

Chapter 286

FIRE PREVENTION

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Village Board of the Village of Plover 6-4-1985 as §§ 5.09, 5.12, 5.13, 5.14, 5.25 and 9.12 of the 1985 Code. Amendments where noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Fire Department — See Ch. 60.
Alarm systems — See Ch. 180.
Building construction — See Ch. 212.
Numbering of buildings — See Ch. 220.
Electrical standards — See Ch. 272.
Hazardous materials — See Ch. 302.
Housing standards — See Ch. 310.
Nuisances — See Ch. 388.

§ 286-1. Fire Inspectors.

- A. Fire Chief to be Fire Inspector. The Fire Chief shall hold the office of Fire Inspector with power to appoint one or more Deputy Fire Inspectors, who shall perform the same duties and have the same powers as the Fire Inspector.
- B. Inspection duties. [Amended by Ord. No. 2-08] The Fire Inspectors shall perform fire inspections at least once per calendar year, provided the interval between those inspections does not exceed 15 months, of all public buildings and places of employment, as defined in § 101.01(11) and (12), Wis. Stats., within the Village limits for the purpose of noting and causing to be corrected any conditions liable to cause fires. Repairs or alterations necessary to remove the hazardous condition shall be made within a reasonable time at the expense of the owner. The Inspector shall also investigate the storage and handling of explosives and inflammable liquids within the Village.
- C. Procedure. Fire inspection procedures and forms shall be developed in accordance with § 101.14, Wis. Stats., and applicable codes of the National Fire Protection Association.
- D. Written record of inspections. The Chief shall keep a written record card of each property inspected which shall conform to the requirements of the State Department of Commerce and shall make the semiannual report of inspections required by said Department.
- E. Correction of fire hazards. When any inspection by the Fire Chief or deputies reveals a fire hazard, the Chief or deputies may serve a notice in writing upon the owner of the property giving said owner a reasonable time in which to remove the hazard. If the fire hazard is not removed within the time allowed, it shall be deemed a nuisance and the Fire Chief or deputies may have the same removed by the Village, and the cost of such removal shall be recovered in an action by the Village against the owner of the property and may also be entered on the tax roll as a special charge against the property.
- F. Entering on premises. No person shall deny the Fire Inspector or deputies free access to any property within the Village at any reasonable time for the purpose of making fire

inspections. No person shall hinder or obstruct the Fire Inspector in the performance of his duty or refuse to observe any lawful direction given by him.

§ 286-2. Storage of combustible materials.

No person shall permit on premises he controls any empty boxes, wastepaper, excelsior, rags or other combustible materials in such quantities or manner as to create a fire hazard.

§ 286-3. Careless smoking.

- A. No person shall, by careless or willful smoking, or use of lighters or matches in smoking, whether intentional or unintentional, set fire to personal property or any building.
- B. The Fire Chief shall post or cause to be posted "Designated Smoking Area" signs in designated areas in accordance with Village policy.¹

§ 286-4. Adoption of state regulations. [Amended by Ord. No. 11-89]

- A. The following chapters of the Wisconsin Administrative Code, Rules of the Department of Commerce, are hereby adopted by reference and made a part of this chapter:

Comm 2	Fee Schedule
Comm 3	Administrative Procedures
Comm 5	Licenses, Certifications and Registrations
Comm 7	Explosives and Fireworks
Comm 10	Flammable and Combustible Liquids
Comm 14	Fire Prevention
Comm 28	Smoke Detectors
Comm 30	Fire Department Safety and Health
Comm 32	Public Employee Safety and Health
Comm 40	Gas Systems
Comm 41	Boilers and Pressure Vessels
Comm 43	Anhydrous Ammonia
Comm 60 to 66	Wisconsin Commercial Building Code
Comm 75 to 79	Buildings Constructed Prior to 1914

- B. Copies of the above codes are on file in the office of the Fire Chief.

§ 286-5. Commercial/Industrial Buildings.² [Amended by Ord. 8-11]

- A. The Fire Chief shall utilize the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1141 standard to assist in establishing the minimum water supply necessary for structural fire-fighting purposes in those areas where it has been determined that there is no water or inadequate water for firefighting.

