



STATE OF WASHINGTON
STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

May 2018
Log No. _____

1. State Building Code to be Amended:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Building Code | <input type="checkbox"/> International Mechanical Code |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ICC ANSI A117.1 Accessibility Code | <input type="checkbox"/> International Fuel Gas Code |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Existing Building Code | <input type="checkbox"/> NFPA 54 National Fuel Gas Code |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Residential Code | <input type="checkbox"/> NFPA 58 Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Fire Code | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildland Urban Interface Code |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform Plumbing Code | |

For the Washington State Energy Code, please see specialized [energy code forms](#)

Section(s): WAC 51-54A-0904

Title: Alternative automatic fire-extinguishing systems.

2. Proponent Name (Specific local government, organization or individual):

Proponent: Ricky Campbell, UA Local 699

Title: Business Agent

Date: 9/17/2024

3. Designated Contact Person:

Name: Ricky Campbell

Title: Business Agent

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4. Proposed Code Amendment. Reproduce the section to be amended by underlining all added language, striking through all deleted language. Insert new sections in the appropriate place in the code in order to continue the established numbering system of the code. If more than one section is proposed for amendment or more than one page is needed for reproducing the affected section of the code, additional pages may be attached.

Clearly state if the proposal modifies an existing amendment or if a new amendment is needed. If the proposal modifies an **existing amendment**, show the modifications to the existing amendment by underlining all added language and striking through all deleted language. If a new amendment is needed, show the modifications to the **model code** by underlining all added language and striking through all deleted language.

Code(s) WAC 51-54A **Section(s)** 904

Enforceable code language must be used.

Amend section to read as follows (note that both the current code and emergency rule are provided):

CURRENT CODE

WAC 51-54A-0904 Alternative automatic fire-extinguishing systems.

904.1.1 Certification of service personnel for fire-extinguishing equipment. Service personnel performing system design, installation, or conducting system maintenance or testing on automatic fire-extinguishing systems, other than automatic sprinkler systems, shall possess the appropriate ICC/NAFED certification.

904.1.1.1 Preengineered kitchen fire-extinguishing systems. A current ICC/NAFED certification for preengineered kitchen fire-extinguishing systems is required when performing design, installation, inspection/testing or maintenance on kitchen suppression systems.

904.1.1.2 Engineered fire suppression systems. A current ICC/NAFED certification for engineered fire suppression systems is required when performing design, installation, inspection/testing or maintenance on kitchen suppression systems.

904.1.1.3 Preengineered industrial fire-extinguishing system. A current ICC/NAFED certification for preengineered industrial fire-extinguishing system is required when performing design, installation, inspection/testing or maintenance on kitchen suppression systems.

904.1.1 (Effective July 1, 2024) Certification of personnel for alternative fire-extinguishing equipment.

Personnel performing system design, installation, maintenance, programming or testing on automatic fire-extinguishing systems, other than automatic sprinkler systems, shall possess the appropriate National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET) Special Hazards Suppression Systems certification.

EXCEPTIONS:

1. A current ICC/NAFED certification for preengineered kitchen fire extinguishing system technician is allowed in lieu of NICET Level II or higher in Special Hazards Suppression Systems for the design, installation, inspection/testing or maintenance on preengineered kitchen suppression systems.

2. A current holder of the Washington State Journey – Level Sprinkler Fitter with a COC-ITT for the installation, maintenance, programming and/or testing on automatic fire-extinguishing systems,

904.1.1.1 (Effective July 1, 2024) Design. All construction documents shall be reviewed by a NICET Level III in special hazard suppression systems or a licensed professional engineer (PE) in the state of Washington prior to being submitted for permitting. The reviewing professional shall submit a stamped, signed, and dated letter; or a verification method approved by the fire code official indicating the system has been reviewed and meets or exceeds the design requirements of the state of Washington and the local jurisdiction.

904.1.1.2 (Effective July 1, 2024) Installation. Installation not defined as "electrical construction trade" by chapter 19.28 RCW or "Fire Protection Sprinkler Fitting" by chapter 18.270 RCW, shall be completed by or directly supervised by a NICET Level II or higher in special hazards suppression systems. Supervision shall consist of a person being on the same job site and under the control of a NICET Level II or higher in special hazards suppression systems.

EXCEPTION: A current holder of the Washington State Journey – Level Sprinkler Fitter with a COC-ITT

904.1.1.3 (Effective July 1, 2024) Testing/maintenance.

