

CHAPTER 22. THE FIRE CODE

ARTICLE I. THE FIRE CODE

Sec. 22.0010 Short Title.

This Chapter will be known and may be cited as "The Fire Code."

Sec. 22.0020 Fire Prevention Code Adopted.

Certain documents, copies of which are filed in the office of the Fire Chief, said copies being marked and designated as the 2009 International Fire Code, as published by the International Code Council, Inc. are hereby adopted along with its appendices as the Fire Code of the City of Webster Groves, Missouri, for the control of buildings and structures as herein provided; and each and all terms of the 2009 International Fire Code are hereby referred to, adopted and made a part hereof as if fully set out in this ordinance with the additions, insertions, deletions and changes prescribed in this Ordinance.

Sec. 22.0030 Jurisdictional Titles.

Throughout the 2009 International Fire Code, whenever the terms "Name of Jurisdiction" or "Local Jurisdiction" appear, it shall be deemed to mean "Webster Groves, Missouri." Likewise whenever the "Code Official" appears it shall be deemed to mean the "Fire Chief."

Sec. 22.0100 Amendments to Chapter 1 – International Fire Code – Chapter 1 - Administration.

101.1 Title: These regulations shall be known as the Fire Code of Webster Groves, Missouri, hereinafter referred to as "this code."

105.1.4 Permit for Public Display of Fireworks: The Code Official may, upon written application, permit a public display of fireworks, on the 4th of July, or at any other time. Such permit may not be issued unless the Code Official is satisfied that the proposed display will be supervised by responsible persons and will be of such character and so located that it will not constitute a hazard to property or endanger the life or limb of any person. The Code Official may, at its discretion, as a condition of granting any such permit, provide such rules and regulations as to the character and quantity of fireworks, and manner of using them, as well as insurance, location and supervision of the proposed display, as in the opinion of the Code Official will best insure safety to both persons and property.

109.3 Violation penalties: Persons who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, install, alter, repair or do work in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the fire code official, or of a permit or certificate used under provisions of this code, shall be guilty of a code violation, punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) or by imprisonment not exceeding ninety (90) days, or both such fine and imprisonment. Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.

111.4 Failure to comply. Any person who shall continue any work after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as that person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be liable to a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).

Sec. 22.0300 Amendments to Chapter 3 – International Fire Code – Chapter 3 – General Precautions Against Fire.

314.5 Decorative Trees: Lights shall be prohibited on live or fresh trees inside institutional occupancies. Where installed on artificial trees, such trees shall first comply with Section 805.0 of the *International Building Code*.

Sec. 22.0500 Amendments to Chapter 5 – International Fire Code – Chapter 5 – Fire Service Features.

503.1 Where required. Fire apparatus access roads shall be provided and maintained in accordance with Sections 503.1.1 through 503.1.3 and appendix D.

Exception: The *Fire Code Official*, may modify these requirements due to unique conditions that comply with the intent of these provisions.

506.3 Key (knox) boxes. Key (knox) boxes shall be installed at locations approved by the Fire Chief.

507.4 Water supply test. The *fire code official* shall be notified prior to the water supply test. Water supply tests shall be witnessed by the *fire code official* or *approved* documentation of the test shall be provided to the *fire code official* prior to final approval of the water supply system.

507.4.1 Water flow tests. Water flow tests for fire sprinkler systems shall be conducted between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

507.4.2 Water flow safety factor. A safety factor shall be applied to all flow tests for fire sprinkler systems. A parallel curve shall be drawn to the actual flow test curve that has been reduced by 10 percent of the static pressure. A sprinkler system design shall not exceed the 10 percent curve.

Sec. 22.0900 Amendments to Chapter 9 – International Fire Code – Chapter 9 – Fire Protection Systems.

907.1.4 Annunciator panels. Annunciator panels boxes shall be installed in locations approved by the Fire Chief.

912.4.1 Signs on Buildings with Fire Department Connections: On all new buildings with fire department connections, an approved sign shall be mounted on the street front or on the side of the building. Such sign shall have letters FDC at least 6 inches high and words in letters at least 2 inches high to indicate the location. All signs and locations shall be subject to the approval of the fire code official.

