

City Code, Chapter 11: THE MINNESOTA UNIFORM FIRE CODE

CHAPTER 11
THE MINNESOTA UNIFORM FIRE CODE

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**CHAPTER 11**  
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**ARTICLE I**  
**ADOPTION OF MINNESOTA**  
**UNIFORM FIRE CODE**

It is hereby adopted by the City of Columbus, Anoka County, Minnesota, for the purpose of prescribing regulations governing conditions hazardous to life and property from fire or explosion, that certain Code known as the Minnesota Uniform Fire Code. For the purposes of this City Code, "The Minnesota Uniform Fire Code" is that set of regulations adopted pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 299F.011, as amended, cited as Minn. Rules, Chapter 7511, as amended. One copy of Minn. Rules, Chapter 7511 have been and now are filed in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Columbus, Anoka County, Minnesota, hereinafter referred to together as the "Minnesota Uniform Fire Code", and the same are hereby adopted and incorporated as fully as if set forth at length herein, and the provisions thereof shall be controlling within the limits of the City of Columbus, Anoka County, Minnesota.

*[CHAPTER 11, ARTICLE I, amended by Ord. No. 89-17, effective December 8, 1989, amended by Ord. No. 92-2, effective April 17, 1992, amended by Ord. No. 07-02, effective March 1, 2007, amended by Ord. No. 09-02, effective March 5, 2009.]*

**ARTICLE II**  
**ENFORCEMENT**

**SECTION 11-200.** The chief of the fire department serving the City of Columbus, or his representative authorized by him, shall enforce the provisions of this ordinance.

*[§ 11-200 amended by Ord. No 07-02, effective March 1, 2007.]*

**SECTION 11-201.** The chief of the fire department may detail such members of the fire department as inspectors and shall from time to time be necessary. The chief of the fire department may recommend the employment of technical inspectors, who, when such authorization is made, shall be selected through an examination to determine their fitness for the position. The examination shall be open to members and nonmembers of the fire department, and appointments made after examination shall be for an indefinite term with removal only for cause.

**SECTION 11-202. ABATEMENT.** Upon notification from the fire department of an uncorrected violation of the Uniform Fire Code, the City Council may, in addition to any other lawful remedies, order that the violation be abated. Any action by the City to abate said violation shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 16C of this City Code.

*[CHAPTER 11, ARTICLE II, Section 11-202 added by Ord. No. 86-4, effective June 27, 1986, amended by Ord. No. 07-02, effective March 1, 2007..]*

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**ARTICLE III**  
**DEFINITIONS**

**SECTION 11-300.** Wherever the word “jurisdiction” is used in the Minnesota Uniform Fire Code, it shall be held to mean the City of Columbus.

*[§ 11-300 amended by Ord. No. 07-02, effective March 1, 2007.]*

**SECTION 11-301.** Wherever the term “corporation counsel” is used in the Minnesota Uniform Fire Code, it shall be held to mean the attorney for the City of Columbus.

*[§ 11-301 amended by Ord. No. 07-02, effective March 1, 2007.]*

**ARTICLE IV**  
**ESTABLISHMENT OF LIMITS OF DISTRICTS IN WHICH STORAGE OF FLAMMABLE  
OR COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS IN OUTSIDE ABOVEGROUND TANKS IS TO BE  
PROHIBITED**

**SECTION 11-400.** The limits referred to in Minnesota Uniform Fire Code in which storage of flammable or combustible liquids in outside aboveground tanks is prohibited, are hereby established as follows: Platted residential developments with lot size of one acre and under.

**SECTION 11-401.** The limits referred to in the Minnesota Uniform Fire Code, in which new bulk plants for flammable or combustible liquids are prohibited, are hereby established as follows: All residential districts.

**ARTICLE V**  
**ESTABLISHMENT OF LIMITS IN WHICH BULK STORAGE OF LIQUIFIED PETROLEUM  
GASES IS TO BE RESTRICTED**

**SECTION 11-500. LIMITS.** The limits referred to in the Minnesota Uniform Fire Code, in which bulk storage of liquified petroleum gas is restricted, are hereby established as follows: All Residential Districts.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**ESTABLISHMENT OF LIMITS OF DISTRICTS IN WHICH STORAGE OF EXPLOSIVES  
AND BLASTING AGENTS IS TO BE PROHIBITED**

**SECTION 11-600. LIMITS.** The limits referred to in the Minnesota Uniform Fire Code, in which storage of explosives and blasting agents is prohibited, are hereby established as follows: All Residential Districts.

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**ARTICLE VII**  
**APPEALS**

**SECTION 11-700. APPEALS.** Whenever the chief shall disapprove an application or refuse to grant a permit applied for, or when it is claimed that the provisions of the Code do not apply or that the true intent and meaning of the Code have been misconstrued or wrongly interpreted, the applicant may appeal from the decision of the chief to the Columbus City Council within thirty (30) days from the date of the decisions appealed.

