

The New Improved Comm.

14

Or the code from *Neptune*



**Hello: Welcome to Eau Claire**



# Our Managers

Robert Dupont  
Bureau Director  
608-266-8984

Joe Hertel  
Program Manager  
608-266-5649

Call anytime day or night !



# Disclaimer

Even though this presentation was put together by highly skilled, professional Fire Prevention Coordinators you will have to read the new code. There are land mines and what if's that we cannot answer at this time. As always as a famous person once said ***“everything stands until challenged”*** \*

\* Brother Nolen, OSB, 1988

# Explanation of Commerce Authority

- Commerce updates requirements as necessary to be consistent with nationally recognized standards that are incorporated by reference into the Wisconsin Commercial Building Code (WCBC) and the Wisconsin Fire Prevention Code.

# Code Process

**New Comm. 14**

**Advisory  
Committee  
Meets**

**Commerce  
Secretary  
Approves**

**Legislature gets  
Kick at cat**

# Proposed Rules Creation

- Repeal Comm. 9 and 70 (Fireworks & Historic Buildings)
- Renumber
- Renumber and Amend
- Amend
- Repeal and Recreate Com. 7 & 14
- Create Comm. 14 Appendix
- Create Comm.66 relating to existing buildings

# IEBC

- 2006 addition to WCBC: applies to existing buildings
- Applies to repairs, alterations, additions and changes to existing buildings.
- As a result Comm. 70 Historic Buildings will be eliminated (repealed)



# Death of the 50% Rule

The IEBC clarifies when existing buildings need to be upgraded to meet the new code requirements. The 50% rule is thus eliminated.\* IEBC is found in Chapter 34 of the 2006 edition of the IBC

\*The 50% rule may or may not be a figment of our imagination you decide

Effective Date of Comm 14. is  
projected to be March 1, 2008

- Comm. 14 adopts the 2006 edition of NFPA 1 ("Extracted Code")
- You will need a copy of NFPA 1 2006 to function
- Get to NFPA 1 Training

# “Wisconsinisms”

Only Wisconsin-specific elements which devolve from state statute directives to the Department of Commerce and Local Fire Chiefs were maintained.

# NFPA 101 Life Safety Code

- When design or construction requirements of NFPA 101 are mentioned in NFPA 1 via cross references or the like the NFPA 101 citations are not included as part of this chapter !
- *Warning: DHFS and other government buildings may use NFPA 101 for design criteria. Look before you leap*

# Credentials for sprinkler testers

- Comm. 5 does contain requirements for certified/credentialed testers to conduct the yearly tests on a sprinkler system per NFPA 25 and 72.
- *Warning: This does not preclude non-credentialed persons from doing daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly or semi-annual activities.*

# Smoke Detector Maintenance in Residential Buildings

- ss 101.145 (3)(b)(c) is controlling statute
- This note will appear under as Comm. 14.13.7.4.6.



# What Other Comm. Codes were affected?

- Comm. 7 (Explosive materials)
- Comm. 9 (Manufacture of Fireworks)
- Comm. 14.65 was created to deal with use, operation and maintenance issues



# Comm. 61-66 CBC

- Note to alert property owners of annual fire inspections
- Change to mandate ambulance stretchers fit in elevators
- Changes in required sprinklers in Type R buildings (3 or more units) \*\*\* stay tuned



# Glenn Grothman

STATE SENATOR  
20TH SENATE DISTRICT

Office:  
Post Office Box 7882 . Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7882  
. (608) 266-7513 . Toll-Free: (BOO) 662-1227  
Sen:Grothman@legis.state.wi.us  
[www.legis.state.wi.us/senate/sen20/sen20.html](http://www.legis.state.wi.us/senate/sen20/sen20.html)

Home:  
111 South 6th Avenue  
West Bend, Wisconsin 53095  
(262) 338.8061

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For further information, please contact: 1-800-662-1227

## Renters at Risk!!!

### *Grothman Calls on Governor to Intervene and Stand Up to Special Interests*

Madison...Today Senator Glenn Grothman (R-West Bend) called on Governor Doyle to intervene with the Department of Commerce and prevent special interests from negotiating a deal which will drive up rent for Wisconsin residents. The Department of Commerce, in a 'proposed rule (Clearinghouse Rule 06-120) is requiring all new rental properties of 3 to 20 units to be built with sprinkler systems (multi-family dwellings with 20 or more units are already required to have sprinkler systems).

