

CITY OF EFFINGHAM, IL

2024 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE AMENDMENTS

SECTION 4: Effective January 01, 2025, Sections 10-21 and 10-22 of Article II and Article V of Chapter Ten of the Municipal Code of Effingham, Illinois, are hereby repealed and replaced by the following:

“Sec. 10-21. Adoption of the International Fire Code-2024 Edition; Applicability.

There is hereby adopted by reference the International Fire Code, 2024 Edition, as published by the International Code Council, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as the “IFC 2024”), subject to the additions, insertions, deletions, and modifications prescribed in Section 10-22 of this Article. The IFC 2024 shall apply to the following:

1. All new construction commencing after January 01, 2025, shall conform to IFC 2024;
2. Those portions of existing buildings where, in the opinion of the Fire Chief of the Effingham Fire Department, the Assistant Fire Chief, or his or her designees, a serious hazard to life is presented because of noncompliance with any of the provisions of this Code;
3. Whenever any building addition or *alteration* is made to any existing building where the addition, *alteration*, or improvement exceeds 50% or more of the market value of the existing building, such addition or *alteration* shall conform to IFC 2024; and,
4. Whenever any existing building is damaged by fire or any other cause to the extent of 50% or more of its value, or whenever *alterations* or *additions* are made to any existing building(s) where the actual cost of which is equivalent to 50% or more of the value of such building(s), then all provisions of IFC 2024 shall be applicable to all such building and the construction or *alterations* shall include all changes to bring the entire building into conformity with IFC 2024.

Except as provided in Section 10-23, as amended by Section 10-24, and Section 10-25, as amended by Section 10-26, of this Chapter, the Fire Chief of the Effingham Fire Department, Assistant Fire Chief and his or her designees, are hereby authorized and directed to enforce the provisions of said IFC 2024 within the corporate limits of the City of Effingham. The City of Effingham Police Department, City Engineer, City Building Official, and City Attorney are hereby authorized and directed to cooperate with the Effingham Fire Department in the implementation and enforcement of the IFC 2024 Edition.

Sec. 10-22. Amendments to the International Fire Code-2024 Edition.

The following sections and appendices of the IFC 2024 are hereby added, inserted, deleted, and/or modified as follows:

The word “Add” preceding a provision of this Section means that such provision is thereby added to and made part of the IFC 2024 as though fully set forth at the referenced section.

The word “Amend” preceding a provision of this Section means that such provision amends the reference section of the IFC 20224 to read as provided and that such provision is added to and made a part of this code as though fully set forth at the referenced number.

The word “Delete” preceding a provision of this Section means that such provision deletes the referenced section from the IFC 2024.

The word “Passim” preceding a provision of this Section means that such provision amends any reference of such phrase found at various places throughout the IFC 2024.

CHAPTER 1

SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION

Passim. Wherever the phrase “[name of jurisdiction]” or the word “jurisdiction” appears, they shall be deemed to refer to the City of Effingham, Illinois.

Passim. Wherever the phrase “*fire code official*” appears, it shall be deemed to refer to the City of Effingham Fire Chief, or his/her duly designated agent or agents.

Passim. Wherever any reference to “*ICC Electrical Code*” appears, it shall be replaced with the phrase “*(NFPA 70) National Electric Code, 2023 Edition, as adopted by the City of Effingham, Illinois.*”

Passim. Wherever any reference to “*International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)*” appears, it shall be replaced with the phrase “*Illinois Energy Conservation Code (IECC), as may be amended from time to time by the State of Illinois.*”

Passim. Wherever any reference to “*ICC Plumbing Code*” appears, it shall be replaced with the phrase “*Illinois Plumbing Code, as may be amended from time to time by the State of Illinois.*”

Passim. Wherever any reference to “*International Pool & Spa Code*” appears, it shall be replaced with the phrase “*applicable regulations contained within Appendix B of the Municipal Code of Effingham, Illinois.*”

Amend: **101.1 Title.** These regulations shall be known as the Fire Code of the City of Effingham, Illinois, hereinafter referred to as either “this code” or “IFC.”

Amend: **Section 103.4. Liability.** The *fire code official*, officer, or employee charged with the enforcement of this code, while acting for the *jurisdiction*, in good faith and without malice in the discharge of the duties required by this code or other pertinent law or ordinance, shall not thereby be rendered civilly or criminally liable personally, and is hereby relieved from all personal liability for any damage accruing to persons or property as a result of an act or by reason of an act or omission in the discharge of official duties.

