

760.09 EGRESS PASSAGEWAYS.

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OH

Sheffield Lake

Codified Ordinances of Sheffield Lake, OH

760.09 EGRESS PASSAGEWAYS.

CHAPTER 760 Nursing and Boarding Care Homes

760.01 DEFINITIONS.

As used in this chapter:

- (a) "Ambulatory" means a person who, without the aid of another, is physically and mentally capable of walking a normal path to safety, including the ascent and descent of stairs.
- (b) "Approved" means acceptable to the State Fire Marshal.
 - (1) "Approved standards" means any standard or code prepared and adopted by any nationally recognized association.
 - (2) "Approved equipment and material" means any equipment or material tested and listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
- (c) "Approved organized fire department" means any municipal corporation, town or village or political subdivision that has adequate fire fighting equipment and manpower subject to the control and approval of the State Fire Marshal.
- (d) "Area of refuge" means a ground area, reasonably accessible from a building of sufficient size and in safe condition for refuge by all building occupants at a safe distance from such building. When used in relation to areas within buildings this term means an area beyond a fire wall or smoke barrier of sufficient size to offer refuge to all occupants on the same floor of the building.
- (e) "Attic" means the space between the ceiling beams of the top habitable story and the roof rafters.
- (f) "Automatic sprinkler system" means an arrangement of piping and sprinklers designed to operate automatically by the heat of fire and to discharge water upon the fire.
- (g) "Basement" means that portion of the building partly underground, but having less than half its clear height below the average grade of the adjoining ground.
- (h) "Bed patient" means a person who is not ambulatory.
- (i) "Boarding care home" means a home licensed to provide care for aged or infirm persons requiring or receiving personal care or custodial care.
- (j) "Cellar" means that portion of the building partly underground, having half or more than half of its clear height below the average grade of the adjoining ground.
- (k) "Combustible" means that which is not within the category of "noncombustible", as defined herein.
- (l) "Exit" means the exit doorway or doorways, or such doorways together with connecting hallways or stairways, either interior or exterior, or fire escapes, designed to provide means by which individuals may proceed safely from a room or space to a street or to an open space which provides safe access to a street.
- (m) "Fire wall" means a wall of brick or reinforced concrete having adequate fire resistance and structural stability under fire conditions to accomplish the purpose of completely subdividing a building or of completely separating adjoining buildings to resist the spread of fire. A fire wall shall extend continuously through all stories from the foundation to or above the roof.

- (n) "Incombustible" means the same as "noncombustible", as defined herein.
- (o) "Means of egress" has the same meaning as "exit", as defined herein.
- (p) "New homes" include new construction, additions to existing licensed homes, existing buildings converted to nursing or boarding care homes and transfers of ownership for which a new license is required.
- (q) "Noncombustible", when used in relation to any material thing, means that which will not readily ignite and burn when subject to fire.
- (r) "Nursing home" means a home licensed to provide care for aged or infirm persons requiring or receiving nursing care.
- (s) "Patient" means any individual cared for in a nursing home, even though such person does not require nursing care.
- (t) "Resident" means any individual cared for in a boarding care home.
- (u) "Smoke barrier" means a partition with a fire-resistance rating of not less than one-half hour, equipped with a door and jamb of the same rating and hung so as to be reasonably smoke and gastight when closed. The door shall be not less than forty-four inches wide and shall not be fastened in an open position by a device which will require more than one movement of normal strength to swing such door to a closed position. Such barrier shall be located to provide ample area of refuge on each side of such partition or barrier for all occupants served by the barrier. The barrier may have wired-glass panels, each not to exceed six square feet. The wire-glass shall be standard clear wire-glass.
- (v) "Sprinklered" means to be completely protected by an approved system of automatic sprinklers installed and maintained in accordance with approved standards.
- (w) "Story" means that part of a building between a floor and the floor or roof next above and applies to the basement and other floor areas below. The first floor shall be that story which is of such height above grade that it does not come within the definition of a basement or shall be that story located immediately above a basement.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.02 SUBMISSION OF PLANS.

Plans and specifications covering the construction of new buildings, additions to existing buildings or alterations to existing buildings shall be submitted to the State Fire Marshal for review and approval with respect to compliance with the fire protection standards. (Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.03 CONSTRUCTION.

Every nursing home or boarding care home hereafter constructed and every addition hereafter made to a nursing home or boarding care home shall comply with State health regulations. (Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.04 USE OF THIRD FLOOR.

The third floor may be used for ambulatory patients and residents if such use of the third floor is approved by the State Fire Marshal after an inspection of the home has been made. (Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.05 USE OF ATTICS, BASEMENTS AND CELLARS.

No patient or resident shall be permitted to sleep in any attic, basement or cellar. (Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.06 OTHER OCCUPANCY.

