

FPB POLICY 2009-3: PLAN SUBMITTALS FOR LESS THAN 21 SPRINKLERS

Created: July 17, 2009 Revised: June 1, 2017 Effective Date: Immediately
From the Office of the Fire Prevention Bureau – Phone (515) 283-4240



This policy is promulgated in accordance with Section 104.1 of the 2015 International Fire Code and is an official interpretation of Section 901.2 of the 2015 International Fire Code.

The following shall apply to plan submittal requirements for automatic sprinkler systems:

Section 901.2 of the International Fire Code reads as follows: "The fire code official shall have the authority to require construction documents and calculations for all fire protection systems." It is the opinion of the Fire Marshal that a minor addition/modification of an existing automatic sprinkler system shall not require a complete plan submittal. The following is the Des Moines Fire Prevention Bureau's policy on when a complete plan submittal is required:

- 1.) Any addition/modification involving less than 21 sprinkler heads to an EXISTING automatic sprinkler system shall NOT require a complete plan submittal provided that the following is provided:
 - a. A completed permit application.
 - b. A check for the appropriate fee.
 - c. A letter from the Iowa licensed fire sprinkler contractor stating:
 - i. The hydraulic water supply will be sufficient and that the work being performed will not negatively impact the existing hydraulics.
 - ii. The added or modified sprinklers are not adding to nor are they creating a new remote area.
 - iii. The exact number of sprinklers being added/moved/modified and why.
 - iv. Time schedules for the work (start date and projected completion).
 - v. The system will be installed in accordance with all applicable codes and standards.
- 2.) Any addition/modification involving flexible sprinkler hose to an EXISTING automatic sprinkler system shall NOT require a complete plan submittal provided that the system was originally designed with flexible sprinkler hose and all the requirements in item #1 are fulfilled.
- 3.) Any addition/modification involving 13D, 13R, paint booths, pipe-schedule designed systems, and other special application sprinkler systems SHALL require a complete plan submittal, no exceptions.
- 4.) There shall be a limit of ONE less than 21 sprinkler construction permit per sprinkler system without a complete plan submittal being required.

Any comments or questions regarding the above information may be submitted to:

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