Delete: **Section 108.**

Amend: **Section 113.4 Violation penalties.** Any *person* who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, construct, alter, or repair a building or *structure* in violation of an *approved* plan or directive of the *fire code official*, or of a *permit* or certificate issued under the provisions of this Code, shall be subject to a civil fine of not less than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) nor more than Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00) for each offense. A separate offense shall be deemed to be committed on each day during or on which a violation occurs or continues. Any such *person* may be further ordered to pay restitution to the City of Effingham for any costs incurred by the City of Effingham as a result of the violation of this code, excluding attorney fees incurred in the prosecution of such violation. Notwithstanding any provision in this code to the contrary, wherever any statute or public act of the General Assembly shall limit the amount of any fine or penalty, the fine or penalty imposed by this code shall be the maximum amount permitted by such statute or public act. Every act or omission of whatsoever nature constituting a violation of any provision of this code, by any officer, director, manager or other agent or employee of any *person*, shall be deemed and held to be the act of such *person*, and the *person* shall be punishable in the same manner as if the act or omission had been done or omitted by him personally.

Add: **113.4.1. Abatement of violation.** The imposition of any fee, fine, or penalty prescribed herein shall not preclude the City Attorney of the *jurisdiction* from instituting appropriate action to prevent unlawful construction or to restrain, correct, or abate a violation, or to prevent illegal occupancy of a building, *structure*, or premises, or to stop an illegal act, business conduct, or occupancy of a building or *structure* on or about any premises.

Amend: **114.4 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 subject to the penalties prescribed in Section 113.4, as well as the provisions contained within Section 113.4.1.

CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS

Amend: **Section 202 General Definitions, by amending the following definitions:**

EXISTING. Building, *facilities* or conditions that are already in existence, constructed or occupied. See also 1102.1 Definitions. Existing

FIRE CODE OFFICIAL. The fire chief, assist fire chief, or other designated authority charged with the administration and enforcement of this code, or a duly authorized representative.

CHAPTER 3 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Amend: **Section 307.1 General.** A *person* shall not kindle or maintain or authorize to be kindled or maintained any *open burning* unless conducted in compliance with the regulations as contained in Sections 10-2 and 10-2.1 of the Municipal Code of Effingham, Illinois.

Delete: **Sections 307.1.1 through 307.4.1**

Delete: **Section 308.2**

Amend: **311.2.2 Fire protection.** Fire alarm, sprinkler and standpipe systems shall be maintained in an operable condition at all times.

Exceptions:

1. Where the premises have been cleared of all combustible materials and debris and, in the opinion of the *fire code official*, the type of construction, fire separation distance and security of the premises do not create a fire hazard.
2. Where *approved* by the *fire code official*, buildings that will not be heated and where *fire protection systems* will be exposed to freezing temperatures, fire alarm and sprinkler systems are permitted to be placed out of service and standpipes are permitted to be maintained as dry systems (without an automatic water supply), provided the building has no contents or storage, and windows, doors and other openings are secured to prohibit entry by unauthorized persons.
3. As otherwise *approved* by the *fire code official*.

CHAPTER 4 EMERGENCY PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS

Add: **403.2.1.1 Overcrowding.** An *owner*, manager, agent or person in charge shall not permit overcrowding or admittance of any person beyond the established *occupant load*.

The *fire code official*, upon finding overcrowded conditions or obstruction in *aisles*, passageways or other means of egress, or upon finding any condition which constitutes a hazard to life and safety, shall be empowered to cause the occupancy, performance, presentation, spectacle or entertainment to be stopped until such a condition or obstruction is corrected and the addition of any further occupants prohibited until the *approved occupant load* is re-established.

