

**CO 5524**

**GENERAL FILE NO. 3268.1**

**CALENDAR NO. 6**

**SESSIONS 2023**

**"AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BRADFORD, ADOPTING THE 2012 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE WITH MODIFICATIONS, REGULATING AND GOVERNING THE CONDITIONS AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL PROPERTY, BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES; BY PROVIDING THE STANDARDS FOR SUPPLIED UTILITIES AND FACILITIES AND OTHER PHYSICAL THINGS AND CONDITIONS ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE THAT STRUCTURES ARE SAFE, SANITARY AND FIT FOR OCCUPATION AND USE; AND THE CONDEMNATION OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES INCLUDING THE ABATEMENT OF PUBLIC NUISANCES; FURTHER PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS, OTHER DOCUMENTS AND COLLECTION OF FEES THEREFOR; REPEALING CERTAIN ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BRADFORD AND ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF LAWS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH".**

The City Council of the City of Bradford does ordain as follows:

**Section 1.** That a certain document, three (3) copies of which are on file in the office of the City Administrator of the City of Bradford, being marked and designated as the International Property Maintenance Code, 2012 edition as amended by the City of Bradford is hereby adopted as the Property Maintenance Code of the City of Bradford, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for regulating and governing the conditions and maintenance of all property, buildings and structures; by providing the standards for supplied utilities and facilities and other physical things and conditions essential to ensure that structures are safe, sanitary and fit for occupation and use; and the condemnation of buildings and structures unfit for human occupancy and use, and the demolition of such existing structures as herein provided: providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefor; and each and all of the regulations, provisions, penalties, conditions and terms of said Property Maintenance Code on file in the office of the City of Bradford are hereby referred to, adopted, and made a part hereof, as if fully set out in this legislation, with the additions, insertions, deletions and changes, if any, prescribed in Section 2 of this ordinance.

**Section 2.** The following ordinances are hereby repealed by the enactment of this ordinance, as the provisions thereof are contained in this new ordinance:

Ordinance 3254	IPMC Ordinance
Chapter 77	Brush and Weeds (Chapter 302.4)
Chapter 82	Dangerous Buildings (Chapter 108)
Chapter 163	Property Maintenance (Replaced in entirety by this Ordinance)
Chapter 205	Vector Control (Chapter 309)
Chapter 207	Vehicles and Machinery, Storage of (Chapter 302.7-302.13)

**Section 3.** That if any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this legislation is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council of the City of Bradford hereby declares that it would have passed this law, and each section, subsection, clause or phrase thereto: irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases be declared unconstitutional.

**Section 4.** That nothing in the Property Maintenance Code hereby adopted shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding impending in any court, or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under any act or ordinance hereby repealed as cited in Section 3 of this law: nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this legislation.

**Section 5.** That the City Administrator is hereby ordered and directed to cause this legislation to be published in a newspaper in general circulation. (Posting may also be required.)

**Section 6.** That this law and the rules, regulations, provisions, requirements, orders and matters established and adopted hereby shall take effect and be in full force and effect sixty (60) days from and after the date of its final passage and adoption.

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# CHAPTER! SCOPE AND APPLICATION

## SECTION 101 GENERAL

**101.1 Title.** These regulations shall be known as the Property Maintenance Code of the City of Bradford, Pennsylvania, hereinafter referred to as "this code."

**101.2 Scope.** The provisions of this code shall apply to all existing residential and nonresidential structures and all existing premises and constitute minimum requirements and standards for premises, structures, equipment and facilities for light, ventilation, space, heating, sanitation, protection from the elements, life safety, safety from fire and other hazards, and for safe and sanitary maintenance; the responsibility of owners, operators and occupants; the occupancy of existing structures and premises, and for administration, enforcement and penalties.

**101.3 Intent.** This code shall be construed to secure its expressed intent, which is to ensure public health, safety, and welfare insofar as they are affected by the continued occupancy and maintenance of structures and premises. Existing structures and premises that do not comply with these provisions shall be altered or repaired to provide a minimum level of health and safety as required herein.

**101.4 Stricter provisions to apply.** In all matters that are regulated by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or by regulations of departments or agencies of the Commonwealth promulgated by authority of law, such laws and regulations as the case may be, shall control where the requirements thereof are the same or stricter than the provisions of this article. In addition, where there are locally adopted codes, ordinances and laws that are applicable and are stricter than the provisions of this code or the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, those codes and ordinances and laws, which are more strict, having been legally adopted, shall apply and be enforced.

**101.5 Severability.** If a section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this code is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this code.

## SECTION 102 APPLICABILITY

**102.1 General.** Where there is a conflict between a general requirement and a specific requirement, the specific requirement shall govern. Where differences occur between provisions of this code and the referenced standards, the provisions of this code shall apply. Where, in a specific case, different sections of this code specify different requirements, the most restrictive shall govern.

**102.2 Maintenance.** Equipment, systems, devices, and safeguards required by this code or a previous regulation or code under which the structure or premises was constructed, altered or repaired shall be maintained in good working order. No owner, operator or occupant shall cause any service, facility, equipment, or utility which is required under this section to be removed from or shut off from or discontinued for any occupied dwelling, except for such temporary interruption as necessary while repairs or alterations are in progress. The requirements of this code are not intended to provide the basis for removal or abrogation of fire protection and safety systems and devices in existing structures. Except as otherwise specified herein, the owner or the owner's designated agent shall be responsible for the maintenance of buildings, structures, and premises.

**102.3 Application of other codes.** Repairs, additions or alterations to a structure, or changes of occupancy, shall be done in accordance with the procedures and provisions of the International Building Code, International Energy Conservation Code, International Fire Code, International

Fuel Gas Code, International Mechanical Code, International Residential Code, and International Plumbing Code and NFPA 70. Nothing in this code shall be construed to cancel, modify or set aside any provision of the International Zoning Code.

**102.4 Existing remedies.** The provisions in this code shall not be construed to abolish or impair existing remedies of the jurisdiction or its officers or agencies relating to the removal or demolition of any structure which is dangerous, unsafe and insanitary.

**102.5 Workmanship.** Repairs, maintenance work, alterations or installations which are caused directly or indirectly by the enforcement of this code shall be executed and installed in a workmanlike manner and installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

**102.6 Historic buildings.** The provisions of this code shall not be mandatory for existing buildings or structures designated as historic buildings when such buildings or structures are judged by the code official to be safe and in the public interest of health, safety and welfare. A building shall be considered historic for the purposes of this provision if such building is individually listed on the State or National Register of Historic Places and/or is a contributing resource in a designated National Register Historic District or locally designated historic district.

**102.7 Referenced codes and standards.** The codes and standards referenced in this code shall be those that are listed in Chapter 8 and considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference and as further regulated in Sections 102.7.1 and 102.7.2. Exception: Where enforcement of a code provision would violate the conditions of the listing of the equipment or appliance, the conditions of the listing shall apply.

**102.7.1 Conflicts.** Where conflicts occur between provisions of this code and the referenced standards, the provisions of this code shall apply.

**102.7.2 Provisions in referenced codes and standards.** Where the extent of the reference to a referenced code or standard includes subject matter that is within the scope of this code, the provisions of this code, as applicable, shall take precedence over the provisions in the referenced code or standard.

**102.8 Requirements not covered by code.** Requirements necessary for the strength, stability or proper operation of an existing fixture, structure, or equipment, or for the public safety, health and general welfare, not specifically covered by this code, shall be determined by the code official.

**102.9 Application of references.** References to chapter or section numbers, or to provisions not specifically identified by number, shall be construed to refer to such chapter, section, or provision of this code.

**102.10 Other laws.** The provisions of this code shall not be deemed to nullify any provisions of local, state, or federal law.