*[§ 11-700 amended by Ord. No. 07-02, effective March 1, 2007.]*

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**NEW MATERIALS, PROCESSES OR OCCUPANCIES WHICH MAY REQUIRE PERMITS**

**SECTION 11-800. HEARING PROCESS.** The City Council, Building Inspector and Chief shall act as a committee to determine and specify, after giving affected persons an opportunity to be heard, any new materials, processes, or occupancies which shall require permits, in addition to those now enumerated in said Code. The chief shall post such list in a conspicuous place in his office, and distribute copies thereof to interested persons.

*[§ 11-800 amended by Ord. No. 07-02, effective March 1, 2007.]*

**ARTICLE IX**  
**PENALTIES**

**SECTION 11-900.** Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this Code hereby adopted or fail to comply therewith, or who shall violate or fail to comply with any order made thereunder, or who shall build in violation of any detailed statement of specifications or plans submitted and approved thereunder, or any certificate or permit issued thereunder, and from which no appeal has been taken, or who shall fail to comply with such an order as affirmed or modified by the Columbus City Council or by a court of competent jurisdiction, within the time fixed herein, shall severally for each and every such violation and noncompliance, respectively, be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine or imprisonment in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 1, Section 1-109 of this City Code. 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 violation or defects within a reasonable time; and when not otherwise specified, each day that prohibited conditions are maintained shall constitute a separate offense.

*[CHAPTER 11, ARTICLE IX, Section 11-900 amended by Ord. No. 86-3, effective February 21, 1986, Section 11-900 amended by Ord. No. 92-2, effective April 17, 1992, amended by Ord. No. 07-02, effective March 1, 2007.]*

**SECTION 11-901.** The application of the above penalty shall not be held to prevent the enforced removal of prohibited conditions.

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**ARTICLE X**  
**REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES**

All former ordinances or parts thereof which conflict with the Code are hereby repealed.

*[CHAPTER 11, ARTICLES 1 - X, amended by Ord. No. 83-6, effective January 6, 1984.]*

**ARTICLE XI**  
**REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS FOR PLACEMENT OF STREET ADDRESS NUMBERS**

**SECTION 11-1101. NUMBERS REQUIRED.** All houses, dwelling units, commercial buildings, industrial buildings, and any other building serving as the principal structure shall have street address numbers placed in compliance with this Article.

**SECTION 11-1102. PERSONS RESPONSIBLE.** It shall be the duty of the owner, lessee, occupant, or person-in-possession of every house, commercial building, industrial building, and any other building serving as the principal structure to place street address numbers in compliance with this Article.

**SECTION 11-1110. VISIBLE NUMBERS.**

- A. Numbers shall be visible at all times and easily seen from the street or road.
- B. Numbers shall be constructed of metal, glass, plastic, or other equivalent durable material.
- C. For daytime visibility, numbers shall be in a color which contrasts with the base or background color.
- D. For nighttime visibility, numbers shall be lighted or composed of some reflective material.

**SECTION 11-1111. PLACEMENT OF NUMBERS.**

- A. Numbers, a minimum of four (4) inches in height, may be placed on the house or garage (not on the garage door) or on the business building or on the principal structure only if the numbers are clearly readable from the street or road.
- B. If the house, business building, or principal structure is secluded or concealed from the street or road, then the numbers, a minimum of three (3) inches in height, shall be placed on a post or other structure at a minimum height four (4) feet above ground in front of the house or business building or principal structure in such a manner as to be clearly readable from the street or road. For the purposes of this paragraph, the roadside mailbox may be used as the "post or other structure" for the placement of the street address numbers if the following requirements are met:
  - 1. The mailbox must be located on the same side of the road as the house or principal structure; and
  - 2. The mailbox must be located in front of the house or principal structure which it serves.

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**SECTION 11-1120. INSPECTION.** It shall be the responsibility of the City Council to periodically inspect the City for compliance with this Article and to advise owners and occupants of any noncompliance. The City Council may designate someone as the inspector for the purposes of this Article.

*[§ 11-1120 amended by Ord. No. 07-02, effective date of March 1, 2007.]*

**SECTION 11-1130. PENALTY.** Since this Article has been adopted solely to provide a uniform system for the placement of street address numbers in order to permit emergency services to find Columbus locations, the penalty for any person's failure to comply with this Article is self-evident.

*[CHAPTER 11, ARTICLE XI, amended by Ord. No. 84-2, February 17, 1984.]*



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*History of ordinances affecting the text of Chapter 11 (since codification on August 26, 1981):*

*Ord. No. 83-6, effective January 6, 1984.*

*Ord. No. 84-2, effective February 17, 1984.*

*Ord. No. 86-3, effective February 21, 1986.*

*Ord. No. 86-4, effective June 27, 1986.*

*Ord. No. 89-17, effective December 8, 1989.*

*Ord. No. 92-2, effective April 17, 1992.*

*Ord. No. 07-02, effective March 1, 2007.*

*Ord. No. 09-02, effective March 5, 2009.*

*This Chapter has been updated through the date of the latest ordinance listed above.*

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