CHAPTER 5 FIRE SERVICE FEATURES

- Add:** **Section 504.2.1 Exterior Door Numbering:** Where required by the *fire code official*, all exterior doors around a building shall be numbered, with numbers measuring not less than six inches 6" high with a minimum stroke width of three quarter inch $\frac{3}{4}$ ". These numerals shall be of a contrasting color which can be clearly seen against the background, both on the interior and exterior side of the door in an upper corner. The sequence of the numbering shall commence at the main entrance and work around the building in a clockwise rotation.
- Amend:** **Section 506.1 Rapid entry key lock box system.** Where access to or within a building, *structure*, or any portion thereof, is restricted because of secured openings, or where immediate access is necessary for life-saving or fire-fighting purposes, the *fire code official* is authorized to require a rapid entry key lock box to be installed in an *approved* location, and such rapid entry key lock box system shall comply with the regulations as contained within Section 10-10 of the Municipal Code of Effingham, Illinois.
- Delete:** **Sections 506.1.1 through 506.2.**

CHAPTER 6 BUILDING SERVICES AND SYSTEMS

- Amend:** **603.4 Portable unvented heaters.** Portable unvented fuel-fired heating equipment shall be prohibited in all *occupancies*.
- Exceptions:**
1. *Listed* and *approved* unvented fuel-fired heaters, including portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances, in one- and two-family *dwelling*s.
 2. Portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances shall be allowed in accordance with Section 603.4.2.

CHAPTER 7 FIRE AND SMOKE PROTECTION FEATURES

- Amend:** **703.2.2 Hold-open devices and closers.** Hold open devices may be required by the *fire code official*, where doors are found to be propped open after the installation of signs in Section 705.2.2. Hold-open devices and automatic door closers, where provided, shall be maintained. During the period that such device is out of service for repairs, the door it operates shall remain in the closed position.

CHAPTER 9 FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS

Amend: **901.4 Installation.** *Fire protection systems* shall be maintained in accordance with the original installation standards for that system. Required systems shall be extended, altered or augmented as necessary to maintain and continue protection where the building is altered, remodeled or added to. *Alterations to fire protection systems* shall be done in accordance with applicable standards. All personnel shall meet the qualifications outlined in the Illinois Fire Sprinkler Contractor Licensing Act (225 ILCS 317) for installation, inspection, testing and maintenance of such sprinkler systems.

Add: **903.2.8.1 Exception:**

1. Existing buildings currently used as single family or single-family attached residences that are being converted to a *Boarding House* and all of the following conditions exist:
 - a. Must be of the R-3 occupancy classification;
 - b. Must have no sleeping rooms in a basement;
 - c. No more than two (2) stories above level of exit discharge;
 - d. No more than ten (10) occupants/guests;
 - e. Any balloon framing in a multistory building must have fire blocking installed between the floors;
 - f. 5.7 square feet emergency egress windows in all sleeping rooms;
 - g. Twenty (20) minute rated doors on all sleeping rooms and mechanical rooms;
 - h. Fully rated separation between any attached garage and living space;
 - i. Appropriate Fire Extinguishers must be provided;
 - j. Fully monitored fire alarm system with smoke, heat and CO detectors as approved by *fire code official*;
 - k. Emergency lighting must be provided as needed; and,
 - l. Knox Box must be provided.

Amend: **903.3.1.1.1 Exempt locations.** Automatic sprinklers shall not be required in the following rooms or areas where such rooms or areas are protected with an approved automatic fire detection system in accordance with Section 907.2 that will respond to visible or invisible particles of combustion. Sprinklers shall not be omitted from a room merely because it is damp, of fire-resistance-rated construction or contains electrical equipment:

1. A room where the application of water, or flame and water, constitutes a serious life or fire hazard.
2. A room or space where sprinklers are considered undesirable because of the nature of the contents, where approved by the fire code official.

3. Generator, transformer, switchgear and elevator equipment rooms used exclusively for such equipment and separated from the remainder of the building by walls and floor/ceiling or roof/ceiling assemblies having a fire-resistance rating of not less than 2 hours. Storage is prohibited in such rooms.
4. Rooms or areas that are of noncombustible construction with only noncombustible contents.
5. Fire service access elevator machine rooms and machinery spaces.
6. Machine rooms, machinery spaces, control rooms and control spaces associated with occupant evacuation elevators designed in accordance with Section 3008 of the International Building Code.

Add: **903.3.1.2 Residential Sprinklers.** Residential sprinklers, when used, shall follow the requirements of NFPA 13R or NFPA 13D.

