

**West Bend Fire Department**  
**Common Construction and Renovation Code Requirements**  
**Fire Chief Gerald Kudek**  
**Fire Inspector Captain Tammy Lamberg**

**The City of West Bend Fire Department has adopted the following fire prevention codes in addition to the building codes adopted by the City Building Inspection Division:**

- State of Wisconsin Fire Prevention Regulations, Ch. SPS. 314 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code
- The most current printed version of the National Fire Protection Association Uniform Fire Code (NFPA 1) legislatively enacted by the State of Wisconsin.
- The most current printed version of the International Building Code as adopted by the State of Wisconsin.
- The most current printed version of the International Existing Building Code as adopted by the State of Wisconsin.
- *The West Bend Fire Department now requests an electronic copy of all building plans as well as a hard copy. Plans can be emailed to [lambergt@ci.west-bend.wi.us](mailto:lambergt@ci.west-bend.wi.us)*

**Below are some of the more common code references used by the WBFD Fire Prevention Bureau:**

**Fire Hydrants**

- Spacing between fire hydrants in residential areas is not more than 500 feet and not more than 300 feet in commercial areas.
- Hydrant locations are to be indicated on site plans and fire protection plans for review.
- Kept clear of all obstructions 3.5 feet in all directions from the center tag nut.
- Plantings shall be no taller than 8" high at maturity.

*(Refer to the City of West Bend Municipal Code Chapter 5.205 for more details)*

**Private Fire Hydrants**

- Private fire hydrants are required when any of the following conditions are met:
  - Substantial (greater than 25% of a building's square footage) portions of the building are set back over 250 feet from the street or highway.
  - Substantial (greater than 25% of a building's square footage) portions of the building are 300 feet travel distance from a city hydrant.
  - When any future building plans might also require additional private fire hydrants, as determined by the Fire Department

(Higher hazard use buildings will decrease the percentage size)
- Private fire hydrants shall:
  - Be supplied with a minimum six inch water main.
  - Provide 1,250 gallons of water per minute.
  - Maintain a minimum of 20 psi residual water main pressure at rated gpm.

- Be placed per city engineering standards.
- Kept clear of all obstructions 3.5 feet in all directions from the center tag nut.
- Plantings shall be no taller than 8" high at maturity.

*(Refer to the City of West Bend Municipal Code Chapter 5.205 for more details)*

### **Fire Sprinkler Systems**

- All sprinkler plans must be reviewed by the State of Wisconsin or a Wisconsin licensed fire sprinkler plan review contractor acceptable to the West Bend Fire Department
- Installation or alteration of **underground piping** shall be inspected by The City of West Bend **Plumbing Inspector** prior to being buried.
- Sprinkler FDC shall be a **5" Storz** connection with a 30 degree elbow located on the front of the building or a location approved by the Fire Prevention Bureau. The FDC must be no more than **150'** from a hydrant. An outside **horn strobe** will be located above the FDC.
- All sprinkler systems on new buildings are **required to be monitored** for water flow by an alarm monitoring company prior to occupancy. An alarm flow test will be conducted by the fire department with the City of West Bend dispatch center.
- Residential structures over 8,500 square feet of habitable living area are required to have a complete sprinkler system per the City of West Bend Municipal Code Chapter 5.206(1)(e).
- The West Bend Fire Department requires local review and permit fees in addition to the State plan review fees. **All fees and local permits must be approved prior to installation.** Permit applications are available on the fire department page of The City of West Bend web site. Permit applications shall be submitted with payment and a state approved plan. Acceptance tests are required upon completion of installation of the system and prior to occupancy being issued. 48 hours of notice is required to request an acceptance test.