Sprinkler systems cost about \$7,000 per unit; this will add around \$50 per month (7.5% interest on a 28 year note) in increased mortgage costs for landlords, in addition to about \$10 per month in property taxes, and slightly more than \$10 a month in maintenance costs. That results in an increased monthly rent of around \$70 per unit.

"Virtually all fires take place in older units. If Wisconsin residents want to spend an additional \$70 per month for a new unit with sprinklers in it, that is their right - but for bureaucrats to force renters to pay this much additional rent is unconscionable," said Senator Grothman.

"The well-heeled sprinkler companies, lobbyists, and Madison bureaucrats have weighed in on this matter, but the little guy (the renters) are not represented in the room. Governor Doyle needs to consider the little guy in the equation. I call on Governor Doyle to reign in his Department of Commerce and protect the future renters of this state," states Senator Grothman. "Please don't let us down, Governor Doyle."

October 4, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

On Friday, September 28, Senator Glenn Grothman issued a press release making false claims about the cost of fire sprinkler systems for newly constructed multifamily dwellings. As a resident in his district, and a fire inspector, I am concerned about the effects this misinformation will have. I write to encourage legislative officials and the citizens of this state to support this public safety proposal put forth by the Department of Commerce (Commerce). Specifically, the code package includes a provision to install fire sprinklers in newly constructed multi-family dwellings of 3-units and greater.

**The proposal, in its entirety, would bring Wisconsin in line with the national standard, as well as the City of West Bend.** Perhaps the senator overlooked his community's ordinance in which the fire sprinkler threshold is already at 3-units for newly constructed multifamily dwellings, and has been since at least 1992.

West Bend is considered by many to have a booming economy. People aren't living on the streets because sprinkler systems have been installed in their new multifamily dwellings. If Senator Grothman is successful in his quest to kill this proposal from Commerce, West Bend will regress in fire safety. In that case, renters surely will be at risk.

Before I go any further, I would like to specifically address a couple things from Senator Grothman's press release.

**First, the argument that "virtually all fires occur in older units" is absurd.** I hope the citizens of this state and his fellow legislators understand that fires aren't selective. Accidents happen, arson happens; furniture, matches, cigarettes, you name it, and it can ignite in a matter of seconds. If we accept these arguments, we will perpetuate the problem rather than solve it. With that said, older buildings do pose a unique set of safety concerns. **Is the senator proposing or going to propose legislation that would require all existing multifamily dwellings be retrofitted with sprinklers? It would seem logical if he believes his own argument.**

**Second, I think it's important to clear up some statements about cost.** Department of Commerce Secretary Mary Burke states in her column, *"Common Sense Dictates Approval of Sprinkler Rule"*, appearing in the *Wisconsin State Journal* on Saturday, December 16, that **"Our cost analysis for the sprinkler systems concludes that to purchase and install a standard, approved system for an average 950-square-foot, two-bedroom unit in a new multi-family dwelling would cost \$1,776. Spread over the life of a 30-year mortgage, that's about \$10 per month."**

Fire sprinkler systems are priced on a square foot or per sprinkler basis for the entire building; so Senator Grothman's statement that sprinklers are 'about \$7,000 per unit' is a completely inaccurate statement. Moreover, Commerce research proves that codes provide builders and developers with the options to use trade-ups, or alternatives in building materials and guides that help offset the cost of installing fire sprinkler systems.

The costs, and how they can be offset, was part of the lengthy review process that Commerce went through. They analyzed other states, (at least 24 states have already adopted this model code, with others taking it up now), received feedback from various industries, and determined the best course of action. As with all model code documents, revisions are made on a continuous basis and every 3 years a new edition is released. New editions reflect changes in technology, building materials, unique architectural features and most importantly increased personal safety and property protection. **Commerce is simply following a national standard.**

I am not only concerned about protecting citizens and firefighters from fire, but I am concerned about protecting the tax base in our community. When you examine the injuries that firefighters sustain and the resulting worker's compensation claims, these injuries represent some of the most expensive tax liabilities that exist. The cost to rebuild lost property in a community after a fire can be very expensive. The injuries associated with fire and loss of lives and property to fire has such a tremendous effect – some families, and yes even communities, never recover.

