PROCEDURES for Policy on Residential Sprinkler Protection

Introduction
The University’s Policy on Residential Sprinkler Protection requires that all residential buildings having five (5) or more sleeping rooms must be equipped with an Automatic Sprinkler System meeting NFPA 13 Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems. These are the procedures established to ensure compliance with the Policy, and may be modified from time to time by the Coordinator, Alarm Services.

Questions regarding these procedures should be directed to the Coordinator, Alarm Services (401) 874-2010.

Procedures

Determining Requirements for Automatic Sprinkler Systems
Automatic Sprinkler Systems are required in all buildings located on University property having five (5) or more sleeping units. This includes all dormitories, fraternities, sororities, hotels, and specialty housing regardless of whether or not those buildings would otherwise be required by the State Fire Code to have sprinkler systems. This Policy applies to both new and existing construction.

Design and Installation of Automatic Sprinkler Systems
For new construction, Automatic Sprinkler Systems should be included in the original design and construction specifications. For existing buildings where Automatic Sprinkler Systems are required by this Policy, responsible parties must engage engineering and construction vendors to install systems meeting the requirements defined herein.

Automatic Sprinkler Systems installed under this Policy must be compliant with NFPA 13 NFPA 13 Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems and the University’s Minimum Standards for Installation of Sprinkler Systems. Note that all pipes must be ferrous metal – CPVC (plastic) pipes are not permitted.

Sprinkler system design and specifications must be submitted to the Coordinator, Alarm Services for review and approval in advance of construction.

Inspection and Maintenance of Automatic Sprinkler Systems
Once installed, Automatic Sprinkler Systems must be maintained in accordance with the State of Rhode Island Fire Safety Code and NFPA 25 Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems. This includes routine quarterly inspections as well as tri-annual internal inspections. Fire pumps, if installed, require annual flow testing and periodic preventive maintenance in accordance with manufacturer specifications.
Residential Sprinkler Protection Workflow (4/2018)

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

*May still be required by State Fire Code