

Summary of Modifications/Changes in this Update

This Summary of Changes is for information only.
It is not a part of the referenced document, and should not be used for project documentation.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS VERSION:

November 1, 2023

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

Fire Protection Design Manual, Ninth Edition

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

June 1, 2021

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

Fire Protection Design Manual, Eighth Edition

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. Clarified separation requirements when constructing walkways and tunnels between buildings.
2. Clarified fire protection requirements for telecommunications rooms (closets) in buildings that are not sprinkler protected.
3. Modified requirements for the requirement for large jockey pumps.
4. Clarified that standard response fusible link sprinklers are to be provided in electrical rooms.
5. Updated requirements for elevator fire protection.

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DATE OF THIS VERSION:

June 1, 2021

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Fire Protection Design Manual 8th Edition

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

December 1, 2015

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Fire Protection Design Manual 7th Edition

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. Established the Assistant Under Secretary for Health for Support Services (19) as the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) replacing the Deputy Under Secretary for Operations for Health for Operations and Management (10N).
2. Modified requirements for sprayed fire-resistant materials including eliminating the use of mineral fiber type and low density cementitious materials.
3. Updated fire protection criteria for parking garages.
4. Updated and clarified the fire protection criteria for buildings that are designed to the (VAHBS) VA Hospital Building System (Interstitial space design).
5. Updated criteria for elevated pedestrian walkways.
6. Removed criteria for underground piping materials and referenced the requirements in the VA Site Design Manual.
7. Clarified separation distance requirements for fire protection for structures near healthcare or ambulatory healthcare facilities.
8. Added requirements for residential cooking stovetops in non-sprinkler protected buildings.
9. Updated requirements for computer room fire protection including fire extinguisher requirements for IT spaces.

10. Added fire protection provisions for animal research facilities (vivariums).
11. Updated fire sprinkler and fire alarm requirements including some wiring requirements for survivability.
12. Updated requirements for elevator fire protection and allowing the permission granted by NFPA 13 for omitting sprinklers from elevator machine rooms in special circumstances.

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DATE OF THIS VERSION:

December 1, 2015

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Fire Protection Design Manual 7th Edition

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

September 1, 2011

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Fire Protection Design Manual 6th Edition

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. Updated and clarified the fire protection criteria for buildings that are designed to the (VAHBS) VA Hospital Building System (Interstitial space design).
2. Deleted health care laboratory requirements that referenced NFPA 99. All laboratories are now required to follow the requirements of NFPA 45.
3. Clarified sprinkler permissions and requirements for Magnetic Resonance Imaging Centers (MRIs) and Data Centers.
4. Added clean agent gaseous fire extinguishing criteria for the protection of data centers.
5. Clarified portable fire extinguisher cabinet criteria.
6. Modified the fire alarm system requirements for ambulatory health care occupancies to more closely resemble the requirements for the defend in place criteria of health care occupancies.
7. Deleted the reference to the interface between the smoke detector in the elevator hoistway and the elevator hoistway ventilation damper since the requirement to ventilate the elevator hoistway was eliminated from the IBC.
8. Added carbon monoxide criteria including requirements for VHA quarters that were previously identified in VHA Directive 2008-074, which was rescinded.