

## **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION OF THE TOWN CODE OF ORDINANCES (2025-04-23/O-1)**

WHEREAS, we recognize the need to revise this Ordinance to better align with the evolution of the North Carolina Fire Prevention Code; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chapel Hill has retained some elements of the prior Ordinance in the best interest and safety of our community and firefighters; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Town of Chapel Hill that Chapter 7 of the Code of Ordinances, Town of Chapel Hill, North Carolina is hereby amended.

**Section 1.** Chapter 7 Fire Prevention and Protection is *amended as follows*:

### **"Chapter 7 FIRE PREVENTION PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION**

#### **ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL**

##### **Sec. 7-1. Scope and Intent Compliance.**

- (a) This Chapter establishes regulations affecting or relating to structures, processes, premises, and safeguards for prevention of fires and reduction of risk to our community. The purpose of these regulations is to establish requirements that are specific to the needs of the Town of Chapel Hill with enhanced consideration for life safety and property protection. Compliance with the provisions of this chapter and the technical codes adopted by reference shall be enforced by ~~any fire inspections officer of the Town's Fire Department~~ unless otherwise specified herein. Failure to comply with any of the regulations of this chapter shall be unlawful ~~and a violation of the fire ordinances~~ and all remedies authorized by law for noncompliance with the ~~fire ordinances contained herein~~, including the issuance of a civil penalty, may be exercised to enforce any violation.
- (b) This Chapter is hereby adopted for the purpose of prescribing regulations governing conditions hazardous to life and property from fire or explosion through the adoption of the State's current edition of the [North Carolina Fire Prevention Code](#) including Appendix B-Fire Flow Requirements for Buildings, Appendix C- Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution, and Appendix D-Fire Apparatus Access Roads, up to and until they are filed in the office of the Town of Chapel Hill Fire Chief, and the same are hereby adopted and incorporated as fully as if set out at length herein, and the provisions thereof shall be controlling within the limits of the town and its extra-territorial planning jurisdiction.
- (c) With the adoption of this code and the Town of Chapel Hill Ordinance as it relates to Fire Prevention and Community Risk Reduction, the code or ordinance with the strictest requirements shall be enforced.
- (d) The North Carolina Administrative Code and Policies is hereby referenced for the administration of the North Carolina Fire Prevention Code, current edition, for the periodic inspection of buildings altered, repaired or rehabilitated in accordance with applicable codes, standards, ordinances, and statutes.

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### Sec. 7-1.1 Penalties and remedies.

- (a) A violation of any of the provisions of this chapter shall constitute a Class 3 misdemeanor, punishable as provided in G.S. § 14-4.
- (b) A violation of any of the provisions of the state fire code shall be a misdemeanor and punishable as set forth in G.S. § 143-138.
- (c) A violation of any provision of this chapter or the North Carolina Fire Prevention Code shall subject the offender to a civil penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per violation where a penalty is not otherwise prescribed. Failing to correct violations upon secondary inspection following a set compliance period shall increase such penalty to one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per violation.
- (d) Any violation of the fire code regulations governing conditions considered to threaten the health and safety of occupants, including locked, blocked, or otherwise obstructed exits or egress ways, disabled fire protection equipment, and other similar circumstances shall subject the offender, owner, operator, or other firm, corporation or agent to a civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) ~~for each~~ per life safety violation.
- (e) Any violation of the posted occupant load, where buildings or spaces are required by code to be posted, or overcrowding condition shall subject the responsible person, firm, corporation or agent to a civil penalty of ~~one five~~ one hundred dollars (\$~~5100.00~~ 100.00) ~~per person in excess of the posted occupant load. The extent in which the occupants determination of the number exceeding the posted occupant load shall be at the discretion of the determined by the fire prevention officer or Incident Commander. inspector and shall be based on either a good faith estimate, or actual count of the occupants. The occupant load shall immediately be brought into compliance through any needed measure, and such correction shall not relieve the responsible party of the assessed penalty.~~
- (f) Failure to obtain ~~or~~ and properly and conspicuously display the authorized occupant load placard issued by the town, or introducing changes to the operation of the business or space that nullify or change the calculation on which the occupant load is based shall constitute a violation and shall subject the responsible party to a civil penalty of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per day.
- (f) ~~For each day beyond the assigned compliance period any violation described within this chapter or any provision of the state fire code is not corrected, the violator will be guilty of an additional and separate offense and subject to additional civil penalty.~~
- (g) If the civil penalty is not paid within the time prescribed in the citation, or not more than fifteen (15) days after being cited for a violation, the town may seek to recover the penalties by filing a civil action in the nature of a debt. Additional civil penalties may be imposed for each days failure to pay. Civil penalties assessed under this chapter are considered remedial ~~restorative~~ restorative: intended to provide compensation to the town for the costs associated with the towns program to monitor, control, prosecute, ~~enure~~ and/or correct the violation. As such, the amounts declared herein are presumed to provide sufficient restoration to the town for its costs.
- (h) In addition to or in lieu of issuance of a civil penalty, the fire inspection officer or other appropriate authority may seek a mandatory injunction seeking enforcement of this chapter. Nothing in this section shall preclude the issuance of an arrest warrant, or issuance of a criminal summons where appropriate.

