

ORDINANCE 3048

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE OFFICIAL CODE OF THE
CITY OF GREAT FALLS (OCCGF), TITLE 15 CHAPTER 50,
PERTAINING TO THE ADOPTED FIRE CODE**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GREAT FALLS, MONTANA:

Section 1. That Chapter 50 of Title 15 of the Official Code of the City of Great Falls (OCCGF) pertaining to the Uniform Fire Code be amended as depicted in Exhibit "A" attached hereto, which removes any language indicated by a strike-out and adds any language which is bolded; and,

Section 2: This ordinance shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days after second reading and final adoption by the City Commission.

APPROVED by the City Commission on first reading March 16, 2010.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Great Falls, Montana, on second reading April 6, 2010.

Michael J. Winters, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Kunz, City Clerk

(Seal of the City)

APPROVED FOR LEGAL CONTENT:

James W. Santoro, City Attorney

State of Montana)
County of Cascade : ss
City of Great Falls)

I, Lisa Kunz, City Clerk of the City of Great Falls, Montana, do hereby certify that I did post, as required by law and as prescribed and directed by the City Commission, Ordinance 3048 in three places within the limits of said City to-wit:

- On the Bulletin Board, first floor, Civic Center Building;
- On the Bulletin Board, first floor, Cascade County Court House;
- On the Bulletin Board, Great Falls Public Library

(Seal of the City)

Lisa Kunz, City Clerk

Chapter 50 FIRE CODE

Sections:

15.50.010	International Fire Code (IFC) -- adoption
15.50.040	Definitions
15.50.060	Bureau of Fire Prevention--established--duties
15.50.080	International Fire Code (IFC) -- adoption
15.50.100	Pipes thawed with torch prohibited
15.50.140	Violation--penalty

15.50.010 International Fire Code (IFC) -- adoption

- A. There is for the purpose of prescribing regulations governing conditions hazardous to life and property from fire, hazardous materials or explosion that certain Code and Standards known as the International Fire Code (IFC).
- B. A copy of such Code is now filed in the office of the City Clerk.
- C. Copies of the ~~2006~~ **2009** IFC may be obtained from the International Code Council. (Ord. 3048, 2010; Ord. 2998, 2008; Ord. 2905, 2005; Ord. 2874, 2004; Ord. 2794, 2001; Ord. 2651 (Exh. B), 1993; Ord. 2455 (part), 1987; Ord. 2429 §2 (part), 1986).

15.50.040 Definitions

Whenever the following words are used in the ~~2006~~ **2009** IFC, the following definitions shall apply:

"Chief of the Bureau of Fire Prevention" means the Fire Marshal of the City.

"Corporation counsel" means the City Attorney.

"Jurisdiction" means the City.

"Removal" in relation to storage tanks includes vents and fill pipes and all other incidental hardware. (Ord. 3048, 2010; Ord. 2874, 2004; Ord. 2455 (part), 1987; Ord. 2429 §2(part), 1986).

15.50.060 Bureau of Fire Prevention--established—duties

The ~~2006~~ **2009** IFC shall be enforced by the Bureau of Fire Prevention in the Fire Department of the City, which is established and which shall be operated under the supervision of the Fire Chief. (Ord. 3048, 2010; Ord. 2998, 2008; Ord. 2874, 2004).

15.50.080 International Fire Code - - amendments

The ~~2006~~ **2009** IFC is adopted in full and the exceptions are as follows:

- A. Chapter 1 of the ~~2006~~ **2009** IFC is adopted with the following exceptions, additions and amendments:
- a. Section 108 Board of Appeals is not adopted; and
 - b. 105 Permits and Approvals and any other sections of the ~~2006~~ **2009** IFC referring to permits is not adopted. This section applies only to the ~~2006~~ **2009** IFC permitting requirements, not to permitting requirements contained in Montana law. Fees shall be set by Commission resolution.
- B. Chapters 3, 8 and 10 of the ~~2006~~ **2009** IFC are adopted with the following exceptions, additions and amendments:
- a. 806.1 Christmas trees shall be properly treated with an approved flame retardant. The chief may, however, waive this requirement when the tree is fresh (recently harvested) and all other provisions of section 806.1 are met. Consideration should also be given to humidity, temperature and the dryness of the tree at the time of setup.
 - b. Section ~~4027-16~~ **4604.17** will be adopted and fire escapes shall comply with the following:
 - i. When located within a recess or vestibule, adjacent enclosure walls shall not be less than one hour fire-resistive construction;
 - ii. Egress from the building shall be by a clear opening having a minimum dimension of not less than 29 inches in both height and width. Such openings shall be openable from the inside without the use of a key or special knowledge or effort. The sill of the opening giving access shall not be more than 30 inches above the floor of the building or balcony;
 - iii. Fire escape stairways and balconies shall comply with the following requirements:
 1. fire escape stairways and balconies shall support the dead load plus a live load of not less than 100 pounds per square foot and shall be provided with a top and intermediate handrail on each side;