## PART2-ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

### SECTION 103

#### DEPARTMENT OF PROPERTY MAINTENANCE INSPECTION

**103.1 General.** The Department of Property Maintenance Inspection is hereby created and the executive official in charge thereof shall be known as the Director of the Department of Property Maintenance Inspection (hereinafter referred to as "Director"). The Director shall report to the City Council.

**103.2 Appointment.** The Director who shall be the chief code official and all other code officials who report to the Director shall be appointed by the City Council.

**103.3 Liability.** The code official, member of the board of appeals or employee charged with the enforcement of this code, while acting for the jurisdiction, in good faith and without malice in the discharge of the duties required by this code or other pertinent law or ordinance, shall not thereby be rendered liable personally, and is hereby relieved from all personal liability for any damage accruing to persons or property as a result of an act or by reason of an act or omission in the discharge of official duties. Any suit instituted against any officer or employee because of an act performed by that officer or employee in the lawful discharge of duties and under the provisions of this code shall be defended by the legal representative of the jurisdiction until the final termination of the proceedings. The code official or any subordinate shall not be liable for costs in an action, suit or proceeding that is instituted in pursuance of the provisions of this code.

**103.4 Fees.** The fees for activities and services performed by the department in carrying out its responsibilities under this code shall be established and as amended from time to time, by resolution of the City Council.

### SECTION 104

#### DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE CODE OFFICIAL

**104.1 General.** The code official is hereby authorized and directed to enforce the provisions of this code. The code official shall have the authority to render interpretations of this code and to adopt policies and procedures in order to clarify the application of its provisions. Such interpretations, policies and procedures shall be in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code. Such policies and procedures shall not have the effect of waiving requirements specifically provided for in this code.

**104.2 Inspections.** The code official shall make all of the required inspections, or shall accept reports of inspection by approved agencies or individuals. All reports of such inspections shall be in writing and be certified by a responsible officer of such approved agency or by the responsible individual. The code official is authorized to engage such expert opinion as deemed necessary to report upon unusual technical issues that arise, subject to the approval of the appointing authority.

**104.3 Right of entry.** Where it is necessary to make an inspection to enforce the provisions of this code, or whenever the code official has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in a structure or upon a premises a condition in violation of this code, the code official is authorized to enter the structure or premises at reasonable times to inspect or perform the duties imposed by this code, provided that if such structure or premises is occupied the code official shall present credentials to the occupant and request entry. If such structure or premises is unoccupied, the code official shall first make a reasonable effort to locate the owner or other person having charge or control of the structure or premises and request entry. If entry is refused, the code official shall have recourse to the remedies provided by law to secure entry.

**104.4 Identification.** The code official shall carry proper identification when inspecting structures or premises in the performance of duties under this code.

**104.5 Notices and orders.** The code official shall issue all necessary notices or orders to ensure compliance with this code.

**104.6 Department records.** The code official shall keep official records of all business and activities of the Department specified in the provisions of this code. Such records shall be retained in the official records for the period required for retention of public records.

## **SECTION 105 APPROVAL**

**105.1 Modifications.** Whenever there are practical difficulties involved in carrying out the provisions of this code, the Director shall have the authority to grant modifications for individual cases upon application of the owner or owner's representative, provided the Director shall first find that special individual reason makes the strict letter of this code impractical and the modification is in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code and that such modification does not lessen health, life and fire safety requirements. The details of action granting modifications shall be recorded and entered in the Department files.

**105.2 Alternative materials, methods and equipment.** The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been approved. An alternative material or method of construction shall be approved where the code official finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire-resistance, durability and safety.

**105.3 Required testing.** Whenever there is insufficient evidence of compliance with the provisions of this code, or evidence that a material or method does not conform to the requirements of this code, or in order to substantiate claims for alternative materials or methods, the code official shall have the authority to require tests to be made as evidence of compliance at no expense to the jurisdiction.

**105.3.1 Test methods.** Test methods shall be as specified in this code or by other recognized test standards. In the absence of recognized and accepted test methods, the code official shall be permitted to approve appropriate testing procedures performed by an approved agency.

**105.3.2 Test reports.** Reports of tests shall be retained by the code official for the period required for retention of public records.

**105.4 Used material and equipment.** The use of used materials which meet the requirements of this code for new materials is permitted. Materials, equipment and devices shall not be reused unless such elements are in good repair or have been reconditioned and tested when necessary, placed in good and proper working condition and approved by the code official.

**105.5 Approved materials and equipment.** Materials, equipment and devices approved by the code official shall be constructed and installed in accordance with such approval.

**105.6 Research reports.** Supporting data, where necessary to assist in the approval of materials or assemblies not specifically provided for in this code, shall consist of valid research reports from approved sources.



## **SECTION 106 VIOLATIONS**

**106.1 Unlawful acts.** It shall be unlawful for a person, firm or corporation to be in conflict with or in violation of any of the provisions of this code.

**106.2 Notice of violation.** The code official shall serve a notice of violation or order in accordance with Section 107.

**106.3 Prosecution of violation.** Any person failing to comply with a notice of violation or order served in accordance with Section 107 shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor or civil infraction as determined by the local municipality, and the violation shall be deemed a strict liability offense. If the notice of violation is not complied with, the code official shall institute the appropriate proceeding at law or in equity to restrain, correct or abate such violation, or to require the removal or termination of the unlawful occupancy of the structure in violation of the provisions of this code or of the order or direction made pursuant thereto. Any action taken by the authority having jurisdiction on such premises shall be charged against the real estate upon which the structure is located and shall be a lien upon such real estate.

**106.4 Violation penalties.** Any person who shall violate a provision of this code, or fail to comply therewith, or with any of the requirements thereof, shall upon the first conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine not less than \$300 nor more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for a term not to exceed ninety (90) days, or both; upon the second conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$600 nor more than \$1,000 or to undergo imprisonment for a term not to exceed ninety (90) days, or both; upon the third or subsequent conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine not less than \$1,000 or imprisonment for a term not to exceed 90 days, or both . Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.

**106.5 Abatement of violation.** The imposition of the penalties herein prescribed shall not preclude the legal officer of the jurisdiction from instituting appropriate action to restrain, correct or abate a violation, or to prevent illegal occupancy of a building, structure or premises, or to stop an illegal act, conduct, business or utilization of the building, structure or premises.

## **SECTION 107 NOTICES AND ORDERS**

**107.1 Notice to person responsible.** Whenever the code official determines that there has been a violation of this code or has grounds to believe that a violation has occurred, notice shall be given in the manner prescribed in Sections 107.2 and 107.3 to the person responsible for the violation as specified in this code. Notices for condemnation procedures shall also comply with Section 108.3.

**107.2 Form.** Such notice prescribed in Section 107.1 shall be in accordance with all of the following:

1. Be in writing.
2. Include a description of the real estate sufficient for identification.
3. Include a statement of the violation or violations and why the notice is being issued.
4. Include a correction order allowing a reasonable time to make the repairs and improvements required to bring the dwelling unit or structure into compliance with the provisions of this code.
5. Inform the property owner of the right to appeal.
6. Include a statement of the right to file a lien in accordance with Section 106.3.

**107.3 Method of service.** Such notice shall be deemed to be properly served if a copy thereof is:

1. Delivered personally;
2. Sent by certified or first-class mail addressed to the last known address; or
3. If the notice is returned showing that the letter was not delivered, a copy thereof shall be posted in a conspicuous place in or about the structure affected by such notice.

**107.4 Unauthorized tampering.** Signs, tags or seals posted or affixed by the code official shall not be mutilated, destroyed or tampered with, or removed without authorization from the code official.

**107.5 Penalties.** Penalties for noncompliance with orders and notices shall be as set forth in Section 106.4.

**107.6 Transfer of ownership.** It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dwelling unit or structure who has received a compliance order or upon whom a notice of violation has been served to sell, transfer, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of such dwelling unit or structure to another until the provisions of the compliance order or notice of violation have been complied with, or until such owner shall first furnish the grantee, transferee, mortgagee or lessee a true copy of any compliance order or notice of violation issued by the code official and shall furnish to the code official a signed and notarized statement from the grantee, transferee, mortgagee or lessee, acknowledging the receipt of such compliance order or notice of violation and fully accepting the responsibility without condition for making the corrections or repairs required by such compliance order or notice of violation.