1. Editor's Note: See Ch. 234, Cigarettes and Tobacco Products.

2. Editor's Note: Added at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. II).

- (1) Fire hydrant requirements. Property owners shall install approved water hydrants at their expense when substantial portions of a building are set back 250 feet or more from a municipal street or highway or are more than 300 feet from a municipal hydrant. Hydrants shall be freestanding and be installed not more than 50 feet or less than 25 feet from the building. One hydrant shall be located at the main entrance to such building. Additional hydrants shall be provided around the perimeter of the building so that no hydrant is more than 300 feet from any other approved hydrant measured by normal access routes. One hydrant shall be located within 150 feet of the Fire Department connection on any structure requiring a fire sprinkler system installation.
 - (2) Definition. "Approved water hydrant" means a water hydrant meeting Village specifications connected to a municipal water main with one Fire Department connection of 4 1/2 inches and two Fire Department connections of 2 1/2 inches. The connection waterline between the Village water main and the approved water hydrant shall be not less than six inches and need not be more than twelve-inch pipe. Where the municipal water main is eight inches or larger, the connection line shall be not less than eight inches in size. All water hydrants shall be approved by the Fire Chief and the Water Utility and shall be installed in compliance with the standards of the Utility. All water hydrants shall be installed in such a manner and location so as to be accessible at all times to the Fire Department.
 - (3) Special assessment for high-risk development or areas. The Village Board shall be authorized to have levied and assessed special charges to cover the cost incurred in installing fire hydrants and mains in areas of the Village where property owners create or own existing improvements which represent, in the opinion of the Fire Chief, a fire risk in excess of that represented by the average level of development in the Village. Among areas that may be categorized by the Fire Chief as requiring additional fire hydrants to be assessed to the property owner are apartment complexes, mobile home parks or commercial or industrial development representing an unusual or high degree of fire risk such as to require additional hydrants not provided for in the proposed grid of hydrants established by the Village. The cost of said additional hydrants and additional mains shall be assessed to the benefiting property owners and shall constitute a lien upon the benefiting real estate if not timely paid.
 - (4) Maintenance. If hydrants are deemed necessary under this section and are on private property and owned by the property owner, the Village shall flush and exercise hydrants on a semi-yearly basis. Costs associated with this service shall be billed back to the property owner. If repairs are needed, the owner shall complete the repairs within 30 days after notification from the Water Utility Manager, or the Village shall complete the repairs and charge back to the property owner.
- B. Fire Alarm Installation. In each new Commercial multi-tenant building, the building owner shall provide each individual tenant space smoke (fire) detection notification to an approved location. The system shall be installed per NFPA 72. In addition, notification shall be given to all tenant spaces within the multi-tenant building upon activation. The system shall include smoke detector(s), horn strobes and manual pull station at each entrance. The system shall be approved by the Fire Chief and/or their designee prior to installation.

§ 286-6. Open burning. [Amended by Ord. No. 12-93; Ord. No. 10-94]

- A. Permit required. Except as provided in Subsection B below, no person shall kindle or allow to be kindled any open fire in the Village without first obtaining a burning permit from the Fire Department.
- B. Exceptions. No burning permit shall be required for the following:
 - (1) Cooking fires in barbecue pits, grills and outdoor fireplaces.
 - (2) Indoor domestic and commercial incinerators.
 - (3) Fires authorized by the Fire Chief which are set for the practice and instruction of firefighters.
- C. Permit provisions.
 - (1) The permit shall be applied for at the Fire Department between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Fire Chief reserves the right, after inspection, to deny any requested permit or revoke any permit issued if, in the Chief's judgment, hazardous conditions exist, the permits issued in the immediate area exceed a reasonable number or the type of material proposed to be burned is unacceptable for burning. Permits shall be posted on the premises of the burning site at all times when such burning is taking place.
 - (2) A controlled burn allowed by permit conducted in an isolated area, i.e., no surrounding or adjacent structures, may burn unattended and will be governed solely by the Fire Chief or his designee.
- D. Burning regulations.
 - (1) Only clean wood piles no larger than four feet by four feet by three feet may be burned. "Clean wood" is defined as unpainted and untreated wood or brush.
 - (2) No person shall burn or attempt to burn leaves, yard waste, pine needles, cardboard (unless the cardboard cannot easily be separated from wood framing), oil materials, garbage, etc.
 - (3) No burning shall take place when the wind velocity exceeds 12 miles per hour as indicated by the Wisconsin Bell Weather Information Service or during a period when either the Fire Chief or the Department of Natural Resources has issued a burning ban.
 - (4) No burning shall take place in any street right-of-way.
 - (5) All open fires shall be constantly attended with the exception of Subsection C(2) above by a responsible person equipped with either an operable garden hose or fire extinguisher. All fires must be extinguished before such person leaves the site.
 - (6) Approved burning shall take place 30 feet or more from any structure, flammable liquid or other materials which constitute a potential fire hazard.
 - (7) Burning hours. There shall be no burning on Sundays and holidays. Residential

permittees shall burn only between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

- E. Contractor regulations. All regulations listed in Subsection D above apply with the following provisions: [Amended by Ord. No. 18-00; Ord. No. 11-02]
- (1) Normal pile size shall be less than six feet by six feet by three feet (four cubic yards).
 - (2) A one-time special permit may be issued for burning larger piles to allow lot clearing and burning. Special permit burning hours shall be between 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.³
 - (3) Contractors may control fires with a suitable fire control device such as payloader, caterpillar or tractor loader in addition to items listed in Subsection D(5) above.

§ 286-7. Violations and penalties.

Any person who shall violate any provision of this chapter or any order, rule or regulation made hereunder shall be subject to a penalty as provided in § 1-4 of this Code.

³. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. II).