Amend: **906.1 Where required.** Portable fire extinguishers shall comply with NFPA 10 and must be installed in all of the following locations:

1. In new and existing Group A, B, E, F, H, I, M, R-1, R-2, R-4 and S *occupancies*.

Exceptions:

- a. In new and existing Group A, B, and E *occupancies* equipped throughout with quick-response sprinklers, portable fire extinguishers shall be required only in locations specified in Items 2 through 6.
 - b. In Residential Group R-2, portable fire extinguishers shall be installed in the following hazardous areas only: boiler and fuel-fired heater rooms serving more than a single dwelling unit; laundries > 100 square feet; and trash collection rooms or maintenance shops > 100 square feet.
2. Within 30 feet (9144 mm) of commercial cooking equipment.
 3. In areas where flammable or *combustible liquids* are stored, used or dispensed.
 4. On each floor of *structures* under construction, except Group R-3 *occupancies*, in accordance with Section 3315.1.
 5. Where required by the sections indicated in Table 906.1.
 6. Special-hazard areas, including but not limited to laboratories, computer rooms and generator rooms, where required by the *fire code official*.

Amend: **907.8.4 Inspection, testing and maintenance.** The building *owner* shall be responsible to maintain the fire and life safety systems in an operable condition at all times. Service personnel shall meet the qualification requirements of NFPA 72 and be registered with the State of Illinois pursuant to the Illinois Private Detective, Private Alarm and Private Security Act of 1983 (225 ILCS 447) for installation, inspection, testing and maintenance of such systems. Records of inspections, testing and maintenance shall be maintained.

CHAPTER 10 MEANS OF EGRESS

Amend: **1006.2.1 Egress based on occupant load and common path of egress travel distance.** Two exits or exit access doorways from any space shall be provided where the design occupant load or the common path of egress travel distance exceeds the values listed in Table 1006.2.1

Exceptions: A single exit is acceptable under any one of the following conditions:

1. Use groups B, M, S, F are permitted to be served by a single exit when three stories or less, above grade, and a maximum of 3,500 square feet per floor.
2. Use groups B, M, S, F are permitted to be served by a single exit for up to five stories, above grade, and a maximum of 3,500 square feet per floor, when one of the following criteria is met:
 - A. Where the building is equipped throughout with an automatic fire suppression system and an automatic fire alarm system with smoke detectors located in all corridors, lobbies and common areas; or,
 - B. Where the building is provided with an automatic fire alarm system and the exit is a smoke proof enclosure or pressurized stairway; or,
 - C. Where an existing fire escape conforming to Section 1104.16 is provided in addition to the single exit.
3. In stories that require only one exit in accordance with the requirements of Section 1006.
4. In buildings of Use Group R-3.
5. In buildings used for residential multiple-family *dwelling units* having more than two *dwelling units* (apartments), a single exit for buildings with less than 3 stories is permissible when meeting all of the following conditions:
 - A. Two (2)-hour fire rating between dwelling units and between *dwelling units* and other *occupancies* or a 1-hour fire rating between *dwelling units* and

between *dwelling units* and all other *occupancies* plus the entire *structure* is fully sprinkled.

- B. One (1)-hour fire rated exit enclosure.
- C. Manual fire alarms if more than twelve (12) *dwelling units*.
- D. Emergency lighting if more than twelve (12) *dwelling units*.
- E. 5.7 square feet emergency egress windows in all sleeping rooms.
- F. Exit access corridors serving the exit must provide a one-hour fire rating.
- G. Not more than 35 feet of travel distance to the exit from the dwelling unit entrance door.

Amend: **1010.1.1 Size of doors.** The required capacity of each door opening shall be sufficient for the *occupant load* thereof and shall provide a minimum clear width of 32 inches (813 mm). Clear openings of doorways with swinging doors shall be measured between the face of the door and the stop, with the door open 90 degrees (1.57 rad). Where this section requires a minimum clear width of 32 inches (813 mm) and a door opening including two door leaves without a mullion, one leaf shall be 48 inches (1219 mm) nominal. Means of egress doors in a Group I-2 occupancy used for the movement of beds shall provide a clear width not less than 41 ½ inches (1054 mm). The height of door openings shall be not less than 80 inches (2032 mm).

Exceptions:

1. The minimum and maximum width shall not apply to door openings that are not part of the required *means of egress* in Group R-2 and R-3 *occupancies*.
2. Door openings to resident *sleeping units* in Group I-3 *occupancies* shall have a clear width of not less than 28 inches (711 mm).
3. Door openings to storage closets less than 10 square feet (0.93 m²) in area shall not be limited by the minimum width.
4. Width of door leaves in revolving doors that comply with Section 1010.1.4.1 shall not be limited.
5. Door openings within a *dwelling unit* or *sleeping unit* shall not be less than 78 inches (1981 mm) in height.
6. Exterior door openings in *dwelling units* and *sleeping units*, other than the required *exit* door shall be not less than 76 inches (1930 mm) in height.
7. In other than Group R-1 *occupancies*, the minimum widths shall not apply to *dwelling unit* or *sleeping unit* that is not required to be an *Accessible unit*, Type A unit or Type B unit.