## **SECTION 108 UNSAFE STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT**

**108.1 General.** When a structure or equipment is found by the code official to be unsafe, or when a structure is found unfit for human occupancy, or is found unlawful, such structure shall be condemned pursuant to the provisions of this code, any other ordinances of the City and Pennsylvania law.

**108.1.1 Unsafe structures.** An unsafe structure is one that is found to be dangerous to the life, health, property or safety of the public or the occupants of the structure by not providing minimum safeguards to protect or warn occupants in the event of fire, or because such structure contains unsafe equipment or is so damaged, decayed, dilapidated, structurally unsafe or of such faulty construction or unstable foundation, that partial or complete collapse is possible.

**108.1.2 Unsafe equipment.** Unsafe equipment includes any boiler, heating equipment, elevator, moving stairway, electrical wiring or device, flammable liquid containers or other equipment on the premises or within the structure which is in such disrepair or condition that such equipment is a hazard to life, health, property or safety of the public or occupants of the premises or structure.

**108.1.3 Structure unfit for human occupancy.** A structure is unfit for human occupancy whenever the code official finds that such structure is unsafe, unlawful or, because of the degree to which the structure is in disrepair or lacks maintenance, is insanitary, vermin or rat infested, contains filth and contamination, or lacks ventilation, illumination, sanitary or heating facilities or other essential equipment required by this code, or because the location of the structure constitutes a hazard to the occupants of the structure or to the public.

**108.1.4 Unlawful structure.** An unlawful structure is one found in whole or in part to be occupied by more persons than permitted under this code, or was erected, altered or occupied contrary to law.

**108.1.5 Dangerous structure or premises.** For the purpose of this code, any structure or premises that have any or all of the conditions or defects described below shall be considered dangerous:

1. Any door, aisle, passageway, stairway, exit or other means of egress that does not conform to the approved building or fire code of the jurisdiction as related to the requirements for existing buildings.
2. The walking surface of any aisle, passageway, stairway, exit or other means of egress is so warped, worn loose, torn or otherwise unsafe as to not provide safe and adequate means of egress.
3. Any portion of a building, structure or appurtenance that has been damaged by fire, earthquake, wind, flood, deterioration, neglect, abandonment, vandalism or by any other cause to such an extent that it is likely to partially or completely collapse, or to become detached or dislodged.
4. Any portion of a building, or any member, appurtenance or ornamentation on the exterior thereof that is not of sufficient strength or stability, or is not so anchored, attached or fastened in place so as to be capable of resisting natural or artificial loads of one and one-half the original designed value.
5. The building or structure, or part of the building or structure, because of dilapidation, deterioration, decay, faulty construction, the removal or movement of some portion of the ground necessary for the support, or for any other reason, is likely to partially or completely collapse, or some portion of the foundation or underpinning of the building or structure is likely to fall or give way.
6. The building or structure, or any portion thereof, is clearly unsafe for its use and occupancy.
7. The building or structure is neglected, damaged, dilapidated, unsecured or abandoned so as to become an attractive nuisance to children who might play in the building or structure to their danger, becomes a harbor for vagrants, criminals or immoral persons, or enables persons to resort to the building or structure for committing a nuisance or an unlawful act.
8. Any building or structure has been constructed, exists or is maintained in violation of any specific requirement or prohibition applicable to such building or structure provided by the approved building or fire code of the jurisdiction, or of any law or ordinance to such an extent as to present either a substantial risk of fire, building collapse or any other threat to life and safety.
9. A building or structure, used or intended to be used for dwelling purposes, because of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, decay, damage, faulty construction or arrangement, inadequate light, ventilation, mechanical or plumbing system, or otherwise is determined by the code official to be unsanitary, unfit for human habitation or in such a condition that is likely to cause sickness or disease.
10. Any building or structure, because of a lack of sufficient or proper fire-resistance-rated construction, fire protection systems, electrical system, fuel connections, mechanical system, plumbing system or other cause, is determined by the code official to be a threat to life or health.
11. Any portion of a building remains on a site after the demolition or destruction of the building or structure or whenever any building or structure is abandoned so as to constitute such building or portion thereof as an attractive nuisance or hazard to the public.

**108.2 Closing of vacant structures.** If the structure is vacant and unfit for human habitation and occupancy, and is not in danger of structural collapse, the code official is authorized to post a placard of condemnation on the premises and order the structure closed up so as not to be an attractive nuisance. Upon failure of the owner to close up the premises within the time specified in the order, the code official shall cause the premises to be closed and secured through any available public agency or by contract or arrangement by private persons and the cost thereof plus a 10% penalty shall be charged against the real estate upon which the structure is located and shall be a lien upon such real estate and may be collected by any other legal resource. However, boarding the building up for future repair shall not extend beyond six months, unless approved by the building official.

**108.2.1 Authority to disconnect service utilities.** The Code Official shall have the authority to authorize disconnection of utility service to the building, structure or system regulated by this code and the referenced codes and standards set forth in Section 102.7 in case of emergency where necessary to eliminate an immediate hazard to life or property or when such utility connection has been made without approval. The code official shall notify the serving utility and, whenever possible, the owner and occupant of the building, structure or service system of the decision to disconnect prior to taking such action. If not notified prior to disconnection the owner or occupant of the building structure or service system shall be notified in writing as soon as practical thereafter.

**108.3 Notice.** Whenever the code official has condemned a structure or equipment under the provisions of this section, notice shall be posted in a conspicuous place in or about the structure affected by such notice and served on the owner or the person or persons responsible for the structure or equipment in accordance with Section 107.3. If the notice pertains to equipment, it shall also be placed on the condemned equipment. The notice shall be in the form prescribed in Section 107.2.

**108.4 Placarding.** Upon failure of the owner or person responsible to comply with the notice provisions within the time given, the code official shall post on the premises or on defective equipment a placard bearing the word "Condemned" and a statement of the penalties provided for occupying the premises, operating the equipment or removing the placard.

**108.4.1 Placard removal.** The code official shall remove the condemnation placard whenever the defect or defects upon which the condemnation and placarding action were based have been eliminated. Any person who defaces or removes a condemnation placard without the approval of the code official shall be subject to the penalties provided by this code.

**108.5 Prohibited occupancy.** Any occupied structure condemned and placarded by the code official shall be vacated as ordered by the code official. Any person who shall occupy a placarded premises or shall operate placarded equipment, and any owner or any person responsible for the premises who shall let anyone occupy a placarded premises or operate placarded equipment shall be liable for the penalties provided by this code.

**108.6 Abatement methods.** The owner, operator or occupant of a building, premises or equipment deemed unsafe by the code official shall abate or cause to be abated or corrected such unsafe conditions either by repair, rehabilitation, demolition or other approved corrective action.

**108.7 Closing streets.** When necessary for public safety, the code official shall temporarily close structures and close, or order the authority having jurisdiction to close, sidewalks, streets, public ways and places adjacent to unsafe structures, and prohibit the same from being utilized.

**108.8 Salvage materials.** When any structure has been ordered demolished and removed, the contractor that has been awarded the contract by the City shall have the right to sell the salvage and valuable materials at the highest price obtainable.

**108.9 Record.** The code official shall cause a report to be filed on an unsafe condition. The report shall state the occupancy of the structure and the nature of the unsafe condition.

