



ESTES VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

PREVENT PREPARE PERFORM

2018 International Fire Code Adoption Proposal

Summary of Proposal (Page 1 of 3)

Executive Summary

The Estes Valley Fire District has been operating under the 2015 version of the International Fire Code (IFC) and adopted appendices. Larimer County, the Town of Estes Park, and other fire districts in Larimer County (Berthoud, Loveland, Poudre, and Wellington) are considering an adoption of the updated 2018 version of the IFC.

It is the opinion of the staff that the 2018 code includes many updates that will enhance the safety of our citizens and guests, and addresses deficiencies missing from previous versions of the code. Staff recommends adoption of the 2018 International Fire Code as outlined below.

References / Resources

- 2018 International Fire Code: <https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IFC2018>

Significant Changes in the 2018 International Fire Code Pertinent to the Estes Valley Fire District

- Section 903 (IBC 311.2): Fire Sprinklers in Storage over 24,000 ft²
 - Mini-storage or self-storage now classified as S-1, requiring sprinkler systems.
- Section 903.2.2: Sprinklers in Group E Occupancies
 - Increases the threshold for sprinklers in public school buildings to include buildings over 12,000 ft² (current threshold) OR occupancy load over 300 people (new requirement).
 - Only impact would be Estes Park Schools, who already intended to sprinker new buildings.
- Section 905.3.1: Occupant Hose Lines (Class III Standpipes)
 - Removal of Class III standpipes that are for untrained use only, and inadequate for fire department use.
 - Decreased cost and maintenance requirements for contractor and building owner.
- Section 910.5: Maintenance and Testing of Smoke and Heat Vents
 - Reduces testing requirement from every one (1) year to every five (5) years.
 - Decreased costs for building owners.
- Section 3901: Processing and Extraction Facilities
 - New chapter focused on processing and extraction of oils and fats from plants.
 - No impact currently, but potential future impact for processing and extraction facilities in the Estes Valley.
- Additional changes listed in *Significant Changes to International Fire Code – 2018*
 - <https://www.iccsafe.org/wp-content/uploads/2018-IFC-UPDATE-Handout-9-1-17.pdf>
 - No additional changes are considered to impact Estes Valley Fire Protection District.

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Proposed Inclusions / Exclusions / Amendments of 2018 International Fire Code

- Section 108.1: Board of Appeals
 - Amended utilizing existing language from 2015 adoption for appeals based on department bylaws.
- Section 109.4: Violation Penalties
 - Amended utilizing existing language from 2015 adoption for handling of violations.
- Section 109.5: Work Commencing Before Permit Issuance
 - Section added utilizing existing language from 2015 adoption for handling of violations.
- Section 111.4: Failure to Comply
 - Amended utilizing existing language from 2015 adoption for handling of violations.
- Section 113.1: Fees
 - Amended utilizing existing language from 2015 adoption for fee schedule.
- Section 307: Illegal Campfires
 - **NEW** Amended language to align with Colorado Revised Statute H.B. 1051.
- Section 503.2.2: Authority
 - Amended utilizing existing language from 2015 adoption to apply to existing organizational structure.
- Section 503.2.6: Bridges and Elevated Surfaces
 - **NEW** Amendment to increase the minimum load limits on new bridges to 70,000 lbs.
 - Truck 1 will be 67,000 lbs., and some current apparatus weigh more than 50,000 lbs.
- Section 505.1: Address Identification
 - Amended utilizing existing language from 2015 adoption.
- Section 903.2.8: Automatic Sprinkler Systems, Where Required, Group R-3
 - **NEW** Amended language to except Group R-3 from requirement (see 903.2.8.1)
 - Was not previously repealed in documents, though has always been Board's intent.
- Section 903.2.8.1: Automatic Sprinkler Systems, Where Required, Group R-3
 - **NEW** Repeal of section requiring sprinklers in R-3 occupancies (1- and 2-family homes).
 - Was not previously repealed in documents, though has always been Board's intent.
- Section 903.2.13: Commercial Downtown Zone District
 - Utilize existing language from 2015 adoption to require sprinklers in the CD Zone.
- Section 1011.51: Dimension Reference Surfaces
 - Repealed, same as 2015 adoption.
- Section 1013.2: Floor-level exit signs in Group R-1
 - Amended utilizing existing language from 2015 adoption.
- Section 1015.8: Window Openings
 - Repealed, same as 2015 adoption.
- Section 1030.1: Emergency Escape and Rescue, General
 - Amended utilizing existing language from 2015 adoption.
- Section 1030.2: Emergency Escape and Rescue, Minimum Size
 - Amended utilizing existing language from 2015 adoption.