20.4600 Amendments to Appendix A - International Fire Code – Appendix A Board of Appeals:

Appendix A – Board of Appeals is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

APPENDIX B

BOARD OF APPEALS

A101.1 Application for appeal: Any person shall have the right to appeal a decision of the code official to the board of appeals. An application for appeal shall be based on a claim that the true intent of this code or the rules legally adopted thereunder have been incorrectly interpreted, the provisions of this code do not fully apply, or an equivalent form of construction is to be used.

A101.2 Membership of the Board: The board of appeals shall consist of five members appointed by the City Council as follows: one for five years, one for four years, one for three years, one for two years, and one for one year. Thereafter, each new member shall serve for five years or until a successor has been appointed. If no Board of Appeals has been appointed, the Board of Appeals shall be the duly appointed members of the Board of Adjustment as referenced in the Code of Webster Groves.

A101.2.1 Alternate Members: The City Council shall appoint three (3) alternate members who shall be called by the board chairman to hear appeals during the absence or disqualification of a member. Alternate members shall possess the qualifications required for board membership, and shall be appointed for five (5) years or until a successor has been appointed.

A101.2.2. Qualifications: The Board of Appeals shall consist of five (5) individuals who shall be residents of the City of Webster Groves and appointed by the City Council. When possible, the Council shall seek to appoint one individual from each of the following professions:

1. *Registered design professional* that is a registered architect; or a builder or superintendent of building construction with at least ten years of experience, five of which shall have been in responsible charge of work.
2. *Registered design professional* with structural engineering or architectural experience.
3. *Registered design professional* with mechanical or plumbing engineering experience; or a mechanical or plumbing contractor with at least ten years of experience, five of which shall have been in responsible charge of work.
4. *Registered design professional* with electrical engineering experience; or an electrical contractor with at least ten years of experience, five of which shall have been in responsible charge of work.
5. *Registered design professional* with fire protection engineering experience; or a fire protection contractor with at least ten years of experience, five of which shall have been in responsible charge of work.

A101.2.3 Rules and procedures: The board is authorized to establish policies and procedures necessary to carry out its duties.

A101.2.3.1 Expert Testimony: The board may solicit expert testimony from qualified witnesses as it deems necessary to render a decision.

A101.2.4 Chairman: The Board shall annually select one of its members to serve as chairman.

A101.2.5 Disqualification of Member: A member shall not hear an appeal in which that member has any personal, professional or financial interest.

A101.2.6 Secretary: A qualified individual shall be designated to serve as secretary to the board. The secretary shall file a detailed record of all proceedings in the office of the Building Commissioner.

A101.3 Notice of Meeting: The board shall meet upon notice from the chairman, within sixty days of the filing of an appeal, or at stated periodic meetings.

A101.3.1 Open Hearing: All hearings before the board shall be open to the public. The appellant, the appellant's representative, the Building Commissioner and any person whose interest are affected shall be given an opportunity to be heard.

A101.3.2 Procedure: The Board shall adopt and make available to the public through the secretary procedures under which a hearing will be conducted. The procedures shall not require compliance with strict rules of evidence but shall mandate that only relevant information is received.

A101.3.3 Postponed Hearing: When five members are not present to hear an appeal, either the appellant or the appellant's representative shall have the right to request a postponement of the hearing.

A101.4 Board Decision: The board shall modify or reverse the decision of the code official by a concurring vote of four (4) members.

A101.4.1 Resolution: The decision of the board shall be in writing. Copies signed by the chairman and secretary shall be furnished to the appellant and to the Code Official.

A101.4.2 Administration: The Code Official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the board.

A101.5 Appeals of Board Decisions: Any person or persons jointly or severally aggrieved by any decision of the Board of Appeals, or any officer, department, board or bureau of the City, may present to the Circuit Court of St. Louis County, Missouri, a petition, duly verified, setting forth that such decision is illegal, in whole or in part, and specifying the grounds of illegality. Such petition shall be presented to the court within thirty (30) days after the filing of the decision in the office of the Board.

20.4800A Amendments to Appendix C - International Fire Code – Appendix C Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution:

Appendix C Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution is amended by inserting the following:

APPENDIX C FIRE HYDRANT LOCATION AND DISTRIBUTION

C106 Definitions:

1. Structure – for the purposes of this ordinance a structure shall not include minor residential structures including but not limited to fences (both residential and non-residential), arbors, sheds, toys (swing sets, play houses, etc.), cell towers.
2. Adjoining ground shall be construed to mean any surface within 3 feet of the fire hydrant.

C107 Single family and two family residential properties.