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**Sec. 7-2. Interfering with fire protection ~~or fire alarm~~ equipment.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to obstruct, interfere, or tamper with any of the town fire protection ~~or fire alarm~~ equipment.

**Sec. 7-3. Interfering with ~~fireman~~ firefighters on duty.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with a firefighter ~~fireman~~ while on performing their duty.

**Sec. 7-4. Getting on fire truck while in use.**

It shall be unlawful for anyone other than members or designees of the fire department to get on the fire truck when it is in use, without express consent.

**~~Sec. 7-5. Storage of certain types of materials and equipment of a flammable or explosive nature.~~**

~~From and after the effective date of this section it shall be unlawful for any person within the corporate limits of the town to use or store on premises located within the town any of the following without first obtaining a permit therefor from the fire department of the town:~~

- ~~(a) For operation of a dry cleaning business for a change in solvent used to a more hazardous class.~~
- ~~(b) To store, sell, transport, or use any quantities of dynamite and commercial explosives.~~
- ~~(c) For automobile spray painting operations using more than one gallon of flammable and/or combustible liquid per work day.~~
- ~~(d) For storage, handling and/or use of flammable liquids. Flammable liquid defined: any liquid having a flash point below one hundred forty (140) degrees Fahrenheit and having a vapor pressure not exceeding forty (40) PSIA at one hundred (100) degrees. Examples: gasoline and paint thinners.~~
  - ~~(1) Quantities requiring permit: In excess of six (6) gallons inside any building or occupancy or in excess of ten (10) gallons outside of any building.~~
- ~~(e) For storage of more than twenty five (25) cases of matches (cases containing over one thousand (1,000) books).~~
- ~~(f) For use of acetylene welding equipment.~~

**~~Sec. 7-6. Buildings used as home for aged or convalescent home to have automatic sprinkler system.~~**

~~Any building used as a home for the aged or convalescent home shall be protected by an automatic sprinkler system meeting the standards of NFPA Pamphlet #13.~~

**Sec. 7-6.15. Combustible landscaping materials prohibited.**

That no pine straw or any other material with a fire rate of spread more than twenty-four (24) inches per minute shall be placed, kept, or stored within ten (10) feet of commercial and multi-family buildings with combustible exterior construction.

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**Sec. 7-65.1A. Exemptions to section 7-56.1.**

[Exemptions for 7-6.1-7.5.1A are] single-family residential homes including townhomes.

**~~ARTICLE IA. REGULATION OF OPEN BURNING~~**

**Sec. 7-67. Restrictions on burning of trees, limbs, debris, etc.**

- (a) It shall be unlawful to burn refuse, yard waste, such as trees, limbs, stumps, {or} construction debris, without a permit from the town Fire Marshal on any property within the town limits.
- (b) ~~Except as provided in section 7-8 below and in section 7-1 of this chapter of the Code of Ordinances (related to the burning of trees due to Southern Pine Beetle infestation), the burning of trees, limbs, stumps and construction debris shall be prohibited unless it is demonstrated to the town manager or his designee that no reasonable alternative means are available for removal of the materials from the subject property.~~
- (c) ~~The Fire Marshal may establish safety standards which must be met in order to receive a permit under this article.~~
- (bd) This section shall not apply to any recreational fire if in compliance with applicable sections 307.4, 307.4.2, 307.4.3, and 307.5 of the 2012 North Carolina Fire Prevention Code.