Inspection, testing, commissioning, maintenance, and programming not defined as "electrical construction trade" by chapter 19.28 RCW or "Fire Protection Sprinkler Fitting" by chapter 18.270 RCW, shall be completed by a NICET Level II or higher in special hazards suppression systems.

EXCEPTION: A current holder of the Washington State Journey – Level Sprinkler Fitter with a COC-ITT

904.13 Commercial cooking systems. The automatic fire-extinguishing system for commercial cooking systems shall be of a type recognized for protection of commercial cooking equipment and exhaust systems of Certified on 3/27/2024 WAC 51-54A-0904 Page 1 the type and arrangement protected. Preengineered automatic dry- and wet-chemical extinguishing systems shall be tested in accordance with UL 300 and listed and labeled for the intended application. Other types of automatic fire-extinguishing systems shall be listed and labeled for specific use as protection for commercial cooking operations. The system shall be installed in accordance with this code, NFPA 96, its listing and the manufacturer's installation instructions.

Additional protection is not required for ductwork beyond 75 feet (22,860 mm) when hood suppression system complies with UL 300. Signage shall be provided on the exhaust hood or system cabinet, indicating the type and arrangement of cooking appliances protected by the automatic fire-extinguishing system. Signage shall indicate appliances from left to right, be durable, and the size, color, and lettering shall be approved. Automatic fire-extinguishing systems of the following types shall be installed in accordance with the referenced standard indicated, as follows:

1. Carbon dioxide extinguishing systems, NFPA 12.
2. Automatic sprinkler systems, NFPA 13.
3. Automatic water mist systems, NFPA 750.
4. Foam-water sprinkler system or foam-water spray systems, NFPA 16.
5. Dry-chemical extinguishing systems, NFPA 17.
6. Wet-chemical extinguishing systems, NFPA 17A.

EXCEPTIONS:

1. Factory-built commercial cooking recirculating systems that are tested in accordance with UL 710B and listed, labeled and installed in accordance with Section 304.1 of the International Mechanical Code.
2. Protection of duct systems beyond 75 feet (22,860 mm) when the commercial kitchen exhaust hood is protected by a system listed in accordance with UL 300.

AMENDED EMERGENCY RULE

WAC 51-54A-0904 Alternative automatic fire-extinguishing systems.

904.1.1 Certification of service personnel for fire-extinguishing equipment. Service personnel performing system design, installation, or conducting system maintenance or testing on automatic fire-extinguishing systems, other than automatic sprinkler systems, shall possess the appropriate ICC/NAFED certification.

904.1.1.1 Preengineered kitchen fire-extinguishing systems. A current ICC/NAFED certification for preengineered kitchen fire-extinguishing systems is required when performing design, installation, inspection/testing or maintenance on kitchen suppression systems.

904.1.1.2 Engineered fire suppression systems. A current ICC/NAFED certification for engineered fire suppression systems is required when performing design, installation, inspection/testing or maintenance (~~(on kitchen suppression systems)~~).

904.1.1.3 Preengineered industrial fire-extinguishing system. A current ICC/NAFED certification for preengineered industrial fire-extinguishing system is required when performing design, installation, inspection/testing or maintenance (~~(on kitchen suppression systems)~~).

904.1.1 (Effective ((July 1, 2024))January 1, 2025) Certification of personnel for alternative fire-extinguishing equipment. Personnel performing system design, installation, maintenance, programming or testing on automatic fire-extinguishing systems, other than automatic sprinkler systems, shall possess the appropriate National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET) *Special Hazards Suppression Systems* certification.

EXCEPTIONS: 1. A current ICC/NAFED certification for preengineered kitchen fire extinguishing system technician is allowed in lieu of NICET Level II or higher in *Special Hazards Suppression Systems* for the design, installation, inspection/testing or maintenance on preengineered kitchen suppression systems.

2. A current holder of the Washington State Journey – Level Sprinkler Fitter with a COC-ITT for the installation, maintenance, programming and/or testing on automatic fire-extinguishing systems.

904.1.1.1 (Effective ((July 1, 2024))January 1, 2025) Design. All construction documents shall be reviewed by a NICET Level III in special hazard suppression systems or a licensed professional engineer (PE) in the state of Washington prior to being submitted for permitting. The reviewing professional shall submit a stamped, signed, and dated letter; or a verification method approved by the *fire code official* indicating the system has been reviewed and meets or exceeds the design requirements of the state of Washington and the local jurisdiction.