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Summary of Proposal (Page 3 of 3)

Proposed Inclusions / Exclusions of 2018 International Fire Code (continued)

- Appendix B: Fire-Flow Requirements for Buildings
 - Adopted in 2015 Code, desire to retain.
- Appendix C: Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution
 - Adopted in 2015 Code, desire to retain.
- Appendix D: Fire Apparatus Access Roads
 - **NEW** Adoption proposed.
 - Summary of road requirements for access to ensure firefighter safety.
 - Have been utilizing these standards per Fire Marshal's authority to determination under the general code.
 - This section provides a complete summary of expected standards in one place.
- Appendix E: Hazard Categories
 - Adopted in 2015 Code, desire to retain.
- Appendix F: Hazard Ranking
 - Adopted in 2015 Code, desire to retain.
- Appendix G: Cryogenic Fluids – Weight and Volume Equivalents
 - Adopted in 2015 Code, desire to retain.
- Appendix K: Construction Requirements For Existing Ambulatory Care Facilities
 - **NEW** Codes are consistent with NFPA 99 and existing Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service (CMS).
 - This section provides a complete summary of expected standards in one place.
- Appendix N: Indoor Trade Shows and Exhibitions
 - **NEW** Town of Estes Park Event Center already has most of these requirements in place, built in, so little to no anticipated impact.
 - This section provides a complete summary of expected standards in one place.

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2018 Intl. Wildland Urban Interface Code Adoption Proposal

Summary of Proposal (Page 1 of 1)

Executive Summary

The Estes Valley Fire District has not previously adopted the International Wildland Urban Interface Code (IWUIC). Given the impact of large-scale wildfires both within Colorado and around the nation, this code was investigated to determine its value to the Estes Valley.

The 2018 IWUIC dictates various levels of Ignition-Resistant Construction based on a combination of defensible space, water supply, and fire hazard severity (fuel model, critical fire weather frequency, and slope). The criteria for construction and specific details are outlined in Chapter 5: <https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IWUIC2018/chapter-5-special-building-construction-regulations>

It is the opinion of the staff that the 2018 IWUIC includes many aspects that will enhance the safety of our citizens and guests. While there is an increased administrative burden for enforcement, it is believed the benefit from reduction in risk for new home construction outweighs the minimal expected difference in construction costs. Staff recommends adoption of the 2018 International Wildland Urban Interface Code as outlined below.

References / Resources

- 2018 International Wildland Urban Interface Code: <https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IWUIC2018>

Proposed Inclusions / Exclusions / Amendments of 2018 International WUI Code

- Section 602: Automatic Sprinkler Systems
 - Repealed, staying consistent with our repeal of IFC Section 903.2.8.1.
- Appendix A: General Requirements
 - Adds clarity to definitions and requirements for defensible space.
 - Covers access restrictions, consistent with IFC Appendix D.
 - Adds clarity to definitions and requirements for ignition source control, storage, dumping, water storage facilities, and land use.
- Appendix B: Vegetation Management Plan
 - Requires a long-term plan to ensure compliance with the code will continue after initial construction and inspection.
- No other appendices are recommended for inclusion at this time

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