**~~Sec. 7-8. Symbolic fires.~~**

~~This article shall not be construed to prohibit symbolic fires for which permits are issued by the fire marshall, so long as precautions are taken to protect persons from injury and to avoid damage to surrounding property. Such fires may be subject to reasonable regulations as to time, place and manner.~~

**~~Sec. 7-9. Other regulations remain applicable.~~**

~~The provisions of this article shall be in addition to any other applicable codes, ordinances, and regulations regarding the permitting of open fires. Where a conflict exists between this article and any other applicable regulations exists, the most restrictive regulation shall govern the act.~~

**~~Sec. 7-10. Penalties.~~**

- (a) ~~*Criminal penalties.* Violation of any provision of Article I and IA shall be a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine not to exceed five hundred (\$500.00) dollars or imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days.~~
- (b) ~~*Civil enforcement.* Violations of the requirements of Article I and IA may be enforced by civil penalty or appropriate equitable remedy as authorized by NC General Statute. Where not otherwise set out, civil penalties shall be issued per section 7-1.1 of this Code. Violation of section 7-6.1 of this Code shall subject the responsible party to a civil penalty in the amount of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars. Violation of any provision of Article IA shall subject the responsible party to a civil penalty of fifty (\$50.00) dollars per occurrence.~~

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**Secs. 7-~~711~~—7-14. Reserved.**

***ARTICLE II. FIRE PREVENTION CODE***

***DIVISION 1. GENERALLY***

***Sec. 7-15. Adoption.***

- (a) ~~There is hereby adopted for the purpose of prescribing regulations governing conditions hazardous to life and property from fire or explosion that certain code known as the North Carolina Fire Code, current edition, including Appendix B Fire Flow Requirements for Buildings, Appendix C Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution, and Appendix D Fire Apparatus Access Roads, of which the Town of Chapel Hill has not less than three (3) copies of this code and have been and are now filed in the office of the Town of Chapel Hill Fire Marshal, and the same are hereby adopted and incorporated as fully as if set out at length herein, and the provisions thereof shall be controlling within the limits of the town and its extra-territorial planning jurisdiction.~~
- (b) ~~With the adoption of the above code and the Town of Chapel Hill Ordinance as it relates to Fire Protection and Prevention, which ever code or ordinance is more stringent is the code that will be enforced.~~
- (c) ~~The North Carolina Administrative Code and Policies is hereby referenced for the administration of the North Carolina Fire Code, current edition for the periodic inspection of buildings altered, repaired or rehabilitated in accordance with the existing building code.~~

**Secs. 7-~~1516~~—7-22. Reserved.**

**Secs. 7-23—7-26. Reserved.**

***DIVISION 2. AMENDMENTS***

***Secs. 7-27—7-30. Reserved.***

***Sec. 7-31. Section 27.6(b) amended.***

Section 27.6(b) is hereby amended by striking out all of said subsection and inserting, in lieu thereof, the following:

- (b) ~~Doors in main entrances to places of assembly having capacity less than one hundred (100) persons are not required to be equipped with panic or fire exit hardware; such doors are permitted to be equipped with hardware approved by the chief of fire prevention bureau, and arranged so as to be readily opened from the side from which egress is to be made at all times when the building structure or area served is occupied.~~

***Sec. 7-32. Section 13.3F amended.***

- (a) ~~Section 13.3F is amended by deleting the reference therein to the "NFPA #41L, Code for Model Rocketry, 1968 Edition," and inserted in lieu thereof the phrase "NFPA 1122-L Code for Unmanned Rockets, 1976 Edition."~~
- (b) ~~The exemption in Section 1-1.4(c) of the NFPA 1122-L, Code for Unmanned Rockets, 1976 Edition, as incorporated by reference in sections 7-15, 7-27 and 7-32(a) of the~~

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~~Town Code, is incorporated herein as to sales only to exempt a business entity's sale of rockets, rocket motors, rocket propellant chemicals, or rocket components or parts to industrial, commercial or governmental customers but not to exempt the sale of such products to the general public.~~