Oddly enough, Senator Grothman encourages Governor Doyle to stand up to “special interests” in his press release. I agree, particularly because the *ONLY* organization to oppose this proposal is one of the largest special interests in the state, the Wisconsin Builders Association.

In fact, Senator Grothman's office admittedly received his information from a top special interest group, the National Association of Home Builders. I don't know about you, but I trust numbers from a state agency that researched buildings recently constructed with sprinklers in Wisconsin. Senator Grothman, please review your facts.

Fire sprinklers have been around for decades; they are proven, effective systems to help fight fires. This battle has gone on long enough. I applaud Governor Doyle and the Department of Commerce for their forward-thinking; we need Wisconsin to be on par with the national standard in building construction. It's simply common sense.

David Lind  
8151 Midland Dr.  
Arlinton WI 53007

# Comm. 61-65 CBC Changes

- Chapter 10 (egress) was reorganized to make it more user friendly
- Increased consistency to recognize the State and Federal Fair Housing Laws for accessibility



# Comm. 14 adds new access to NFPA Codes

- Fire Hazard abatement authority
- Stop Work, Stop Use and Evacuation
- Flammable Liquids
- General Storage
- Hazardous Materials
- LPG
- Outdoor Storage of Tires
- Fire Hydrant locations and Distribution
- Water Supply
- Wild land Urban Interface
- Automobile Wrecking Yards

# Additional access to NFPA Codes

- Compressed gas and cryogenic liquids
- Wood products
- Water reactive Solids and Liquids
- Hazardous materials
- Motion Picture Industry
- Fire Flow Requirements for buildings
- Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution
- Fire Hazard abatement authority, stop work, stop use and evacuation

# By the numbers Comm. 14.001

- IFC no longer “Special Order” must be adopted by local ordinance\*\*\*
- All IFC Special Orders from Commerce die with the new Comm. 14
- Commerce does not provide direct support of the IFC



# \*\*\* Remember \*\*\*

- Local ordinances do not apply to State Buildings.
- If the State is renting or leasing a building remember the owner of the building is the responsible party !



## Comm. 14.001 (1) (b)

- The application of *NFPA 1 Uniform Fire Code* to use, operation, and maintenance of public buildings and places of employment is explicitly stated



# Comm. 14.002 (1-5)

- Expands the scope of Comm. 14 to include all of the tanks and other containers which are being excluded from Comm.10 for storage, transfer or dispensing of flammable/hazardous liquids





# Comm. 14 & Comm.10 Spray Applications

- Process tanks are part of Comm. 10.
- Fire Prevention per NFPA 1 as it adopts NFPA 30 citations
- Spray booths do not receive plan review, They are not building components, unless in gov. buildings



# Remember

- Comm. 10 goes beyond “Public building and Places of Employment” so now does Comm. 14 for flammable liquids and fire prevention the remaining exceptions: Indian reservations and Federal Facilities that are leased to or owned by the Feds
- This does NOT include UST/AST Systems.

WRR fire 6/22/07



## Comm. 14.01 (1) (d) Note

- Now requires fire depts. To document fire responses of first alarms for all buildings rather than responses to each fire at a public building and place of employment.  
2% Dues entitlement requires records for structure fires.

# Comm. 14.01 (2) (a) 4. a

- NFPA Chapter 18 is reinstated for Fire Dept. access and water supply.
- Requirement to submit plans to local F.D. For fire-access-  
roadways is included.



## Comm.14.01 ((2) (b) (2)

- Where rules of the department specify conflicting requirements, types of methods, processes or procedures, the most restrictive shall govern, except as provided in subds. 3 and 4.
- If the conflict is between a specific or detailed rule the specific rule shall prevail
- If there is a conflict between Comm. 14 and Comm. 10 than Comm. 10 shall prevail\*\*

# Comm. 10 authority

- Ss 101.14 allows Fire Chiefs and their Deputies to mitigate fire hazards, That includes fire hazards associated with all UST/AST Systems.
- Please note fire hazards !





**WRR Fire 06/22/07**

**Comm. 10 vs. Comm. 14**



## Comm. 14.01 (4) (a) 2. & 3.

- Retains NFPA 1 requirement for Local Permits and certificates of fitness where adopted by local ordinance.

## Comm. 14.01 (9) (e)

- This text will expand the scope of Comm. 14 to include reporting all fire responses. (not only public buildings and places of employment)
- It reflects the Dept. of Commerce's statutory mandate to collect fire data on all fires within the State of Wisconsin.