1. No fire hydrant shall be distant more than 600 feet from another fire hydrant.
2. No structure shall be erected where any point along the perimeter of such structure is more than 500 feet from an existing fire hydrant.
3. In measuring the distances set forth in 1 and 2 above, such distances shall be measured only over all weather streets, roads, driveways or paved all weather parking areas.

C108 Commercial and industrial properties.

1. A fire hydrant shall be provided every 300 feet, and no fire hydrant shall be distance more than 300 feet from the nearest fire hydrant.
2. No point along the perimeter of any structure shall be more than 300 feet distant from a fire hydrant.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of 1 and 2 above, each structure shall have not less than 3 fire hydrants located within 1,000 feet of such structure. Any fire hydrants installed within such 1,000 feet of the building or structure shall:
 - A. Have one of such fire hydrants within 300 feet of the building or structure.
 - B. One additional fire hydrant within 500 feet of the building or structure.

C109 Minimum size of water mains serving fire hydrants. All water mains serving fire hydrants shall be installed in accordance with the following minimum standards.

1. Single family and two family structures shall have water mains not less than 8 inches in diameter, except that if such main is connected to the water system in more than 1 location, such main may be reduced to not less than 6 inches.
2. All other structures within the scope of this ordinance shall be served by water mains having fire hydrants thereon, which water mains shall not be less than 8 inches in diameter. Larger mains shall be provided as required by the fire department.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of 1 and 2 above, single leads to the fire hydrants may be served with a water main of not less than 6 inches in diameter so long as such lead main is not greater than 300 feet in length.
4. The minimum fire flow from a single fire hydrant in any Use Group shall be 1,500 gallons per minute at 20 psi residual pressure.

Exception: On existing public and private water mains, sufficient water supply for hydrants shall be provided such that hydrants are capable of flowing a minimum of 500 gallons per minute with 20 psi residual pressure for 15 minutes. Additional water supply may be required by the fire department.

5. The minimum fire flow from multiple fire hydrants in any Use Group shall be 1,500 gallons per minute at 20 psi residual pressure as measured at the most hydraulically remote fire hydrant.

Exception: On existing public and private water mains, sufficient water supply for hydrants shall be provided such that hydrants are capable of flowing a minimum of 500 gallons per minute with 20 psi residual pressure for 15 minutes. Additional water supply may be required by the fire department.

C110 Water hydrant supply control valve. Each fire hydrant shall be provided with a control valve on the hydrant connection such that the hydrant can be removed from service without shutting off water supply to other fire hydrants. Control valves not required on hydrants of a looped water main less than 8 inches in diameter and such water main has a control valve every 1200 feet or less.

C111 Fire hydrant obstruction. It shall be unlawful for any person, persons, firm, partnership or corporation to damage, deface, obstruct, obscure from view or restrict access to any fire hydrant whether the same is located on a public way, public or private lands. No parking within 10 feet of a hydrant. Maintain clear area of 3 feet from hydrant.

C112 Hydrant location. Fire hydrants shall be placed in accordance with the following specifications:

1. For average conditions, hydrants should be placed 50 feet from the building protected. When it is impractical to place them at this distance, they may be put nearer, provided they are set in locations where the chance of injury by falling walls is minimal, and from which fire department personnel are not likely to be driven away by smoke or heat.
2. All fire hydrants should be located on or adjacent (within 20 feet) to all weather streets, roads, driveways, or parking areas. In parking or traffic areas, fire hydrants should be located on islands or otherwise protected from the traffic and available to the fire apparatus at all times.
3. In setting hydrants due regard should be given to final grade plane. The fire department connection shall be located not less than 18 inches nor more than 48 inches above the level of the adjoining ground, sidewalk, or grade surface.
4. There shall be a hydrant within 150 feet of the fire department connection of buildings with sprinkler systems. The Fire Marshall shall be permitted to require a distance closer than 150 feet.

C113 Tampering with fire hydrant. It shall be unlawful for any person to use or operate a fire hydrant for any purpose other than the suppression of a fire. This provision shall not apply to employees of the City of Webster Groves or Missouri American Water employees. All other persons shall obtain a permit to draw water from a fire hydrant. (water meter, back flow preventer).

C114 Fire hydrant standards. All fire hydrants installed within the jurisdiction of the Webster Groves Fire Department from and after the effective date of this ordinance shall each have not less than (2) 2 ½ inch outlets and (1) 4 ½ inch outlet and shall be of break away design, frost free with chain, left hand open design and have National Standard threads.