904.1.1.2 (Effective ((July 1, 2024))January 1, 2025) Installation. Installation not defined as "electrical construction trade" by chapter [19.28](#) RCW or "Fire Protection Sprinkler Fitting" by chapter [18.270](#) RCW, shall be completed by or directly supervised by a NICET Level II or higher in *special hazards suppression systems*. Supervision shall consist of a person being on the same job site and under the control of a NICET Level II or higher in *special hazards suppression systems*.

EXCEPTION: A current holder of the Washington State Journey – Level Sprinkler Fitter with a COC-ITT

904.1.1.3 (Effective ((July 1, 2024))January 1, 2025) Testing/maintenance. Inspection, testing, commissioning, maintenance, and programming not defined as "electrical construction trade" by chapter [19.28](#) RCW or "Fire Protection Sprinkler Fitting" by chapter [18.270](#) RCW, shall be completed by a NICET Level II or higher in *special hazards suppression systems*.

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manufacturer's installation instructions. Additional protection is not required for ductwork beyond 75 feet (22,860 mm) when hood suppression system complies with UL 300. Signage shall be provided on the exhaust hood or system cabinet, indicating the type and arrangement of cooking appliances protected by the automatic fire-extinguishing system. Signage shall indicate appliances from left to right, be durable, and the size, color, and lettering shall be approved. Automatic fire-extinguishing systems of the following types shall be installed in accordance with the referenced standard indicated, as follows:

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6. Wet-chemical extinguishing systems, NFPA 17A.

EXCEPTIONS: 1. Factory-built commercial cooking recirculating systems that are tested in accordance with UL 710B and listed, labeled and installed in accordance with Section 304.1 of the *International Mechanical Code*.
2. Protection of duct systems beyond 75 feet (22,860 mm) when the commercial kitchen exhaust hood is protected by a system listed in accordance with UL 300.

- 5. Briefly explain your proposed amendment, including the purpose, benefits and problems addressed.** Specifically note any impacts or benefits to business, and specify construction types, industries and services that would be affected. Finally, please note any potential impact on enforcement such as special reporting requirements or additional inspections required.

WAC 296-127-01375 shows the history and acknowledgement from a state agency (LNI) that Sprinkler Fitters have performed this work. Currently in Washington NICET has 14 certificated Level II Special Hazards systems holders and 7 level III. Based on these numbers only 21 individuals would be qualified to work on these systems. This proposal will address the issue of not having enough qualified workers in the field to perform this work. There are 250+ individuals with a Washington State Journey – Level Sprinkler Fitter certificate w/ COC-ITT. With this proposal AHJ's and Business owners can easily look up individuals performing the work on the State fire Marshals web page. <https://wsp.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/08.24-All-Certificate-Holders.pdf> These certificates with a designation of 0000-0000-EG would indicate being qualified.

- 6. Specify what criteria this proposal meets.** You may select more than one.

- The amendment is needed to address a critical life/safety need.
- The amendment clarifies the intent or application of the code.
- The amendment is needed to address a specific state policy or statute.
- The amendment is needed for consistency with state or federal regulations.
- The amendment is needed to address a unique character of the state.
- The amendment corrects errors and omissions.

- 7. Is there an economic impact:** Yes No

If no, state reason: This proposal will not increase the cost of construction. This will help with having enough qualified workers.

If yes, provide economic impact, costs and benefits as noted below in items a – f.

- a. **Life Cycle Cost.** Use the OFM Life Cycle Cost [Analysis tool](#) to estimate the life cycle cost of the proposal using one or more typical examples. Reference these [Instructions](#); use these [Inputs](#). Webinars on the tool can be found [Here](#) and [Here](#)). If the tool is used, submit a copy of the excel file with your proposal submission. If preferred, you may submit an alternate life cycle cost analysis.
- b. **Construction Cost.** Provide your best estimate of the construction cost (or cost savings) of your code change proposal.

\$Click here to enter text./square foot

(For residential projects, also provide \$Click here to enter text./ dwelling unit)

Show calculations here, and list sources for costs/savings, or attach backup data pages

- c. **Code Enforcement.** List any code enforcement time for additional plan review or inspections that your proposal will require, in hours per permit application:
- d. **Small Business Impact.** Describe economic impacts to small businesses:
- e. **Housing Affordability.** Describe economic impacts on housing affordability:
- f. **Other.** Describe other qualitative cost and benefits to owners, to occupants, to the public, to the environment, and to other stakeholders that have not yet been discussed:

Please send your completed proposal to: sbcc@des.wa.gov

All questions must be answered to be considered complete. Incomplete proposals will not be accepted.