



CO00001765

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

ORDINANCE NO. 99-116

**RELATING TO ESTABLISHMENT OF
MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS, AND
AMENDING CHAPTERS 16.04 AND 17.04 SCC**

WHEREAS, Chapters 16.04 and 17.04 of the Snohomish County Code, which adopt provisions of the Uniform Fire code and the Uniform Building Code, do not presently contain fire sprinkler requirements for certain commercial occupancies; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of fire professionals throughout the County to establish a minimum threshold for sprinkler requirements for commercial occupancies; and

WHEREAS, amendment of Chapters 16.04 and 17.04 of the Snohomish County Code to include such requirements will be of substantial benefit to the public by helping to contain fires and by aiding in the evacuation of commercial buildings by providing additional time for occupants to exit the buildings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED:

Section 1. Snohomish County Code Section 16.04.260, adopted by Amended Ordinance No. 96-098 on January 15, 1997, is amended to read:

16.04.260 Subsection 7902.1.7.2.4 ((amended)) deleted and new subsection 7902.1.7.2.4 added. Subsection 7902.1.7.2.4 is ((heroby-amended)) deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new subsection 7902.1.7.2.4 as follows:

7902.1.7.2.4 Tanks abandoned in place. Tanks abandoned in place shall be abandoned as follows:

1. Flammable and combustible liquids shall be removed from the tank and connected piping,
2. The suction, inlet, gage, vapor return and vapor lines shall be disconnected,
3. The tank shall be filled completely with an inert solid material approved by the fire marshal.

EXCEPTION: Residential heating oil tanks of 750 gallons (2,819 L) or less, provided, the fill line is permanently capped or plugged, below grade, to prevent refilling of the tank,

4. Remaining underground piping shall be capped or plugged, and
5. A record of the tank size, location and date of abandonment shall be retained.

Section 2. A new section is added to Chapter 16.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

16.04.270 Subsection 1003.2.3.3 deleted and new subsection 1003.2.3.3 added. Subsection 1003.2.3.3 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new subsection 1003.2.3.3 as follows:

Section 1003.2.3.3 Group A Occupancies. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all Group A Occupancies, other than those rooms used by the occupants for the consumption of alcoholic beverages, that have 10,000 square feet (929.03 m²) or more of floor area.

Section 3. A new section is added to Chapter 16.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

16.04.272 Subsection 1003.2.4.1 deleted and new subsection 1003.2.4.1 added.

Subsection 1003.2.4.1 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new subsection 1003.2.4.1 as follows:

Section 1003.2.4.1 General. An automatic fire-extinguishing system shall be installed in all newly constructed buildings classified as Group E, Division 1 Occupancy, and an automatic fire-extinguishing system shall be installed in all newly constructed buildings classified as Group E, Division 2 and Group E, Division 3 that have 10,000 square feet (929.03 m²) or more of floor area. A minimum water supply meeting the requirements of Uniform Building Code Standard 9-1 shall be required. The fire marshal may reduce fire flow requirements for buildings protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system.

For the purpose of this section, additions exceeding 60 percent of the value of such building or structure, or alterations and repairs to any portion of a building or structure within a twelve-month period that exceeds 100 percent of the value of such building or structure shall be considered new construction.

EXCEPTION: Portable school classrooms, provided:

1. Aggregate area of clusters of portable school classrooms does not exceed 5,000 square feet (1465 m²); and
2. Clusters of portable school classrooms shall be separated as required in Chapter 5.

When not required by other provisions of this chapter, a fire-extinguishing system installed in accordance with UBC Standard 9-1 may be used for increases and substitutions allowed in Sections 505, 506, and 508.

Section 4. A new section is added to Chapter 16.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

16.04.274 Subsection 1003.2.5.1 deleted and new subsection 1003.2.5.1 added.

Subsection 1003.2.5.1 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new subsection 1003.2.5.1 as follows:

1003.2.5.1 Group F occupancies. An automatic fire sprinkler system shall be installed in Group F occupancies over 2,500 square feet (232.3 m²) in area that use equipment, machinery or appliances that generate finely divided combustible waste or that use finely divided combustible materials. All other Group F occupancies that have 10,000 square feet (929.03 m²) or more of floor area shall be provided with an automatic fire sprinkler system.

Section 5. A new section is added to Chapter 16.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

16.04.276 Subsection 1003.2.6.1 deleted and new subsection 1003.2.6.1 added. Subsection 1003.2.6.1 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new subsection 1003.2.6.1 as follows:

1003.2.6.1 General. An automatic fire-extinguishing system shall be installed in Group H, Divisions 1, 2, 3, and 7 Occupancies. Group H, Division 5 occupancies that have 10,000 square feet (929.03 m²) or more of floor area shall be provided with an automatic fire sprinkler system.

Section 6. A new section is added to Chapter 16.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

16.04.278 Subsection 1003.2.8 deleted and new subsection 1003.2.8 added. Subsection 1003.2.8 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new subsection 1003.2.8 as follows:

1003.2.8 Group M Occupancies. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in rooms classed as Group M Occupancies where the floor area is 10,000 square feet (929.03 m²) or more on any floor or 20,000 square feet (1858.06 m²) or more on all floors or in Group M Occupancies more than three stories in height. The area of mezzanines shall be included in determining the areas where sprinklers are required.

