alarm systems shall be installed, maintained and tested in accordance with NFPA 72 and the International Fire Code as amended by City Ordinance.
- The fire department shall inspect the property prior to connection and make a written finding as to whether the above requirements have been met. For fire alarm systems required to be installed by City Ordinance, the inspection shall be required prior to the issuance of the final occupancy permit.

(Ord. 09-30. Code of Ordinances Section 42-147 and 42-149)

Monitoring

By Ordinance, fire alarms are to be monitored by Northwest Central Dispatch.

(Ord. 09-30. Code of Ordinances Section 42-147)

Wireless Radio Proprietary Agent

ADT, at 630-458-7799 or 773-905-3857.

(Ord. 09-30. Code of Ordinances Section 42-149)

Fire Alarm Permits

The installation of a new fire alarm system or an upgrade to an existing system requires that a permit be issued by the Community Development Department prior to beginning the work.

(Ord. 09-30. Code of Ordinances Section 42-148)

Definition of an Upgrade to an Existing Fire Alarm System

- Replacement of the main fire alarm control panel
- Replacement of more than one-half the alarm initiation devices
- Replacement of more than one-half the alarm notification devices
- Any addition of alarm initiating devices
- Addition, repair or replacement of any fire alarm wiring

(Ord. 09-30. Code of Ordinances Section 42-148)

Documents Required for a Fire Alarm Permit Submittal

In order to perform a thorough Fire Alarm System Plan Review a minimum of four (4) copies of the following specifications, drawings and details must be submitted along with a completed City of Rolling Meadows permit application:

- Complete plans and specifications of all fire alarm work.
- Each building in a multi-building development shall be a complete separate submittal.
- Details and plans drawn to scale with sufficient clarity, details and dimensions to show the nature and extent of the work proposed.
- Design details in accordance with 2007 NFPA 72 as referenced by the 2009 International Building Code and the 1997 Illinois Accessibility Code as amended by the City.
- Type of system and method of supervision.
- Description and locations of all rooms and uses within the building.
- Occupancy and commodity descriptions and storage arrangements for special applications.
- Initiating device floor plan indicating location, number of devices, conduit/wiring sizes and mounting details.
- Notification device floor plan indicating location, number of devices, conduit/wiring sizes and mounting details.
- Fire alarm control panel details and location.
- Remote annunciator details and location.
- Primary and secondary power details.
- Proposed zone chart or address list of devices.
- List of auxiliary or local control functions.
- Symbol schedule and diagrams.
- Voltage drop calculations.
- Standby battery details and calculations. 60 hours of standby time required minimum.

- Material and equipment specifications and catalog cut sheets with the appropriate item(s) highlighted. All materials used should be verified that they are installed in accordance with their listing.
- Duct smoke detector location and details per NFPA 90A (supply side).

Fire Alarm Inspections

Fire alarms are required to be inspected annually by a licensed contractor, and a copy of the contractor's inspection report is to be on file with the Fire Prevention Bureau. (Ord. 09-30. Code of Ordinances Sec. 42-151)

Fire Sprinklers

Fire Sprinkler—When Required

Sprinklers are required in most occupancies. Please see our Code of Ordinances for specific requirements. (Code of Ordinances Sec. 42-141)

Fire Sprinkler Permits

Upgrades to an existing sprinkler system or the installation of a new system requires a permit. Permits may be obtained from the Community Development Department prior to beginning the work. (IFC 2009 Section 105.7.1)

Documents Required for a Fire Sprinkler Permit Submittal

In order to perform a thorough Fire Sprinkler System Plan Review a minimum of four (4) copies of the following specifications, drawings and details must be submitted along with a completed City of Rolling Meadows permit application:

- Complete signed and wet-sealed plans, hydraulic calculations and specifications for the fire sprinkler system and related equipment.
- Details and plans shall be drawn to scale with sufficient clarity, details and dimensions to show the nature and extent of the work proposed.
- Each building in a multi-building development shall be a completely separate submittal.
- Descriptions and locations of all rooms and uses within the building.
- Occupancy and commodity classifications and storage arrangements.
- Design details in accordance with the appropriate reference standard (i.e. 2007 NFPA 13, 13 D, 13R) as referenced by the 2009 International Building Code as amended by the City.
- Design calculations, sprinkler summary sheet and water supply graphs indicating the discharge requirements of each system and evaluation of the arrangement and source of the water supply.
- Available water supply shall exceed the system demand by 10 psi minimum.
- Provide documentation indicating a successful flushing of the underground lead-in.

- Site plan drawn to scale showing the underground main and feeder details, location of tap into main and location of flow test hydrants. Static and flow hydrants shall be properly labeled.
- Complete results of a current flow test (dated within 12 months) indicating the location and date of the test and the names of the personnel involved in conducting the test. Test shall be conducted by the Fire Department or the Public Works Department. Results shall be submitted on a form approved by the City.
- Working shop drawings indicating all pipe sizes and the spacing between branch lines and sprinklers on the branch line. All hydraulic calculation reference points or nodes shall be shown and labeled.
- Material and equipment specifications and catalog cut sheets, with the appropriate item(s) highlighted. All materials used should be verified that they are installed in accordance with their listing.
- A backflow preventer assembly is required in accordance with Illinois Plumbing Code 890.1130(d)(2).