# Editorial comment by author

- We need to report using accurate data. Law Enforcement does this now and kicks our butts! Lets get with the program



## Comm. 14.01 (11) (b)

- Chief determines which public buildings and places of employment will be inspected, rather than the number that are to be inspected.
- Inspection frequency for vacant buildings is expanded to also apply to unoccupied buildings.
- Inspection of seasonal or periodic occupancies is clarified.

## Comm. 14.01 (11) (b) (8)

- Fire Inspections shall be conducted by the DOC or an authorized agent of the DOC.
- May include private inspection agencies
- Chief is always responsible
- Comm. 14 does not restrict statutory authority of the DOC or it's deputies to investigate and cause to be corrected any condition anywhere liable to cause fire or endanger firefighters  
ss 101.14

# Local ordinance reducing inspection frequency

- Where authorized by *local* ordinance a city, village or town may reduce the inspections required by the new Comm. 14 to once per calendar year, provided the interval between those inspections does not exceed 15 months.
- This replaces the special order concept.

# Comm. 14.01 "Audits"

- Computer Records are equivalent to written records
- Local "Self Certification" is not an audit
- "On-Site audits" are revised to simply state "Audit"
- Revision of language to include records of fire prevention inspections and compliance with ss 101.575 (3)
- On line self certification in the near future.

# Appeals of an Audit Determination

- Appeals are the province of Ch 227 Stats.
- There are 12 provisions to the appeals process under this chapter



# Ch 227.42 (1)

- Provides for contested case hearing before state agencies by aggrieved parties



# Comm. 14.01 Audit Appeal Rights

- Codifies an appeals board and a related process for appealing audit determinations
- Clarifies that only a Fire Department or affected municipality may the appeal
- Clarifies that the appointments to the fire dues appeals board must be from each listed category

# Comm. 14.01 Audit Appeals

- Oral testimony may be presented via teleconference or hearing location agreed to by the Board, Appellant and DOC
- Allow extending the appellant's appeal time if agreed to by the Board & Appellant
- Force completion of the appeal process by August 1 of the year the appeal is filed
- Defines indirect & direct costs along with supplies

# On-Site Audit

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## Appeals

FD *written request* to 2% Fire Dues appeals board.

*Seven (7) appeals board* will consist of:

- 2 The Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Association (paid and volunteer fire chief)
- 1 Wisconsin Fire Inspectors Association
- 1 Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin
- 1 Wisconsin State Firefighters Association
- 1 Commerce representative
- 1 Commerce fire prevention coordinator who made the original decision

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7 Total board members.

Appeals board recommendations forwarded to commerce secretary for *final decision*.

# Definitions Administrative Expenses

- Direct Costs: Costs of salaries, limited term employees, fringe benefits and supplies
- Indirect Costs: cost determined on a pro rata basis of management and administrative services provided

# Definitions Administrative Expenses

- Supplies: equipment, memberships, postage, printing, rent, subscriptions, travel, utilities and similar outfitting and services directly related to administration.

## 2% Dues Funds may be used for

- The purchase of fire protection equipment
- Fire Inspection and Public Education
- Training of Firefighters and Fire Inspectors *performing public education and fire prevention inspection duties*
- Firefighter pension funds or other special funds for disabled firefighters.

101.575 (6) stats

# Comm. 14.10

- Clarifies the requirements for the storage of combustibles outside and provides a corresponding sketch





**A.31.3.5.1.1** Each individual property has its own special conditions of yard use, stock-handling methods, and topography. For this reason, only basic fire protection principles are discussed herein, and are intended to be applied with due consideration of all local factors involved. Ties, as used herein, include ties, poles, piles, posts, and other similar forest products. Treated ties are ties that are pressure impregnated with preservatives.

**A.31.3.5.2** Fire loss experience in the storage yards indicates that the following are the principal factors that allow fires to reach serious proportions:

- (1) Large, unaided stacks
- (2) Congested storage conditions
- (3) Delayed fire detection
- (4) Inadequate fire protection
- (5) Ineffective fire-fighting tactics

**A.31.3.5.3** Refuse-filled or sawdust-filled land, swampy ground, or areas where the hazard of underground fire is present should not be used as storage site.