*(Refer to the City of West Bend Municipal Code 5.206 for more details).*

### **Standpipe Requirements**

- Standpipes shall have a separate fire department connection (FDC).
- The location of standpipe connections shall be in accordance with NFPA 14, shall be unobstructed and shall be acceptable to the Fire Department so that all portions of the building can be reached by a nozzle attached to 150 feet of fire hose
- Standpipes may be piped on a separate riser of a fire sprinkler system.
- The fire department may request a standpipe in certain circumstances, such as construction or demolition of a building.

*(Refer to the City of West Bend Municipal Code 5.212 for more details).*

### **Fire Alarm Systems**

- All fire alarm systems shall be installed to the code requirements of NFPA 72.
- All fire alarm system plans must be reviewed by the State of Wisconsin.
- All fire alarm systems shall comply with NFPA, IBC and IEBC monitoring requirements. Where required; monitoring will be in place prior to occupancy.
- The West Bend Fire Department requires local review and permit fees in addition to the State plan review fees. **All fees and local permits must be approved prior to installation.** Permit applications are available on the fire department page of The City of West Bend web site. Permit applications shall be submitted with a state approved plan. A system acceptance test is required upon the completion of the installation of the system and prior to an occupancy permit being issued. 48 hours of notice is required to request an acceptance test.

- A fire alarm annunciator panel shall be located in the main entrance area of all new buildings.
- The fire department requires the owner of a property with a monitored fire alarm system to obtain an annual fire alarm system permit.
- **Existing alarm systems must be signed out of service at the WB Police department dispatch center** located at 350 Vine St. before being disabled for renovation or construction purposes *(Refer to the City of West Bend Municipal Code 5.207 for more details).*

### **Fire Department Road and Driveway Access Specifications**

- If any portion of a facility or exterior wall of a building is located more than **150 ft.** from the closest apparatus access point additional fire department access roads will need to be provided. If buildings are protected throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system the distance can be increased to **450 ft.**
- Minimum unobstructed width of 20 feet (NFPA 1)
- Minimum vertical clearance of not less than 13' 6" (NFPA 1)
- Buildings set back more than 80 feet from a road must have a driveway designed to support 65,000 pounds (weight of heaviest fire truck)
- Dead-end streets with a turn-around must accommodate an outside curb to curb turning radius of 35.04 ft. and a wall to wall turning radius of 39.44 ft.
- **Apparatus access to existing buildings must be maintained at all times during construction/renovation projects.** If a construction site is secured with fencing a temporary Knox Box shall be located at the gate with a key inside.

### **Building Address**

- Site address must be prominently displayed on construction signage. Final building address numbers after completion shall be a minimum of 4" in height and located on the front side of the building (Near main entrance) and easily visible from the street.

### **Key Lock Box Requirements**

- A Knox Box is required on:
    - All buildings with a fire sprinkler system, fire alarm system or other fire protection system.
    - All buildings that are secured in a manor that restricts access during an emergency.
- (Refer to the City of West Bend Municipal Code 5.223(11) for more details. Knox Boxes can be ordered online at [www.knoxbox.com](http://www.knoxbox.com)).*

### **Elevator dimensions**

- Elevators shall have a minimum size and arrangement to accommodate straight entry of a 24 inch wide and 85 inch long ambulance cot in the horizontal, open position.  
*(Refer to the City of West Bend Municipal Code 5.221 for more details.)*

### **Hot Works Permit Required**

- A hot works permit is required for any cutting, welding or other hot work operations on a construction site. Guidelines and hot work permit application can be found on the City of West Bend web site under- Departments/Fire/permits.

### **Onsite Inspections**

- The City of West Bend Fire Inspector or another representative of the Wbfd Fire Prevention Bureau may request periodic onsite inspections during construction/renovation to assess progress of project, gain familiarity with the structure and to stay updated on installation status of fire protection and life safety components.

**\*Questions regarding this document can be addressed to Captain Tammy Lamberg of The Wbfd Bureau of Fire Prevention, Inspection and Investigation.  
By email [lambergt@ci.west-bend.wi.us](mailto:lambergt@ci.west-bend.wi.us) or by phone 262-335-5055.**