Section 7. A new section is added to Chapter 16.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

16.04.280 Subsection 1003.2.9 deleted and new subsection 1003.2.9 added. Subsection 1003.2.9 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new subsection 1003.2.9 as follows:

1003.2.9 Group R, Division 1 Occupancies. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout every apartment house three or more stories in height or containing 5 or more dwelling units, every congregate residence three or more stories in height or having an occupant load of 5 or more, and every hotel three or more stories in height or containing 5 or more guest rooms. Residential or quick-response standard sprinklers shall be used in the dwelling units and guest room portions of the building.

Section 8. A new section is added to Chapter 16.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

16.04.282 Group S occupancies. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout all Group S occupancies that have 10,000 square feet (929.03 m²) or more of floor area.

Section 9. A new section is added to Chapter 16.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

16.04.284 Use of area separation walls to define separate buildings. For the purposes of Section 1003, area separation walls shall not define separate buildings.

Section 10. A new section is added to Chapter 17.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

17.04.202 Subection 904.2.3.3 deleted and new subsection 904.2.3.3 added. Subsection 904.2.3.3 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new subsection 904.2.3.3 as follows:

Section 904.2.3.3 Group A Occupancies. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all Group A Occupancies, other than those rooms used by the occupants for the consumption of alcoholic beverages, that have 10,000 square feet (929.03 m²) or more of floor area.

Section 11. A new section is added to Chapter 17.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

17.04.204 Subsection 904.2.4.1 deleted and new subsection 904.2.4.1 added. Subsection 904.2.4.1 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new subsection 904.2.4.1 as follows:

Section 904.2.4.1 General. An automatic fire-extinguishing system shall be installed in all newly constructed buildings classified as Group E, Division 1 Occupancy, and an automatic fire-extinguishing system shall be installed in all newly constructed buildings classified as Group E, Division 2 and Group E, Division 3 that have 10,000 square feet (929.03 m²) or more of floor area. A minimum water supply meeting the requirements of Uniform Building Code Standard 9-1 shall be required. The fire marshal may reduce fire flow requirements for buildings protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system.

For the purpose of this section, additions exceeding 60 percent of the value of such building or structure, or alterations and repairs to any portion of a building or structure within a twelve-month period that exceeds 100 percent of the value of such building or structure shall be considered new construction

EXCEPTION: Portable school classrooms; provided:

1. Aggregate area of clusters of portable school classrooms does not exceed 5,000 square feet (465 m²); and
2. Clusters of portable school classrooms shall be separated as required in Chapter 5.

When not required by other provisions of this chapter, a fire-extinguishing system installed in accordance with UBC Standard 9-1 may be used for increases and substitutions allowed in Sections 505, 506, and 508.

Section 12. A new section is added to Chapter 17.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

17.04.206 Subsection 904.2.5.1 deleted and new subsection 904.2.5.1 added. Subsection 904.2.5.1 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new subsection 904.2.5.1 as follows:

904.2.5.1 Group F occupancies. An automatic fire sprinkler system shall be installed in Group F occupancies over 2,500 square feet (232.3 m²) in area that use equipment, machinery or appliances that generate finely divided combustible waste or that use finely divided combustible materials. All other Group F occupancies that have 10,000 square feet (929.03 m²) or more of floor area shall be provided with an automatic fire sprinkler system.

Section 13. A new section is added to Chapter 17.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

17.04.208 Subsection 904.2.6.1 deleted and new subsection 904.6.1 added. Subsection 904.2.6.1 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new subsection 904.2.6.1 as follows:

904.2.6.1 General. An automatic fire-extinguishing system shall be installed in Group H, Divisions 1, 2, 3, and 7 Occupancies. Group H, Division 5 occupancies that have 10,000 square feet (929.03 m²) or more of floor area shall be provided with an automatic fire sprinkler system.

Section 14. A new section is added to Chapter 17.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

17.04.210 Section 904.2.8 deleted and new subsection 904.2.8 added. Subsection 904.2.8 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new subsection 904.2.8 as follows:

904.2.8 Group M Occupancies. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in rooms classed as Group M Occupancies where the floor area is 10,000 square feet (929.03 m²) or more on any floor or 20,000 square feet (1858.06 m²) or more on all floors or in Group M Occupancies more than three stories in height. The area of mezzanines shall be included in determining the areas where sprinklers are required.

Section 15. A new section is added to Chapter 17.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

17.04.212 Subsection 904.2.9 deleted and new subsection 904.2.9 added. Subsection 904.2.9 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new subsection 904.2.9 as follows:

904.2.9 Group R, Division 1 Occupancies. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout every apartment house three or more stories in height or containing 5 or more dwelling units, every congregate residence three or more stories in height or having an occupant load of 5 or more, and every hotel three or more stories in height or containing 5 or more guest rooms. Residential or quick-response standard sprinklers shall be used in the dwelling units and guest room portions of the building.

Section 16. A new section is added to Chapter 17.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

17.04.214. Group S occupancies. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout all Group S occupancies that have 10,000 square feet (929.03 m²) or more of floor area.

Section 17. A new section is added to Chapter 17.04 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

17.04.216 Use of area separation walls to define separate buildings. For the purposes of Section 904, area separation walls shall not define separate buildings.

Section 18. This ordinance shall take effect 90 days after its passage and approval by

the county executive.

PASSED this 13th day of January, 2000

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

Barbara Cohen
Chairperson

ATTEST:

Darlene Sibost
Asst. Clerk of Council

- () APPROVED
- () VETOED
- () EMERGENCY

DATE: 1/13/2000
[Signature]
County Executive

Approved as to form only:

[Signature]
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

ATTEST:
[Signature]

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