2. the pitch of the stairway shall not exceed 60 degrees with a minimum width of 18 inches;
 3. treads shall not be less than four inches in width and the rise between treads shall not exceed 10 inches;
 4. all stair and balcony railings shall support a horizontal force of not less than 50 pounds per lineal foot of railing;
 5. balconies shall not be less than 44 inches in width with no floor opening other than the stairway opening greater than 5/8 inch in width;
 6. stairway openings in such balconies shall not be less than 22 inches by 44 inches; and
 7. the balustrade of each balcony shall not be less than 36 inches high with not more than nine inches between balusters;
- iv. Fire escapes shall extend to the roof or provide an approved gooseneck ladder between the top floor landing and the roof when serving buildings four or more stories in height having roofs with less than four units in vertical in 12 units horizontal (33.3% slope);
 - v. Fire escape ladders shall be designed and connected to the building to withstand a horizontal force of 100 pounds per lineal foot; each rung shall support a concentrated load of 500 pounds placed anywhere on the rung. All ladders shall be at least 15 inches wide, located within 12 inches of the building and shall be placed flat wise relative to the face of the building. Ladder rungs shall be ¾ inch in diameter and shall be located 12 inches on center. Openings for roof access ladders through cornices and similar projections shall have minimum dimensions of 30 inches by 33 inches;
 - vi. The lowest balcony shall not be more than 18 feet from the ground;
 - vii. Fire escapes shall extend to the ground or be provided with counterbalanced stairs reaching the ground;
 - viii. Fire escapes shall be kept clear and unobstructed at all times and maintained in good working order.
- ~~e. 304.3.3 Rubbish within Dumpsters. Dumpsters and containers with an individual capacity of 1.5 yd³ or more shall not be stored in buildings or placed within five feet of combustible wall, openings or combustible roof eave lines.~~
- ~~d. 304.3.3 Structures of Types I and II fire resistive construction used for dumpster or container storage shall be located not less than five feet from openings and other buildings.~~
- C. Chapters 27 through 44-46 of 2006 2009 IFC are adopted with the following exceptions, additions and amendments:
- a. Section ~~3304.1~~ **3304.1 Storage of explosives.** The maximum quantities, storage conditions, and fire-protection requirements for gunpowder and ammunition stored in a building shall be as follows:
 - i. Smokeless powder –in accordance with 50-61-120 and 50-61-121, MCA.
 - ii. Commercial manufactured sporting black powder: ~~25~~ **50** pounds in a separate, portable Type 4 magazine.
 - iii. Small arms primers or percussion caps: In accordance with 50-61-120 and 50-61-121, MCA.

The following annexes are adopted as a part of this code:

- A. Appendix B Fire Flow requirements of Buildings
- B. Appendix C Fire Hydrant Location and Distribution
- C. Appendix I Fire Protection Systems- Noncompliant Conditions**

(Ord. 3048, 2010; Ord. 2998, 2008; Ord. 2905, 2005; Ord. 2874, 2004; Ord. 2794, 2001)

15.50.100 Pipes thawed with torch prohibited

It is unlawful to use any torch or other flame-producing device for the purpose of thawing out any pipe in or under any house, building or structure in the City. Any person, who in consequence of violating the provisions of this section causes a fire, shall, in addition to the penalties prescribed in this section, be liable to the City in damage to the extent of the costs to the Fire Department for answering a fire alarm and services in extinguishing such fire, such penalty to be recovered by a civil action. (Ord. 2874, 2004; Ord. 2455 (part), 1987; Ord. 2429 §2(part), 1986).

15.50.140 Violation—penalty

- A. Any person who violates any of the provisions of the 2006 2009 IFC adopted in Section 15.50.010 of this chapter or fails to comply therewith is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less than ten dollars nor more than five hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment. The imposition of one penalty for any violation shall not excuse the violation or permit it to continue; and all such persons shall be required to correct or remedy such violations or defects within a reasonable time; and when not otherwise specified, each ten days that prohibited conditions are maintained shall constitute a separate offense.
- B. The application of the above penalty shall not be held to prevent the enforced removal or prohibited conditions. (Ord. 3048, 2010; Ord. 2998, 2008; Ord. 2874, 2004; Ord. 2455 (part), 1987; Ord. 2429 §2(part), 1986).

Other pertinent OCCGF Codes:

8.7	Smoking in Public Places	9.9.90	Fireworks Policy
8.60.010	Abandoned Refrigerators	10.48.060(B)	Hydrant Codes
9.5.28.010	Negligent Smoking	13.14.010	Unlawful Materials in Sewer
9.10.010(M)	Discharging Fireworks in Parks		