## SECTION 109

### SUMMARY ABATEMENT OF PUBLIC NUISANCES

**109.1 Imminent danger.** When, in the opinion of the Department of Property Maintenance Inspection, pursuant to Section 2702-A (d) of the Third Class City Code a public nuisance exists and if the public nuisance is of such a severe and substantial nature that it presents a clear, immediate, and substantial danger to the public health or safety of any occupant of the property on which a public nuisance exists or any property in the vicinity of the public nuisance, that it is sufficient to justify extraordinary and immediate action without prior notice to the owner of the property to avoid personal injury, death or substantial loss of property the code official may utilize the procedures for summary abatement consistent with the conditions and procedures described in 109.2 Under such circumstances, the code official is hereby authorized and empowered to order and require the occupants to vacate the premises forthwith. The code official shall cause to be posted at each entrance to such structure a notice reading as follows: "This Structure Is Unsafe and Its Occupancy Has Been Prohibited by the Code Official." It shall be unlawful for any person to enter such structure except for the purpose of securing the structure, making the required repairs, removing the hazardous condition or of demolishing the same.

**109.2 Conditions and procedures for summary abatement.**

1. Within ten days following a summary abatement, the code official shall post on the property upon which the abatement has occurred, a notice describing the action taken to abate the nuisance.
2. Within 20 days following a summary abatement, the department shall determine the identity of the owner of the property by reference to the city's real estate registry, if the city maintains a registry, or in the absence of a registry, by reference to county assessment records and the identity of the holders of all liens upon the property which are properly indexed among the records of the county and provide to the owner and to all lienholders written notice, by first class mail or hand delivery, of the action taken to abate the nuisance.
3. Within 30 days following a summary abatement, the department shall file with the city treasurer or other financial officer of the city designated by council a statement of costs of the abatement, which shall include the administrative fee and civil penalty provided by this article. After filing with the city treasurer, notice of the statement of costs shall be provided to the owner and lienholders in accordance with section 2704-A(b) of the PA Third Class City Code.

**109.3 Abatement of nuisances requiring prior notice to owner.** The Third Class City Code as amended (insert citation) prescribes the process for dealing with public nuisances when prior notice to the owner is required. Pursuant to the Third Class City Code the process is as follows:

**109.3.1 Abatement authority.** The code official shall have the authority to abate a public nuisance with prior notice as provided by this section if, after inspecting the property or condition reported to be a public nuisance, subject to constitutional standards in a similar manner as provided in section 2308 of the Third Class City Code, the code official determines as provided for in section 2702-A(d) (1) of the Third Class City Code that the public nuisance exists.

**109.3.2 Method of service.** If the code official proceeds with abatement pursuant to this section, it shall identify the owner of the property by reference to the city's real estate registry, if the city maintains a registry, or in the absence of a registry, by reference to county assessment records, and shall immediately serve a written notice on the owner by any of the following methods:

1. Personal service.
2. Leaving a copy of the notice at the usual place of residence or business of the owner

- or the address of the owner shown in the city's real estate registry or in the records in the office of the recorder of deeds.
3. Mailing a copy by United States certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner at the owner's current address shown in the city's real estate registry or in the records in the office of the recorder of deeds.

Exception: If service of the written notice is unable to be perfected by any of the methods under paragraph above, the department shall publish a copy of the notice in a newspaper of general circulation once a week for two consecutive weeks and shall provide a copy of the notice to the individual in possession of the property on which the department has determined that the public nuisance exists, or if there is no individual in possession of the property, the code official shall post a copy of the notice at the structure, location or premises.

The code official shall also determine from the records in the offices of the recorder of deeds the identities of all lienholders of the property and serve a written notice on all lienholders by United States certified mail, return receipt requested.

**109.3.3 Contents of notice.** The notice to the owner and lienholders shall state clearly and concisely the findings and determination of the code official with respect to the existence of a public nuisance. The notice shall further state that the public nuisance shall be abated by the city at the expense of the owner unless it is otherwise abated within 30 days of the notice or within any extension of that period granted by the code official.

**109.4 Appeal of charges.** Any charges levied against the property by the city and secured by a lien against the property may be appealed by the owner pursuant to Section 2710-A of the PA Third Class City Code.

## **SECTION 110 MEANS OF APPEAL**

**110.1 Application for appeal.** With the exception of the appeal process described in section 109, any person directly affected by a decision of the code official or a notice or order issued under this code, shall have the right to appeal to the Board of Appeals, provided that a written application for appeal is filed within 20 days after the day the decision, notice or order was served. An application for appeal shall be based on a claim that the true intent of this code or the rules legally adopted thereunder have been incorrectly interpreted, the provisions of this code do not fully apply, or the requirements of this code are adequately satisfied by other means.

**110.2 Membership of board.** The Board of Appeals shall consist of a minimum of three members who are qualified by experience and training to pass on matters pertaining to property maintenance and who are not employees of the jurisdiction. The code official shall be an ex-officio member but shall have no vote on any matter before the board. The Board shall be appointed by the City Council and shall serve staggered and overlapping terms.

**110.2.1 Alternate members.** The City Council shall appoint a minimum of two alternate members who shall be called by the board chairman to hear appeals during the absence or disqualification of a member. Alternate members shall possess the qualifications required for board membership.

**110.2.2 Chairman.** The Board shall annually select one of its members to serve as Chairman.

**110.2.3 Disqualification of member.** A member shall not hear an appeal in which that member has a personal, professional or financial interest.

**110.2.4 Recording Secretary.** The City Council shall designate a qualified person to serve as Recording Secretary to the board. The secretary shall file a detailed record of all proceedings in the office of the chief administrative officer. Said person shall not be a member of the Board.

**110.2.5 Compensation of members.** Members of the appeals board shall be uncompensated.

**110.3 Notice of meeting.** The board shall meet upon notice from the Chairman at stated periodic meetings.

**110.4 Open hearing.** All hearings before the board shall be open to the public. The appellant, the appellant's representative, the code official and any person whose interests are affected shall be given an opportunity to be heard. A quorum shall consist of a minimum of two-thirds of the board membership.

**110.4.1 Procedure.** The board shall adopt and make available to the public procedures under which a hearing will be conducted. The procedures shall not require compliance with strict rules of evidence, but shall mandate that only relevant information be received.

**110.5 Board decision.** The Board shall modify or reverse the decision of the code official only by a concurring voice of a majority of those present at the meeting assuming the quorum requirement has been satisfied.

**110.5.1 Records and copies.** The decision of the Board shall be recorded. Copies shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

**110.5.2 Administration.** The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Board.

**110.6 Court review.** Any person, whether or not a previous party of the appeal, shall have the right to apply to the appropriate court for a writ of certiorari to correct errors of law. Application for review shall be made in the manner and time required by law following the filing of the decision in the office of the chief administrative officer.

**110.7 Stays of enforcement.** Appeals of notice and orders (other than Imminent Danger notices) shall stay the enforcement of the notice and order until the appeal is heard by the appeals board.

## **SECTION 111 STOP WORK ORDER**

**111.1 Authority.** Whenever the code official finds any work regulated by this code being performed in a manner contrary to the provisions of this code or in a dangerous or unsafe manner, the code official is authorized to issue a stop work order.

**111.2 Issuance.** A stop work order shall be in writing and shall be given to the owner of the property, to the owner's agent, or to the person doing the work. Upon issuance of a stop work order, the cited work shall immediately cease. The stop work order shall state the reason for the order and the conditions under which the cited work is authorized to resume.

**111.3 Emergencies.** Where an emergency exists, the code official shall not be required to give a written notice prior to stopping the work.

**111.4 Failure to comply.** Any person who shall continue any work after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as that person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be liable to a fine consistent with the provisions in 106.4 (Violation Penalties).

## CHAPTER2 DEFINITIONS

### SECTION 201 GENERAL

**201.1 Scope.** Unless otherwise expressly stated, the following terms shall, for the purposes of this code, have the meanings shown in this chapter.

Interchangeability. Words stated in the present tense include the future; words stated in the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter; the singular number includes the plural and the plural, the singular.