**Secs. 7-~~3133~~—7-35. Reserved.**

*~~DIVISION 3. HIGH RISE BUILDINGS~~*

*~~Sec. 7-36. Application.~~*

~~This division shall apply to every high rise building as hereinafter defined, within the corporate limits of the Town of Chapel Hill, and within the jurisdiction of the town pursuant to general or special act of the legislature.~~

**~~Sec. 7-37. Definitions.~~**

~~"High rise building" under the terms of this division shall mean any building over fifty (50) feet in height.~~

**~~Sec. 7-38. Automatic sprinklers.~~**

~~An automatic sprinkler meeting the requirements of NFPA Pamphlet #13 shall be installed in buildings over fifty (50) feet in height. In addition, all connections shall be located on the street side of each building, and activation of the sprinkler system shall activate both a local building alarm and a supervisory alarm at Orange County Central Communications.~~

**Secs. 7-36—7.38. Reserved.**

*~~DIVISION 4. FRATERNITY AND SORORITY HOUSES~~*

**~~Sec. 7-39. Application.~~**

~~This division shall apply to every fraternity and sorority house as hereinafter defined, within the corporate limits of the Town of Chapel Hill and its extra-territorial planning jurisdiction.~~

**~~Sec. 7-40. Definitions.~~**

~~Fraternity and sorority house under the terms of this division shall mean any building used as a dwelling and occupied by and maintained exclusively or primarily for college, university, or professional school students who are affiliated with a social, honorary, or professional organization recognized currently or in the past by a college, university, or professional school.~~

**~~Sec. 7-41. Automatic fire sprinklers in fraternity and sorority houses.~~**

~~An automatic fire sprinkler system meeting the requirements of NFPA Standard #13 or #13R is required to be installed in each fraternity and sorority house in accord with the compliance deadlines in section 7-42.~~

~~In addition, all connections shall be located at approved locations designated by the fire code official and installed according to on the street side of each building, and activation of~~

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the sprinkler system shall activate both a local building alarm and a supervisory alarm at a twenty-four (24) hour certified and licensed alarm monitoring service.

#### **~~Sec. 7-42. Compliance period.~~**

Existing fraternity and sorority houses shall come into compliance with this division within five (5) years of its effective date.

If an existing structure is proposed to be converted to use as a fraternity or sorority house, compliance with section 7-41 shall be required prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy for use as a fraternity or sorority.

If an existing structure is being used as a fraternity or sorority house and renovations at a cost exceeding 50 percent of structure's taxable value are proposed prior to the date on which compliance with this division would otherwise be required, compliance with section 7-41 shall be required prior to a new certificate of occupancy being issued following such renovations.

New structures shall be required to comply with the *applicable* terms of this *division* and the *applicable North Carolina Building Codes* before a certificate of occupancy is issued for use as a fraternity or sorority house.

#### **~~Sec. 7-42.2. Exemption for certain detached, secondary buildings.~~**

Existing fraternities and sorority buildings are exempt from section 7-42 if they meet the following conditions:

- (1) Have no more than one thousand (1,000) square feet of floor area and are not directly connected to the main building used for sleeping;
- (2) Have no facilities used for sleeping;
- (3) Have a supervised automatic alarm system installed throughout the building and the alarm system:
  1. Meets applicable National Fire Protection Association standards;
  2. Includes manual alarm pull stations on each level of the building; and
  3. Is interconnected to the alarm system of the building with sleeping facilities.

#### **~~Sec. 7-43. Automatic sprinkler system not to be disabled.~~**

Upon the occupancy of any new structure as a fraternity or sorority house or upon the completion of the installation of an automatic fire sprinkler system in an existing fraternity or sorority house, no person shall shut off or disable such automatic fire sprinkler system and no owner or resident of such house shall fail to prevent the shutting off or disabling of such a system. Provided, however, that a sprinkler system may be shut off in order to perform maintenance work on the system during the time that qualified maintenance personnel are on the premises performing necessary maintenance work. Such maintenance work shall only be conducted after notice to and approval by the Town Fire Department.

#### **~~Sec. 7-44. Penalties.~~**

- (a) *Criminal penalties.* Violation of any provision of this division shall be a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of \$500.00 or imprisonment for not more than 30 days.