(www.cityrm.org Fire Sprinkler Plan Review Submittal Requirements)

Fire Sprinkler Inspections

Fire sprinkler systems are required to be inspected annually by a licensed contractor, and a copy of the contractor's inspection report is to be on file with the Fire Prevention Bureau.

(NFPA-25 2008)

Fire Hydrants

The City of Rolling Meadows Water Department performs periodic inspections of all fire hydrants throughout the City—including those that are privately owned—to ensure they will operate properly in the event of an emergency. If during an inspection, a hydrant is found to be deficient and is not owned by the City, the owner will be notified. The work is to be performed by a licensed plumber and a permit is required prior to beginning the work. A permit can be obtained from the Community Development Department. Upon completion of the work, the Fire Prevention Bureau is to be notified so the hydrant can be tested.

Vacant Buildings

Fire Code Requirements

The fire alarm, fire sprinkler and/or standpipe in vacant buildings in Rolling Meadows are required to be maintained in operable condition at all times. Additionally, exit signs, emergency lights, and exit doors are to be functional.

(IFC 2009 Section 311)

Fire Safety & Evacuation Plans

Fire Safety & Evacuation Plans--When Required

The following occupancy types are required to prepare and maintain fire safety and evacuation plans:

- Assembly
- Business
- Educational
- Factory
- High Hazard
- Institutional
- Residential (hotels, motels, college and university buildings, residential care/assisted living facilities)
- High-Rise Buildings
- Some Mercantile Occupancies
- Some Covered Malls
- Underground Buildings
- Buildings with an Atrium that are Assembly, Educational, or Mercantile Occupancies

(IFC 2009 Section 404)

Contents of an Emergency Plan

Please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau for details.

(IFC 2009 Chapter 4)

Fire Inspections

The mission of the Rolling Meadows Fire Prevention Bureau is to “reduce the potential risk of personal injury and property damage to the community and environment.” One way of doing this is through periodic fire inspections. When you applied for your business license, you agreed to comply with the City of Rolling Meadows Ordinances and laws, and consented to these inspections.

(Code of Ordinances Sec. 22-13)

Residential

Lock Box/Knox Box

A lock box/Knox Box is a specially-designed box that only the Fire Department can access. It holds an extra key to your home so our crews can easily get to you in the event we are called to your home and you are not able to answer the door.

Contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 847-397-3352, extension 4040, for information on obtaining a lock box/Knox Box.

Barbeque Grills on Balconies

Barbeque grills may be used on balconies under the following conditions:

- If the balcony is protected by an automatic sprinkler system, you may use a grill/open-flame cooking device.
- If the barbeque grill LP-gas container has a capacity of one pound or less, you may use a grill/open-flame cooking device.
- If the balcony is constructed of non-combustible materials, you may use a grill/open-flame cooking device.

If none of the above exceptions apply, you may *not* use a barbeque grill/open-flame cooking device on your balcony.

(IFC 2009 Section 308)

Back Yard Fire Pits/Recreational Fires

Back yard fire pits and recreational fires are permitted; however, following requirements are to be met:

- The fireplace or fire pit is to be no larger than 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height.
- The recreational fire is to be 25 feet away from any structure or combustible material.
- Leaves, rubbish, and construction materials are not to be burned.
- The fire is to be constantly attended until extinguished.
- The smoke is not to create a nuisance.

(IFC 2009 Chapter 3)

Required Number of Smoke Detectors

Rolling Meadows City Code requires smoke detectors in the following locations:

- One in each room used for sleeping.
- In every room in the path of the means of egress from the sleeping area to the door leading outside the home.
- On each story.

The detectors are to be installed on the ceiling and at least 6 inches from any wall, or on a wall located between 4 and 6 inches from the ceiling.

(IFC 2009 Section 907.2.11.1)

Smoke Detector Testing

- Test smoke detectors at least once a month using the test button.
 - Replace the battery at least once a year.
 - If a detector “chirps,” warning the battery is low, replace the battery right away.
 - Replace all smoke detectors, including alarms that use 10-year batteries and hard-wired detectors, when they’re 10 years old.
 - If the smoke detector does not respond when tested, replace it immediately.
- (National Fire Protection Association)

Fire Department Smoke Detector Program

The Rolling Meadows Fire Department has a smoke detector program in place for our senior residents. Please call the Fire Prevention Bureau for additional information.

Required Number of Carbon Monoxide Detectors

- At least one carbon monoxide detector is to be installed within 15 feet of every room used for sleeping.
- At least one carbon monoxide detector is to be installed on every occupiable level of your home excluding the attic and craw spaces.
- Carbon monoxide detectors may be either battery powered, plug-in with battery back-up or wired into the structure’s AC power line with secondary battery back-up.

(NFPA-720 2009)

Large Tents

Depending on the size of the tent, a permit may be required. Please contact the Fire Department or Community Development Department for assistance.

(IFC 2009 Section 105.7.14)