**201.2 Terms defined in other codes.** Where terms are not defined in this code and are defined in the International Building Code, International Existing Building Code, International Fire Code, International Fuel Gas Code, International Mechanical Code, International Plumbing Code, International Residential Code, International Zoning Code or NFPA 70, such terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them as stated in those codes.

**201.3 Terms not defined.** Where terms are not defined through the methods authorized by this section, such terms shall have ordinarily accepted meanings such as the context implies.

**201.4 Parts.** Whenever the words "dwelling unit," "dwelling," "premises," "building," "rooming house," "rooming unit," "housekeeping unit" or "story" are stated in this code, they shall be construed as though they were followed by the words "or any part thereof."

### SECTION202 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

**ANCHORED.** Secured in a manner that provides positive connection.

**APPROVED.** Approved by the code official.

**BASEMENT.** That portion of a building which is partly or completely below grade.

**BATHROOM.** A room containing plumbing fixtures including a bathtub or shower.

**BEDROOM.** Any room or space used or intended to be used for sleeping purposes in either a dwelling or sleeping unit.

**CODE OFFICIAL.** The official who is charged with the administration and enforcement of this code, or any duly authorized representative.

**CONDEMN.** To adjudicate unfit for occupancy.

**DETACHED.** When a structural element is physically disconnected from another, that connection is necessary to provide a positive connection.

**DETERIORATION.** To weaken, disintegrate, corrode, rust or decay and lose effectiveness.

**DWELLING UNIT.** A single unit providing complete, independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation.

**EASEMENT.** That portion of land or property reserved for present or future use by a person or agency other than the legal fee owner(s) of the property. The easement shall be permitted to be for use under, on or above a said lot or lots.

**EQUIPMENT SUPPORT.** Those structural members or assemblies of members or manufactured elements, including braces, frames, lugs, snugger, hangers or saddles, that transmit gravity load, lateral load and operating load between the equipment and the structure.

**EXTERIOR PROPERTY.** The open space on the premises and on adjoining property is under the control of the owners or operators of such premises.



**GARBAGE.** Animal or vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food.

**GUARD.** A building component or a system of building components located at or near the open sides of elevated walking surfaces that minimizes the possibility of a fall from the walking surface to a lower level.

**HABITABLE SPACE.** Space in a structure for living, sleeping, eating, or cooking. Bathrooms, toilet rooms, closets, halls, storage or utility spaces, and similar areas are not considered habitable spaces.

**HOUSEKEEPING UNIT.** A room or group of rooms forming a single habitable space equipped and intended to be used for living, sleeping, cooking, and eating which does not contain, within such a unit, a toilet, lavatory and bathtub or shower.

**IMMINENT DANGER.** A condition which could cause serious or life-threatening injury or death at any time.

**INFESTATION.** The presence, within or contiguous to, a structure or premises of insects, rats, vermin, or other pests.

**INOPERABLE MOTOR VEHICLE.** A vehicle which cannot be driven upon the public streets for reasons including but not limited to being unlicensed, wrecked, abandoned, in a state of disrepair, or incapable of being moved under its own power.

**LABELED.** Equipment, materials, or products to which have been affixed a label, seal, symbol or other identifying mark of a nationally recognized testing laboratory, inspection agency or other organization concerned with product evaluation that maintains periodic inspection of the production of the above-labeled items and whose labeling indicates either that the equipment, material, or product meets identified standards or has been tested and found suitable for a specified purpose.

**LET FOR OCCUPANCY or LET.** To permit, provide or offer possession or occupancy of a dwelling, dwelling unit, rooming unit, building, premise, or structure by a person who is or is not the legal owner of record thereof, pursuant to a written or unwritten lease, agreement, or license, or pursuant to a recorded or unrecorded agreement of contract for the sale of land.

**NEGLECT.** The lack of proper maintenance for a building or structure.

**OCCUPANCY.** The purpose for which a building or portion thereof is utilized or occupied.

**OCCUPANT.** Any individual living or sleeping in a building or having possession of a space within a building.

**OPENABLE AREA.** That part of a window, skylight or door which is available for unobstructed ventilation, and which opens directly to the outdoors.

**OPERATOR.** Any person who has charge, care or control of a structure or premises which is let or offered for occupancy.

**OWNER.** Any person, agent, operator, firm or corporation having a legal or equitable interest in the property: or recorded in the official records of the state, county or municipality as holding title to the property; or otherwise having control of the property, including the guardian of the estate of any such person, and the executor or administrator of the estate of such person if ordered to take possession of real property by a court.

**PERSON.** An individual, corporation, partnership, or any other group acting as a unit.

**PEST ELIMINATION.** The control and elimination of insects, rodents, or other pests by eliminating their harborage places; by removing or making inaccessible materials that serve as their food or water; by other approved pest elimination methods.

**PREMISES.** A lot, plot or parcel of land, easement, or public way, including any structures thereon.

**PUBLIC WAY.** Any street, alley or similar parcel of land essentially unobstructed from the ground to the sky, which is deeded, dedicated or otherwise permanently appropriated to the public for public use.

**ROOMING HOUSE.** A building arranged or occupied for lodging, with or without meals, for compensation and not occupied as a one- or two-family dwelling.

**ROOMING UNIT.** Any room or group of rooms forming a single habitable unit occupied or intended to be occupied for sleeping or living, but not for cooking purposes.

**RUBBISH.** Combustible and noncombustible waste materials, except garbage; the term shall include the residue from the burning of wood, coal, coke and other combustible materials, paper, rags, cartons, boxes, wood, excelsior, rubber, leather, tree branches, yard trimmings, tin cans, metals, mineral matter, glass, crockery and dust and other similar materials.

**SLEEPING UNIT.** A room or space in which people sleep, which can also include permanent provisions for living, eating and either sanitation or kitchen facilities, but not both. Such rooms and spaces that are also part of a dwelling unit are not sleeping units.

**STRICT LIABILITY OFFENSE.** An offense in which the prosecution in a legal proceeding is not required to prove criminal intent as a part of its case. It is enough to prove that the defendant either did an act which was prohibited, or failed to do an act which the defendant was legally required to do.

**STRUCTURE.** That which is built or constructed or a portion thereof.

**TENANT.** A person, corporation, partnership, or group, whether or not the legal owner of record, occupying a building or portion thereof as a unit.

**TOILET ROOM.** A room containing a water closet or urinal but not a bathtub or shower.

**ULTIMATE DEFORMATION.** The deformation at which failure occurs and which shall be deemed to occur if the sustainable load reduces to 80 percent or less of the maximum strength.

**VENTILATION.** The natural or mechanical process of supplying conditioned or unconditioned air to, or removing such air from, any space.

**WORKMANLIKE.** Executed in a skilled manner: e.g., generally plumb, level, square, in line, undamaged and without marring adjacent work.

**YARD.** An open space on the same lot with a structure.

## **CHAPTER3 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

### **SECTION 301 GENERAL**

**301.1 Scope.** The provisions of this chapter shall govern the minimum conditions and the responsibilities of persons for maintenance of structures, equipment, and exterior property.

**301.2 Responsibility.** The owner of the premises shall maintain the structures and exterior property in compliance with these requirements, except as otherwise provided for in this code. A person shall not occupy as owner-occupant or permit another person to occupy premises which are not in a sanitary and safe condition, and which do not comply with the requirements of this chapter. Occupants of a dwelling unit, rooming unit or housekeeping unit are responsible for keeping in a clean, sanitary, and safe condition that part of the dwelling unit, rooming unit, housekeeping unit or premises which they occupy and control.

**301.3 Vacant structures and land.** All vacant structures and premises thereof or vacant land shall be maintained in a clean, safe, secure, and sanitary condition as provided herein so as not to cause a blighting problem or adversely affect public health or safety.

**SECTION 302**  
**EXTERIOR PROPERTY AREAS**

**302.1 Sanitation.** All exterior property and premises shall be maintained in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition. The occupant shall keep that part of the exterior property which such occupant occupies or controls in a clean and sanitary condition.