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- (b) ~~Civil enforcement.~~ This division may be enforced by civil penalty or appropriate equitable remedy as may be authorized by applicable N.C. General Statutes, including but not limited to G.S. Sec. 160A-175, G.S. Sec. 160D-1125 and G.S. Sec. 143-139.

**Secs. ~~7-3945~~—7-47. Reserved.**

**~~DIVISION 5. SPRINKLER REQUIREMENTS—MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL~~**

**~~Sec. 7-48. Application.~~**

~~This division shall apply to new construction, additions and renovations of buildings which are within the corporate limits of the Town of Chapel Hill and its extra-territorial planning jurisdiction.~~

**Sec. ~~7-48~~--7-49. Reserved.**

**~~Sec. 7-50. Automatic fire sprinklers required.~~**

~~An automatic fire sprinkler system meeting the requirements of NFPA Standard #13 or #13R required to be installed in new multi-family construction, renovations and additions as follows:~~

- ~~(1) In all new multi-family residential structures of three (3) or more attached housing units, if:~~
  - ~~a. the building has more than 6,000 square feet of floor area;~~
  - ~~b. Twenty (20) percent or more of the total floor area is more than two hundred (200) feet of travel distance from the nearest access point for a fire truck; or~~
  - ~~c. The building exceeds two (2) stories or twenty-four (24) feet in height from the average grade of the lot to the windows on the topmost occupied floor.~~
- ~~(2) In any structural addition to a multi-family residential building exceeding six thousand (6,000) square feet of floor area where the cost of the addition is greater than fifty (50) percent of the building's value. Sprinklers are required in the added area but not in the original part of the building.~~
- ~~(3) where the cost of the renovation or addition exceeds fifty (50) percent of the tax value of the building and the fire area is equal to or greater than 6000 sq. ft~~

~~In addition, all connections shall be located on the street side of each building, and activation of the sprinkler system shall activate both a local building alarm and a supervisory alarm at a twenty-four (24) hour certified and licensed alarm monitoring service.~~

**~~Sec. 7-51. Automatic sprinkler system not to be disabled.~~**

~~Upon the occupancy of any new, renovated or expanded structure subject to this division, no person shall shut off or disable such automatic fire sprinkler system and no owner or resident of such building shall fail to prevent the shutting off or disabling of such a system. Provided, however, that a sprinkler system may be shut off in order to perform maintenance work on the system during the time that qualified maintenance personnel are on the premises performing necessary maintenance work. Such maintenance work shall only be conducted after notice to and approval by the Town Fire Department.~~



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## **Sec. 7-52. Penalties.**

- (a) *Criminal penalties.* Violation of any provision of this division shall be a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days.
- (b) *Civil enforcement.* This division may be enforced by civil penalty or appropriate equitable remedy as may be authorized by applicable N.C. General Statutes, including but not limited to G.S. Sec. 160A-175, G.S. Sec. 160D-1125 and G.S. Sec. 143-139.

## **Secs. 7-50-7-53. Reserved.**

### *DIVISION 16. SPRINKLER REQUIREMENTS—NON-RESIDENTIAL*

## **Sec. 7-54. Application.**

This division shall apply to new construction, additions and renovations of buildings which are within the corporate limits of the Town of Chapel Hill and its extra-territorial planning jurisdiction.

## **Sec. 7-55. Reserved.**

## **Sec. 7-56. Automatic fire sprinklers required.**

An automatic fire sprinkler system meeting the requirements of NFPA 13 is required to be installed in non-residential construction, as follows.

- (1) In new non-residential structures ~~if 6,000 square feet or greater of fire area.~~
  - a. ~~The building has more than 6,000 square feet of floor area;~~
  - b. ~~Twenty (20) percent or more of the total floor area is more than two hundred (200) feet of travel distance from the nearest access point for a fire truck; or~~
  - c. ~~The building exceeds two (2) stories or twenty four (24) feet in height from the average grade of the lot to the windows on the topmost occupied floor.~~
- (2) ~~In a structural~~ In additions to non-residential buildings *that increase the fire area equal to or greater than* ~~of more than~~ six thousand (6,000) square feet.
- ~~(3) where the cost of the renovation or addition exceeds fifty (50) percent of the tax value of the building and the fire area is equal to or greater than 6000 sq. ft. Sprinklers are required~~
- ~~(3) In a non-residential building of more than six thousand (6,000) square feet which is either renovated at a cost greater than fifty (50) percent of value or which is damaged and rebuilt at a cost greater than fifty (50) percent of value.~~

In addition, all connections shall be located on the street side of each building, and activation of the sprinkler system shall activate both a local building alarm and a supervisory alarm at a twenty four (24) hour certified and licensed alarm monitoring service.