**A.31.3.5.3.1** With relatively open stacking (that is, stacking that allows for penetration of fire-extinguishing streams), sufficient alleyway width can usually be accomplished by providing a not-less-than 4 ft (1.2 m) alleyway width between alternate rows of the stacks. [See Figure A.31.3.5.3.1(a).] Flat crib-style stacking without space between the stacks that forms solid packed rows should require a not-less-than 4 ft (1.2 m) alleyway width between each row. [See Figure A.31.3.5.3.1(b).]

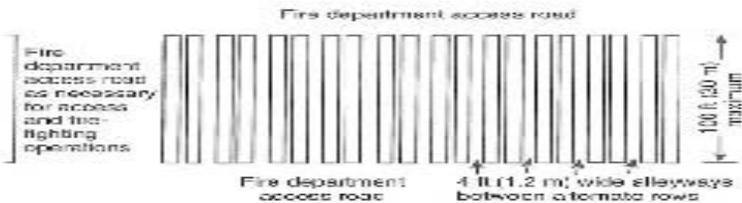


FIGURE A.31.3.5.3.1(a) Relatively Open Stacking Methods.



FIGURE A.31.3.5.3.1(b) Crib-Style Stacking into Solid Rows.

2006 Edition

**A.31.3.5.3.2** For basic fire protection, the tie should be capable of supplying not less than (65 mm) hose streams simultaneously [not less than (4000 L/min)] while maintaining a positive rest in the fire protection hydrant system of not less (1.38 bar).

Where large-scale fire-fighting operations and larger water supplies with adequate mains are not

For early extinguishment with basic fire protection, hydrants should be spaced with sufficient 2½ in. (63 mm) hose attached to allow rapid hose laying to all parts of areas. For this reason, hydrants should be spaced 250 ft (76 m) intervals so that any part of the area reached with 200 ft (60 m) of hose. Hydrants should be located at fire department access roads and A hydrant hose house with not less than 200 ft (60 m) hose and auxiliary equipment should be provided at each hydrant. (See NFPA 24.)

**A.31.3.5.3.5** Heights in excess of 30 ft (9 m) require effective extinguishing operations.

**A.31.3.6.1** Each individual property has its own special conditions of yard use, stock-handling methods, and topography. It is recognized that climate conditions, wood species, and pile size are all factors affecting fire safety. For this reason, only basic fire protection principles are discussed herein, and are intended to be applied with due consideration of all local factors involved. Except for the surface moisture content of a pile of wood chips or puffed grain, which is quite high, so surface fires do not generally penetrate a few inches into the pile. Fire tests indicate that under average humidity conditions, the flame propagation rate is relatively slow. These conditions allow early detection, provided that there is early detection and good access. It is expected that, in areas where long periods of low humidity, faster surface flame spread can be anticipated, the importance of early detection and good access.

**A.31.3.6.2.1** Fire experience and fire tests indicate that completely different types of fires can occur in surface fires and internal fires. Fire prevention and fire protection facilities should, therefore, be designed for coping with both situations.

Internal heating is a hazard inherent to large storage of chips and bugged material. The progress of smoldering combustion under certain pile conditions is difficult to detect and extinguish. Unless measures are made for measuring internal temperatures, serious burns for long periods before emission of smoke indicates an internal fire.

Extinguishment then becomes a lengthy and difficult problem requiring careful management to move large portions of the pile, extinguishing out the burning portions or removing the main portions of the pile. Experience has shown that these actions create very large losses, and special attention should be given to the prevention of spontaneous combustion and planning where evaluating how best to handle an internal fire in a particular pile.

**A.31.3.6.2.2** Prevention of internal fires requires understanding of the factors that cause exothermic reactions. Steps can be taken to minimize this hazard and to prevent means of monitoring temperature conditions inside





## 14.11.1

# Electrical Fire Safety

- Applies to new, existing, permanent, temporary electrical appliances, equipment, fixtures or wiring
- Installed and maintained per NFPA 70 (WI adopts via Comm. 16) Fire Safety !







# Comm. 14.20

- Draft expands NFPA 1 requirements for exposed flame in assembly occupancies to all occupancies.





# Appendix Added

- An appendix and informational note were added to reflect the statutory elements of interfering with fire fighting and false alarms. And other statutory issues and concerns
- Also reinstates the NFPA requirements on grid systems for outdoor storage



**The End ! Have a good conference !**