**302.2 Grading and drainage.** All premises shall be graded and maintained to prevent the erosion of soil and to prevent the accumulation of stagnant water thereon, or within any structure located thereon.

Exception: Approved retention areas and reservoirs.

**302.3 Sidewalks and driveways.** All sidewalks, walkways, stairs, driveways, parking spaces and similar areas shall be kept in a proper state of repair, open to the intended use and maintained free from hazardous conditions. All sidewalks abutting or alongside any public street, alley or right of way shall be kept in compliance with City of Bradford Ordinance No. 2953 and 2953.1 which requires, among other things, the removal of any accumulation of snow and ice. In addition, no person shall permit a motorized vehicle to be parked on or across any curb, sidewalk, median or in any yard, unless there is, at minimum, a paved or gravel driveway and or paved or graveled parking area and a curb cut for ingress and egress together with the necessary space for pedestrian ingress and egress from any structure thereon. Any such facilities for vehicles shall not block or impair the intended use of any sidewalk. The lack of a pronounced or formal curb shall not negate the intent of this provision of the code.

**302.4 Weeds.** All premises and exterior property shall be maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of eight inches. All noxious weeds shall be prohibited. Weeds shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs provided; however, this term shall not include cultivated flowers and gardens.

Upon failure of the owner or agent having charge of a property to cut and destroy weeds after service of a notice of violation, they shall be subject to prosecution in accordance with Section 106.3 and as prescribed by the authority having jurisdiction. Upon failure to comply with the notice of violation, any duly authorized employee of the jurisdiction or contractor hired by the jurisdiction shall be authorized to enter upon the property in violation and cut and destroy the weeds growing thereon,

**302.4.1 Trees and Shrubs** All trees and shrubs shall not be maintained in such a manner, which creates a hazard to life and or property or harbor insects or disease which constitutes a potential threat to other trees, shrubs or property within the City of Bradford. Upon failure of the owner(s) or agents having charge of a property to maintain, cut, remove or destroy trees or shrubs after service of a Notice of Violation, they shall be subject to the same process of remediation and or prosecution in accordance with sections 302.4 and or as provided in section 106.3 herein. The code official with any duly authorized employee of the jurisdiction or contractor commissioned by the jurisdiction shall have the right to cause the removal of any dead, dying or diseased trees or shrubs or have it altered to protect the public, property or Right of Ways when such trees, shrubs constitute a hazard to life and property.

**302.4.2 Fees for Abatement.** Upon failure to comply with the Notice of Violation for any condition in subsection 302.1, 302.2, 302.3, 302.4 or 302.4.1 any duly authorized employee of the jurisdiction or contractor hired by the jurisdiction shall be authorized to enter upon the property in violation and remove, abate, cut and destroy the violating conditions of the aforementioned sections. The cost of such removal, abatement cutting or destruction, plus administrative fees up to fifteen percent (15%), shall be paid by the owner or agent responsible for the property together with the cost of any ticket fees issued for the violation thereon.

**302.5 Exhaust vents.** Pipes, ducts, conductors, fans or blowers shall not discharge gases, steam, vapor, hot air, grease, smoke, odors or other gaseous or particulate wastes directly upon abutting

or adjacent public or private property or that of another tenant.

**302.6 Accessory structures.** All accessory structures, including detached garages, fences and walls, shall be maintained structurally sound and in good repair.

### **302.7 Vehicles and Machinery, Storage of**

#### **302.7.1 Definitions and word usage.**

A. As used in this Article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

**LESSEE** - The owner for the purpose of this Article when the lessor holds the lessee responsible for maintenance and repairs.

**MOTOR VEHICLE** - Any type of mechanical device, propelled by a motor, in which persons or property may be transported upon public streets or highways, and including trailers or semitrailers pulled thereby.

**NUISANCE** - Any condition, structure or improvement which shall constitute a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the citizens of the City of Bradford.

**OWNER** - The actual owner, agent or custodian of the property on which motor vehicles are stored, whether individual or partnership, association or corporation.

**PERSON** - A natural person, firm, partnership, association, corporation or other legal entity.

B. In this Article, the singular shall include the plural; the plural shall include the singular; and the masculine shall include the feminine and the neuter.

**302.7.2 Compliance required motor vehicle.** Except as otherwise provided for in this Code or the laws or regulations of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, no motor vehicle that is inoperative, unlicensed or without current inspection shall be parked, kept or stored on any premises, and no vehicle shall at any time be in a state of major disassembly, disrepair or in the process of being stripped or dismantled. Painting of vehicles is prohibited unless conducted inside as approved spray booth.

Exception: A vehicle of any type is permitted to undergo major overhaul, including body work, provided that such work is performed inside a structure or similarly enclosed area designed and approved for such purposes.

#### **302.7.3 Inspection; notice of noncompliance.**

A. The enforcement officer is hereby empowered to inspect grounds on which motor vehicles are secured to determine if there is compliance with the provisions of this Article. If noncompliance with the provisions of this Article constitutes a nuisance or if any condition, poses a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the public, he shall issue a written notice of violation to be served upon the owner of said premises or, if the owner's whereabouts or identity shall be unknown, by posting a notice conspicuously upon the offending premises and or vehicle.

B. Said notice shall specify the condition complained of and shall require the owner to commence to remove or otherwise rectify the condition as set forth therein with ten (10) days of posting of said notice and thereafter to fully comply with the requirements of the notice within a reasonable time.

**302.7.4 Remedy of conditions.** If the owner of the grounds on which motor vehicles are stored does not comply with the notice to abate the conditions within the time limit prescribed, the City of Bradford shall have the authority to take measures to correct the conditions. The City of Bradford, in such an event and pursuant to its statutory or otherwise authorized police powers, shall have the right and power to enter upon the offending premises to accomplish the foregoing.

A. The person removing or directing the removal of any vehicle under the provisions of this article shall affix securely a towing notice form in a prominent place on such

vehicle, such form to bear the license number of the vehicle, the date, time, place and nature of the violation and the name or identifying badge number of the person removing or directing the removal of the vehicle. Such towing notice shall be made out identified by a separate number on each original notice form, the same number to appear on all copies of the form.

- B. In the event that the automobile or vehicle is not registered with the Commonwealth, then, and in that event, the enforcement officer shall make a good faith effort to ascertain whether any of the tenants, lessees and/or occupants of the property upon which the automobile or vehicle is located claims ownership of the automobile or vehicle, then he or she shall be served with the same notice previously referenced. If no registered owner is listed and if there is no tenant, lessee or other occupant who claims ownership then the enforcement officer may place the remedial notice on the automobile or vehicle itself and said act shall constitute valid notice to the actual owner of the automobile or vehicle in question. Nothing contained herein shall prevent the City from taking immediate action relative to the automobile or vehicle to safeguard those in its vicinity if it poses an immediate health or safety hazard.

#### **302.7.5 Open Storage of Personal property.**

**Nuisance.** From and after the effective date of this article, the unsheltered storage of unused, stripped, junked, wrecked or otherwise unusable automobiles or other vehicles, machinery, implements and/or equipment and personal property of any kind which is no longer safely usable for the purpose for which it was manufactured (except in such places where a legal junkyard business is regularly conducted) within the limits of the City of Bradford shall be deemed a nuisance, dangerous to the public health and safety.

#### **302.7.6 Abatement by municipality**

In addition to the penalties herein provided, the City of Bradford shall have the right and privilege to remove said personal property to a location of its selection for storage. The City of Bradford shall notify the last known owner or owners of the personal property removed that the same has been placed in storage and shall be sold or destroyed after the expiration of 30 days if removal and storage charges are not paid by the responsible owner or owners.

**302.7.7 Fees for Removal and Storage of Property.** The owner of the property where the abatement was conducted shall be responsible for all costs associated with the abatement and storage, plus administrative fees up to fifteen percent (15%), shall be paid by the owner or agent responsible for the property together with the cost of any ticket fees issued for the violation thereon.