## **Sec. 7-57. Reserved. Automatic sprinkler system not to be disabled.**

Upon the occupancy of any new, renovated or expanded structure subject to this division, no person shall shut off or disable such automatic fire sprinkler system and no owner or resident of such building shall fail to prevent the shutting off or disabling of such a

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system. Provided, however, that a sprinkler system may be shut off in order to perform maintenance work on the system during the time that qualified maintenance personnel are on the premises performing necessary maintenance work. Such maintenance work shall only be conducted after notice to and approval by the Town Fire Department.

**Sec. 7-58. Penalties.**

- (a) *Criminal penalties.* Violation of any provision of this division shall be a Class 3 misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days.
- (b) *Civil enforcement.* This ordinance may be enforced by civil penalty or appropriate equitable remedy as may be authorized by applicable N.C. General Statutes, including but not limited to G.S. Sec. 160A-175, G.S. Sec. 160D-1125 and G.S. Sec. 143-139.

**Sec. 7-59. Reserved.**

~~*DIVISION 7. SPRINKLER REQUIREMENTS—PLACES SERVING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES*~~

**~~Sec. 7-60. Sprinkler requirements for new establishments with an occupancy occupant load exceeding 200 persons or existing establishments expanding occupant capacity beyond 200 persons serving alcoholic beverages.~~**

~~Any new occupancy to be established establishment with a rated occupancy occupant load exceeding two hundred (200) persons and serving alcohol under a North Carolina ABC classification of private club or retail on-site consumption of mixed drink or malt beverage must have an approved NFPA 13 fire sprinkler system installed prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy.~~

**Sec. 7-61 – 7-62. Reserved.**

**~~Sec. 7-62. Sprinkler requirements for new establishments with an occupancy load exceeding 100 persons serving alcoholic beverages. Sprinkler requirements for new establishments with an occupancy occupant load exceeding 100 persons or existing establishments expanding occupant capacity beyond 100 persons serving alcoholic beverages above or below level of exit discharge.~~**

~~Any new occupancy to be established establishment with a rated occupancy occupant load exceeding one hundred (100) persons and serving alcohol under a North Carolina ABC classification of private club or retail on-site consumption of mixed drink or malt beverage and that has any of its required egress discharge points one story or more above or below the level of exit discharge grade must shall have an approved NFPA 13 fire sprinkler system installed prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy.~~

**Sec. 7-63 – 7-66. Reserved.**

**~~Sec. 7-64. Restaurants exempted.~~**

~~None of the provisions of this division shall apply to restaurants as defined in G.S. Sec. 18B-1000(6).~~

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**~~Sec. 7-65. Automatic sprinkler system not to be disabled.~~**

~~Upon the occupancy of any new structure subject to this division or upon the completion of the installation of an automatic fire sprinkler system in an existing structure subject to this division, no person shall shut off or disable such automatic fire sprinkler system and no owner or resident of such structure shall fail to prevent the shutting off or disabling of such a system. Provided, however, that a sprinkler system may be shut off in order to perform maintenance work on the system during the time that qualified maintenance personnel are on the premises performing necessary maintenance work. Such maintenance work shall only be conducted after notice to and approval by the town fire department.~~

**~~Sec. 7-66. Penalties.~~**

- ~~(a) *Criminal penalties.* Violation of any provision of this division shall be a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of \$500.00 or imprisonment for not more than 30 days.~~
- ~~(b) *Civil enforcement.* This division may be enforced by civil penalty or appropriate equitable remedy as may be authorized by applicable N.C. General Statutes, including but not limited to G.S. Sec. 160A-175, G.S. Sec. 160D-1125 and G.S. Sec. 143-139."~~

**Section 2.** This ordinance is effective upon enactment.

This the 9th day of April 2025