8. Doors to walk-in freezers and coolers less than 1,000 square feet (93 m²) in an area shall have a maximum width of 60 inches (1524 mm).

9. In Group R-1 *dwelling units* or *sleeping units* not required to be *Accessible units*, the minimum width shall not apply to doors for showers or saunas.

Amend: **1010.2.4.1 Locks and latches.** Locks and latches shall be permitted to prevent operation of doors where any of the following exist:

1. Where egress doors are used in pairs, *approved* automatic flush bolts shall be permitted to be used, provided that the door leaf having the automatic flush bolts does not have a doorknob or surface-mounted hardware.

2. Doors from individual *dwelling units* or *sleeping units* of Group R *occupancies* having an *occupant load* of 10 or less are permitted to be equipped with a night latch, dead bolt or security chain, provided such devices are openable from the inside without the use of a key or tool.

3. Fire doors after the minimum elevated temperature has disabled the unlatching mechanism in accordance with *listed* fire door test procedures.

CHAPTER 11 CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS

Add: **1103.5.4 Protection from Hazards.** Hazardous areas described in the following table shall be protected as indicated. Where sprinkler protection without fire-rated separation is used, areas shall be separated from other spaces by smoke partitions.

| HAZARDOUS AREA DESCRIPTION | SEPARATION/PROTECTION |
|---|-----------------------|
| Boiler and fuel-fired furnace & water heater rooms serving more than a single dwelling unit | 1 hour or sprinklers |
| Laundries > 100 square feet outside of <i>dwelling units</i> | 1 hour or sprinklers |
| Trash collection rooms > 100 square feet | 1 hour or sprinklers |
| Maintenance Shops > 100 square feet | 1 hour or sprinklers |

Amend: **1103.8.3 Power source.** Single-station smoke alarms shall receive their primary power from building wiring provided that such wiring is served from a commercial source and shall be equipped with a battery backup. Smoke alarms with integral strobes that are not equipped with battery backup shall be connected to an emergency electrical system. Smoke alarms shall emit a signal when the batteries are low. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than as required for overcurrent protection.

Exception: Smoke alarms are permitted to be solely battery operated in sleeping rooms that were not previously provided with AC powered smoke alarms.

Amend: **1103.9 Carbon monoxide alarms.** Existing Group I-1, I-2, I-4 and R occupancies shall be equipped with carbon monoxide alarms in accordance with Section 915 and the Illinois Carbon Monoxide Alarm Detector Act, except that the carbon monoxide alarms shall be allowed to be solely battery operated.

CHAPTER 80 REFERENCED STANDARDS

AMEND: Chapter 80 Referenced Standards shall be amended as follows:

1. Delete “*ICC Electrical Code*”, and replace with “*(NFPA 70) National Electric Code, 2023 Edition, as adopted by the City of Effingham, Illinois.*”
2. Delete “*International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)*” and replace with “*Illinois Energy Conservation Code (IECC), as may be amended from time to time by the State of Illinois.*”
3. Delete “*ICC Plumbing Code*” and replace with “*Illinois Plumbing Code, as may be amended from time to time by the State of Illinois.*”
4. IBC: See the modifications indicated in the International Building Code amendments.
5. IFC: See the modifications indicated in the International Fire Code amendments.
6. NFPA: See the modifications indicated in the National Fire Protection Agency 101, Life Safety Code, 2012 Edition amendments and the modifications indicated in the National Fire Protection Agency 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition amendments.

APPENDICES

ADOPTION OF APPENDICES: The City of Effingham, Illinois, hereby adopts the following Appendices as part of this code:

C – Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution,
D – Fire Apparatus Access Roads,
E – Hazard Categories,
F – Hazard Ranking,
H – Hazardous Materials Management Plan (HMMP) and Hazardous Materials Inventory Statement (HMIS) Instructions,
I – Fire Protection Systems – Noncompliant Conditions, and,
K – Construction Requirements for Existing Ambulatory Care Facilities”