C115 Color coding of fire hydrants. All fire hydrants installed after the effective date of this Ordinance shall be color-coded.

1. All fire hydrants attached to mains that are 12 inches or larger shall be painted with green bonnet and caps.
2. All fire hydrants attached to mains that are 8 inches shall be painted with orange bonnet and caps.
3. All fire hydrants attached to mains that are 6 inches or less shall be painted with a red bonnet and caps.

20.5300A Amendments to Appendix H - International Fire Code – Appendix H Fire Lanes:

APPENDIX H FIRE LANES

Fire Lanes: In addition to those locations required by code, duly designated and posted fire lanes are as follows:

Hixson Junior High School and Moss Athletic Field: Along the north line of above property, beginning at the northeast corner and continuing west a distance of 596 feet following curb-line on the north side of driveway.

Along the south side of the driveway immediately north of Moss Athletic Field from the northeast to northwest corners, a distance of 335 feet.

South along the east side of Moss Athletic Field a distance of 73 feet beginning at the northeast corner of the fenced area.

South along the west side of Moss Athletic Field a distance of 97 feet beginning at the northwest corner of the fenced area and continuing along curb line.

Both sides of the semi-circle driveway located immediately in front of the front entrance to 630 South Elm Avenue.

Both sides of the outer roadway and driveway from South Elm Avenue northeastwardly a distance of 870 feet.

Union Pacific Railroad Right-of-Way, along the north side of Glencoe Avenue from North Gore Avenue to Allen Avenue.

Webster College, 470 East Lockwood Avenue: Along the south curb line of the driveway beginning 21 feet east of the southeast corner of the intersection of East Lockwood Avenue and Plymouth Avenue, thence running southwardly, southeastwardly, northeastwardly and northwardly in a semicircle for a distance of 623 feet.

Webster University, Big Bend Buildings: Beginning at a point 132 feet east of the west property line at 8342 Big Bend Boulevard at the curb line of Big Bend Boulevard running 154 feet along the south curb of the semicircular driveway. Also from a point at the curb line of Big Bend Boulevard 118 feet west of the east property line of 8338 Big Bend Boulevard, running southward along the east side of the driveway for 178 feet, and from that point running west for 126 feet on the south side of the driveway. Also beginning at a point 138 feet west of the east property line and 47 feet south of the curb line of Big Bend Boulevard thence running south 126 feet along west side of drive to a point, thence running west for a distance of 210 feet along north curb line of the driveway. (No-Parking--Fire Lane).

Loretto-Hilton Center for the Performing Arts, 130 Edgar Road: Along the east curbline of the drive beginning 322 feet south of the southeast corner of the intersection of Big Bend Boulevard and Edgar Road, thence running eastwardly, southwardly and southwestwardly for a distance of 305 feet.

Old Orchard Municipal Parking Lot: Beginning at a point 100 feet east of the southeast corner of the intersection of Log Cabin Lane and Big Bend Boulevard, thence running south 200 feet along the western edge of the sidewalk of the parking lot, being the rear property lines of 8110 Big Bend Boulevard to 8144 Big Bend Boulevard.

Webster Pines Apartments, 8717 Watson Road: Beginning at a point 61 feet east of the west property line of the Webster Pines Apartments, 8717 Watson Road, and the northern edge of the right-of-way of Watson Road, then running northwardly, northwestwardly and northeastwardly along the curb lines of the east and west entrances and driveway for a distance of 88 feet in each direction.

Along the inner curb line running southeastwardly, eastwardly and northeastwardly in a semicircle for a distance of 120 feet between the western and eastern edge of the building located at 8717 Watson Road.

Theatre Lane: The east side of Theatre Lane for a distance of 95 feet from the intersection of Newport Avenue.

The east side of Theatre Lane for a distance of 40 feet from the intersection with Fairview Avenue.

The west side of Theatre Lane.

The north side of the private alley running between Theatre Lane and Bompard Avenue (and situated between Newport Avenue and Fairview Avenue) between the west line of Theatre Lane and a point 90 feet west thereof.

Valley Road: The west side of Valley Road from East Cedar Avenue to East Swon Avenue.

History Center and Southwest Park: South of the entrance to the driveway to the History Center and Southwest Park, prohibiting parking for 25 feet in both directions from the same entrance off Rock Hill Road.

(Ord. No. 8765, § 2 7-17-12)