No nursing home or boarding care home shall contain an occupancy which is not within the immediate control of the management or which is not incident to the operation of the home. (Ord.

45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.07 LOCATION.

New nursing or boarding care homes shall be located in an area which is serviced by an approved organized fire department.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.08 EGRESS FACILITIES REQUIRED.

(a) Exits shall be located remote from each other, providing the best practical means of egress for all patients and residents in the event fire renders one exit impassable.

(b) Each story of every building used as a nursing home or boarding care home shall have at least two means of egress to the outside. Each patient or resident-occupied room shall have at least one doorway opening directly to the outside or to a corridor leading directly or by stairway to the outside, or an opening without a door into one adjacent room which leads to the outside in the same manner.

(c) Means of egress, in addition to the minimum of two required from each story under subsection (b) hereof, shall be required when the maximum possible occupancy exceeds sixty patients and residents. There shall be at least one additional means of egress for each thirty additional patients or residents, located to give adequate passage from all areas, each by separate stairways and/or passages to the outside. Exits shall be of such number and so arranged that it will not be necessary to travel more than 100 feet from the door of a patient-occupied room, and from every point in wards, day rooms, dormitories and dining rooms, to reach the nearest approved means of egress from that story.

(d) Exits shall be so arranged with regard to floors that there are no pockets or dead ends over ten feet in length in which occupants may be trapped.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.09 EGRESS PASSAGEWAYS.

(a) Corridors and passageways from patient or resident-occupied rooms leading to egress stairways and thence to the outside from the first story and to areas of refuge shall be not less than seventy-two inches in width in new buildings or additions to existing buildings, and not less than thirty-six inches in existing buildings, and shall be of such greater width as is necessary for free passage of beds with patients to the outside or to an approved area of refuge.

(b) Corridors and passageways considered as approved means of egress shall be at least eighty-four inches in height.

(c) Access to all interior and outside stairways, to fire escapes and other exits considered as approved means of egress shall be unobstructed and shall not be through a bathroom or kitchen or a room used for any other purpose that may obstruct free passage, nor shall access be veiled from open view by ornamentation, curtains or other appurtenances.

(d) Passageways from inside stairways to the outside shall have the same fire-resistance quality as required of the connecting stairways.

(e) All egress passageways shall at all times provide unobstructed and safe passage to a public street, alley or to a suitable area of refuge.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.10 EXIT SIGNS.

(a) Exit signs or lights are required only when more than twelve persons are housed.

(b) Signs bearing the word "exit" shall be placed at each egress doorway, except at doors of patient or resident-occupied rooms entering upon common use corridors or passageways, and shall be so installed as to be legible from the direction of travel thereto. Where such doorways and signs

are not readily discernible from patient or resident-occupied room doorways, an adequate number of additional signs shall be provided bearing the term "exit" with an arrow pointing in the direction of such exit.

(c) Exit signs shall bear letters at least four and one-half inches in height with strokes not less than three-fourths of an inch in width.

(d) All exit and directional signs shall be maintained clearly legible by electric illumination or other adequate means when natural light fails.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.11 ILLUMINATION OF EXIT PASSAGES.

Adequate facilities shall be provided for the lighting of all corridors, stairways and egress passages at all times.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.12 STORAGE OF GASES.

(a) Storage rooms for combustible anesthetics shall be constructed of an assembly of building materials with a minimum fire-resistant rating of one hour, and shall not communicate directly with an operating, delivery, anesthesia or furnace room, or any room containing an open flame or spark-producing device.

(b) Oxygen and nitrous oxide shall not be stored in the same room with any combustible anesthetic agent such as cyclopropane, divinyl ether, ethyl chloride, ethyl ether, ethylene, vinethlene or vinyl ether.

(c) Provision shall be made for racks or fastening to protect cylinders from accidental damage or dislocation.

(d) No open flame, smoking or spark-producing device shall be permitted within a room in which combustible anesthetics or compressed oxygen is used or stored.

(e) All rooms in which combustible anesthetics are stored shall be individually ventilated to the exterior.

(f) Oxygen and nitrous oxide of a total capacity in excess of 1500 cubic feet, when located within the building shall be enclosed in a separate rooms or enclosure within a room with a minimum fire-resistant rating of at least one hour. The manifold enclosure shall be individually vented to the outside.

(g) Oxygen and nitrous oxide of a total capacity of less than 1500 cubic feet shall be stored in rooms or in an enclosure within a room. The rooms or enclosures do not have to be vented to the outside but the doors to such rooms or enclosures shall be provided with louvers at the top and bottom.

(h) Rooms or enclosures for combustible or nonflammable gases shall not be used for storage purposes other than for the cylinders containing the gases. Storage of empty cylinders pending their removal is permissible.