**302.8 Defacement of property.** No person shall willfully or wantonly damage, mutilate or deface any exterior surface of any structure or building on any private or public property by placing thereon any marking, carving or graffiti. It shall be the responsibility of the owner to restore said surface to an approved state of maintenance and repair.

### **SECTION 303**

#### **SWIMMING POOLS, SPAS AND HOT TUBS**

**303.1 Swimming pools.** Swimming pools shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, and in good repair.

**303.2 Enclosures.** Private swimming pools, hot tubs and spas, containing water more than 24 inches (610 mm) in depth shall be completely surrounded by a fence or barrier at least 48 inches (1219 mm) in height above the finished ground level measured on the side of the barrier away from the pool. Gates and doors in such barriers shall be self-closing and self-latching. Where the self-latching device is a minimum of 54 inches (1372 mm) above the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate. Self-closing and self-

latching gates shall be maintained such that the gate will positively close and latch when released from an open position of 6 inches (152 mm) from the gatepost. No existing pool enclosure shall be removed, replaced or changed in a manner that reduces its effectiveness as a safety barrier. Exception: Spas or hot tubs with a safety cover that complies with ASTM F 1346 shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.

## **SECTION 304 EXTERIOR STRUCTURE**

**304.1 General.** The exterior of a structure shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound and sanitary so as not to pose a threat to the public health, safety or welfare.

**304.1.1 Unsafe conditions.** The following conditions shall be determined as unsafe and shall be repaired or replaced to comply with the International Building Code or the International Existing Building Code as required for existing buildings:

1. The nominal strength of any structural member is exceeded by nominal loads, the load effects or the required strength;
2. The anchorage of the floor or roof to walls or columns, and of walls and columns to foundations is not capable of resisting all nominal loads or load effects.
3. Structures or components thereof that have reached their limit state.
4. Siding and masonry joints including joints between the building envelope and the perimeter of windows, doors and skylights are not maintained, weather resistant or water tight;
5. Structural members that have evidence of deterioration or that are not capable of safely supporting all nominal loads and load effects.
6. Foundation systems that are not firmly supported by footings, are not plumb and free from open cracks and breaks, are not properly anchored or are not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.
7. Exterior walls that are not anchored to supporting and supported elements or are not plumb and free of holes, cracks or breaks and loose or rotting materials, are not properly anchored or are not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.
8. Roofing or roofing components that have defects that admit rain, roof surfaces with inadequate drainage, or any portion of the roof framing that is not in good repair with signs of deterioration, fatigue or without proper anchorage and incapable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.
9. Flooring and flooring components with defects that affect serviceability or flooring components that show signs of deterioration or fatigue, are not properly anchored or are incapable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.
10. Veneer, cornices, belt courses, corbels, trim, wall facings and similar decorative features not properly anchored or that are anchored with connections not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.
11. Overhang extensions or projections including, but not limited to, trash chutes, canopies, marquees, signs, awnings, fire escapes, standpipes and exhaust ducts not properly anchored or that are anchored with connections not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.
12. Exterior stairs, decks, porches, balconies, and all similar appurtenances attached thereto, including guards and handrails, are not structurally sound, not properly anchored or that are anchored with connections not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects; or

13. Chimneys, cooling towers, smokestacks, and similar appurtenances not structurally sound or not properly anchored, or that are anchored with connections not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.

Exceptions:

1. When substantiated otherwise by an approved method.
2. Demolition of unsafe conditions shall be permitted when approved by the code official.

**304.2 Protective treatment.** All exterior surfaces, including but not limited to, doors, door and window frames, cornices, porches, trim, balconies, decks and fences, shall be maintained in good condition. Exterior wood surfaces, other than decay-resistant woods, shall be protected from the elements and decay by painting or other protective covering or treatment. Peeling, flaking and chipped paint shall be eliminated, and surfaces repainted. All siding and masonry joints, as well as those between the building envelope and the perimeter of windows, doors, and skylights, shall be maintained weather resistant and watertight. All metal surfaces subject to rust or corrosion shall be coated to inhibit such rust and corrosion, and all surfaces with rust or corrosion shall be stabilized and coated to inhibit future rust and corrosion. Oxidation stains shall be removed from exterior surfaces. Surfaces designed for stabilization by oxidation are exempt from this requirement.

**304.3 Premises identification.** Buildings shall have approved address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters. Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches (102 mm) in height with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch (12.7 mm). Any person desiring to know the number belonging to his property may obtain the same by applying to the City Engineer for this information free of charge.

**304.4 Structural members.** All structural members shall be maintained free from deterioration and shall be capable of safely supporting the imposed dead and live loads.

**304.5 Foundation walls.** All foundation walls shall be maintained plumb and free from open cracks and breaks and shall be kept in such a condition to prevent the entry of rodents and other pests.

**304.6 Exterior walls.** All exterior walls shall be free from holes, breaks, and loose or rotting materials; and maintained weatherproof and properly surface coated where required to prevent deterioration.

**304.7 Roofs and drainage.** The roof and flashing shall be sound, tight, and not have defects that admit rain; said defects shall include but are not limited to the damaged, cupped and worn shingles. The roof and Dashing shall be properly surfaced and maintained with commonly accepted roofing materials as outlined and listed in the International Building Code, Chapter 15. Tarps and other temporary material may only be used on a temporary basis (not exceeding 30 days) and may only be utilized when said roof is being repaired or replaced. Roof drainage shall be adequate to prevent dampness or deterioration in the walls or interior portion of the structure. Roof drains, gutters and downspouts shall be maintained in good repair, free from obstructions and whenever possible connected to storm drain systems or at a minimum direct the water away from the structure. Roof water, rainwater, ground water and or snow shall not be discharged in a manner that creates a public nuisance and shall not be discharged into a sanitary sewer or public Right of Way. Where a metal roof would discharge rain or snow onto an adjoining property or public Right of Way the roof shall be fitted with gutters and mechanically fastened or manufacturers recommended and approved attachment system of snow guards, or bars. These gutters, snow guards or bars shall be installed as per manufacturer recommendations and installation instructions. The lack of a specific manufacturer's recommendation shall not negate the intent of this provision.

**304.8 Decorative features.** All cornices, belt courses, corbels, terracotta trim, wall facings and similar decorative features shall be maintained in good repair with proper anchorage and in a safe condition.

**304.9 Overhang extensions.** All overhang extensions including, but not limited to canopies, marquees, signs, metal awnings, fire escapes, standpipes and exhaust ducts shall be maintained in good repair and be properly anchored so as to be kept in a sound condition. When required, all exposed sur-faces of metal or wood shall be protected from the elements and against decay or rust by periodic application of weather coating materials, such as paint or similar surface treatment.

**304.10 Stairways, decks, porches and balconies.** Every exterior stairway, deck, porch and balcony, and all appurtenances attached thereto, shall be maintained structurally sound, in good repair, with proper anchorage and capable of supporting the imposed loads. The standards for "structurally sound and in good repair" shall include but are not limited to the following:

1. Every flight of stairs shall be free from holes, grooves, and cracks which are large enough to constitute possible accident hazards.
2. No flight of stairs has settled more than one **(1)** inch out of intended position or has pulled away from supporting or adjacent structures
3. No flight of stairs has rotting or deteriorated supports
4. The treads of every flight of stairs are uniform in height
5. Every stair tread is sound and is securely fastened in position
6. Every stair tread is strong enough to bear a concentrated load of at least four hundred (400) pounds
7. Every porch, deck or balcony has a sound floor and no rotting or deteriorating supports

**304.11 Chimneys and towers.** All chimneys, cooling towers, smoke stacks, and similar appurtenances shall be maintained structurally safe and sound, and in good repair. All exposed surfaces of metal or wood shall be protected from the elements and against decay or rust by periodic application of weather coating materials, such as paint or similar surface treatment.