(i) Electrical wall fixtures in oxygen and nitrous oxide storage rooms shall be installed in fixed locations not less than five feet above the floor to avoid physical damage.

(j) In storage locations for combustible anesthetics the electrical wiring and equipment shall comply with the explosion-proof requirements of the 1968 edition of the National Electrical Code.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.13 FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS, STORAGE AND USE.

(a) Flammable liquids shall be stored in suitable buildings, rooms or compartments used for no other purpose and shall be constructed of building materials having a minimum fire-resistant rating of one hour.

(b) Flammable liquids shall be stored in and used from approved metal safety cans or containers.

(c) Benzine, benzol, gasoline, naphtha and their compounds shall not be stored in any basement, cellar or pit.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.14 FIRE EXTINGUISHING EQUIPMENT REQUIRED.

(a) All nursing or boarding care homes shall be provided with approved fire extinguishers for each 2500 square feet of floor area or fractional part thereof, adequate for the conditions involved and suitably located.

(b) All rooms and enclosures containing heating and cooking appliances shall be provided with approved fire extinguishing equipment. Such fire extinguishers shall not be placed in close proximity to fire units or in any other position affecting their availability in the event of a fire.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.15 FIRE HOSE AND STANDPIPES.

(a) Fire hose and standpipes shall be required on all new construction over two stories high. All fire hose couplings shall conform to the size, thread and pattern adapted to the standpipe installed.

(b) The number of standpipes shall be such that all parts of every floor area can be reached within thirty feet by a nozzle attached to 100 feet of hose connected to a standpipe.

(c) Standpipes shall be so located that they are protected against mechanical and fire damage with outlets within stairway enclosures as near the stairway as possible or outside or immediately inside of the exterior walls within one foot of a fire tower or exterior stairway or fire escape.

(d) Standpipes shall be installed in accordance with approved standards and maintained in readiness for use at all times.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.16 SPRINKLERS REQUIRED.

(a) Nursing homes or boarding care homes which are occupied by bed patients or by ambulatory patients and residents shall be protected throughout, including stairways, closets, basements, cellars, attics, storage rooms and chutes, by a system of automatic sprinklers installed and maintained in accordance with approved standards.

(b) Water-flow alarms shall be provided on all sprinkler installations. Central station water-flow alarm service is desirable but central station water-flow alarm service does not necessarily waive the local alarm requirement.

(c) When a sprinkler system is installed plans shall be submitted to the State Fire Marshal for approval before installation is made.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.17 HAZARDOUS OCCUPANCIES.

No motor vehicle or other device which may cause or communicate fire, which vehicle or device is not necessary for patient or resident treatment or care, shall be stored within a nursing home or boarding care home. All such devices and materials necessary for use within the building shall be used with reasonable care for safety from fire and shall be used by trained personnel. (Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.18 LOCATION NEAR FLAMMABLE LIQUID STORAGE TANKS.

No nursing home or boarding care home shall be located within eighty-five feet of underground or 300 feet of aboveground storage tanks containing flammable liquids used in connection with a service station, garage, bulk plant or marine terminal or bottling plant of a liquefied petroleum gas installation.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.19 ATTENDANTS.

- (a) There shall be an attendant or attendants on duty or on call at all times.
- (b) The number of attendants required shall be sufficient to perform the duties required under the evacuation plan.
- (c) Attendants as required herein shall be at least eighteen years of age and capable of performing the required duties of evacuation. No person other than the management or an employee of the management shall be considered as an attendant.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.20 EVACUATION PLAN.

- (a) Each nursing or boarding care home shall formulate and post a plan for the protection of all patients and residents in the event of fire and for their evacuation to areas of refuge or from the building when necessary. All employees shall be instructed and kept informed regarding their duties under the evacuation plan.
- (b) On request, the State Fire Marshal will arrange for instruction in fire equipment and evacuation of patients and residents.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.21 SMOKING. (REPEALED)

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Former Section 760.21 was repealed by Ordinance 28-07, passed March 13, 2007.)

760.22 HOUSEKEEPING.

The entire premises shall be kept clean and in a tidy condition, free from accumulation of combustible debris or other waste material.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

760.23 ELECTRICAL WIRING.

All electrical wiring, appliances, fixtures and equipment shall be installed to comply with the Ohio Building Code and the 1984 edition of the National Electrical Code.

760.24 FIRE PROTECTION.

Fire protection shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of the State Fire Marshal's Department. Approval by the State Fire Marshal of the fire protection for a nursing or boarding care home shall be a prerequisite for licensing.

(Ord. 45-64. Passed 10-15-64.)

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- adopted by any nationally recognized association
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