**304.12 Handrails and guards.** Every handrail and guard shall be firmly fastened and capable of supporting normally imposed loads and shall be maintained in good condition.

**304.13 Window, skylight and door frames.** Every window, skylight, door and frame shall be kept in sound condition, good repair and weather tight. Standards for "sound condition, good repair, and weather tight" shall include but are not limited to:

1. Every window is fully supplied with a glazed area which is without cracks or holes
2. Every window sash is in good condition and first reasonably tight within its frame
4. Every exterior door, door hinge, and door latch is in good condition
5. Every exterior door, when closed, fits reasonably within its frame
6. All windows, doors, skylights and their frames are constructed and maintained in such relation to wall construction to exclude rain, snow, and wind from entering the structure

**304.13.1 Openable windows.** Every window, other than a fixed window, shall be easily openable and capable of being held in position by window hardware.

**304.14 Insect screens.** During the period from May 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>, every door, window and other outside opening required for ventilation of habitable rooms, food preparation areas, food service areas or any areas where products to be included or utilized in food for human consumption are processed, manufactured, packaged or stored shall be supplied with approved tightly fitting screens of minimum 16 mesh per inch (16 mesh per 25 mm), and every screen door used for insect control shall have a self-closing device in good working condition.



Exception: Screens shall not be required where other approved means, such as air curtains or insect repellent fans, are employed.

**304.15 Doors.** All exterior doors, door assemblies, operator systems if provided, and hardware shall be maintained in good condition. Locks at all entrances to dwelling units and sleeping units shall lightly secure the door. Locks on means of egress doors shall be in accordance with Section 702.3.

**304.16 Basement hatchways.** Every basement hatchway shall be maintained to prevent the entrance of rodents, rain and surface drainage water.

**304.17 Guards for basement windows.** Every basement window that is openable shall be supplied with rodent shields, storm windows or other approved protection against the entry of rodents.

**304.18 Building security.** Doors, windows or hatchways for dwelling units, room units or housekeeping units shall be provided with devices designed to provide security for the occupants and property within.

**304.18.1 Doors.** Doors providing access to a dwelling unit, rooming unit or housekeeping unit that is rented, leased or let shall be equipped with a deadbolt lock designed to be readily openable from the side from which egress is to be made without the need for keys, special knowledge or effort and shall have a minimum lock throw of 1 inch (25 mm). Such deadbolt locks shall be installed according to the manufacturer's specifications and maintained in good working order. For the purpose of this section, a sliding bolt shall not be considered an acceptable deadbolt lock.

**304.18.2 Windows.** Operable windows located in whole or in part within 6 feet (1828 mm) above ground level or a walking surface below that provide access to a dwelling unit, rooming unit or housekeeping unit that is rented, leased or let shall be equipped with a window sash locking device.

**304.18.3 Basement hatchways.** Basement hatchways that provide access to a dwelling unit, rooming unit or housekeeping unit that is rented, leased or let shall be equipped with devices that secure the units from unauthorized entry.

**304.19 Gates.** All exterior gates, gate assemblies, operator systems if provided, and hardware shall be maintained in good condition. Latches at all entrances shall tightly secure the gates.

## **SECTION 305 INTERIOR STRUCTURE**

**305.1 General.** The interior of a structure and equipment therein shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound and in a sanitary condition. Occupants shall keep that part of the structure which they occupy or control in a clean and sanitary condition. Every owner of a structure containing a rooming house, housekeeping units, a hotel, a dormitory, two or more dwelling units or two or more nonresidential occupancies, shall maintain, in a clean and sanitary condition, the shared or public areas of the structure and exterior property.

**305.1.1 Unsafe conditions.** The following conditions shall be determined as unsafe and shall be repaired or replaced to comply with the International Building Code or the International Existing Building Code as required for existing buildings:

1. The nominal strength of any structural member is exceeded by nominal loads, the load effects or the required strength;
2. The anchorage of the floor or roof to walls or columns, and of walls and columns to foundations is not capable of resisting all nominal loads or load effects;
3. Structures or components thereof that have reached their limit state;
4. Structural members are incapable of supporting nominal loads and load effects;
5. Stairs, landings, balconies and all similar walking surfaces, including guards and

- handrails, are not structurally sound , not properly anchored or are anchored with connections nor capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects;
6. Foundation systems that are not firmly supported by footings are not plumb and free from open cracks and breaks, are not properly anchored or are not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.

Exceptions:

1. When substantiated otherwise by an approved method.
2. Demolition of unsafe conditions shall be permitted when approved by the code official.

**305.2 Structural members.** All structural members shall be maintained structurally sound, and be capable of supporting the imposed loads.

**305.3 Interior surfaces.** All interior surfaces, including windows and doors, shall be maintained in good, clean and sanitary condition. Peeling, chipping, flaking or abraded paint shall be repaired, removed or covered. Cracked or loose plaster, decayed wood and other defective surface conditions shall be connected.

**305.4 Stairs and walking surfaces.** Every stair, ramp, landing, balcony, porch, deck or other walking surface shall be maintained in sound condition and good repair.

**305.5 Handrails and guards.** Every handrail and guard shall be firmly fastened and capable of supporting normally imposed loads and shall be maintained in good condition.

**305.6 Interior doors.** Every interior door shall fit reasonably well within its frame and shall be capable of being opened and closed by being properly and securely attached to jambs, headers or tracks as intended by the manufacturer of the attachment hardware.

## **SECTION 306 COMPONENT SERVICEABILITY**

**306.1 General.** The components of a structure and equipment therein shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound and in a sanitary condition.

**306.1.1 Unsafe conditions.** Where any of the following conditions cause the component or system to be beyond its limit state, the component or system shall be determined as unsafe and shall be repaired or replaced to comply with the International Building Code as required for existing buildings:

1. Soils that have been subjected to any of the following conditions:
  - 1.1. Collapse of footing or foundation system;
  - 1.2. Damage to footing, foundation, concrete or other structural element due to soil expansion;
  - 1.3. Adverse effects to the design strength of footing, foundation, concrete or other structural element due to a chemical reaction from the soil;
  - 1.4. Inadequate soil as determined by a geotechnical investigation;
  - 1.5. Where the allowable bearing capacity of the soil is in doubt: or
  - 1.6. Adverse effects to the footing, foundation, concrete or other structural element due to the ground water table.
2. Concrete that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:
  - 2.1. Deterioration;
  - 2.2. Ultimate deformation;
  - 2.3. Fractures;
  - 2.4. Fissures;

- 2.5. Spalling;
  - 2.6. Exposed reinforcement; or
  - 2.7. Detached, dislodged or failing connections.
3. Aluminum that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:
- 3.1. Deterioration;
  - 3.2. Corrosion;
  - 3.3. Elastic deformation;
  - 3.4. Ultimate deformation,
  - 3.5. Stress or strain cracks;
  - 3.6. Joint fatigue: or
  - 3.7. Detached, dislodged or failing connections.
4. Masonry that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:
- 4.1. Deterioration;
  - 4.2. Ultimate deformation;
  - 4.3. Fractures in masonry or mortar joints;
  - 4.4. Fissures in masonry or mortar joints;
  - 4.5. Spalling;
  - 4.6. Exposed reinforcement; or
  - 4.7. Detached, dislodged or failing connections.
5. Steel that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:
- 5.1. Deterioration;
  - 5.2. Elastic deformation;
  - 5.3. Ultimate deformation;
  - 5.4. Metal fatigue; or
  - 5.5. Detached, dislodged or failing connections.
6. Wood that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:
- 6.1. Ultimate deformation;
  - 6.2. Deterioration;
  - 6.3. Damage from insects, rodents and other vermin;
  - 6.4. Fire damage beyond charring;
  - 6.5. Significant splits and checks;
  - 6.6. Horizontal shear cracks;
  - 6.7. Vertical shear cracks;
  - 6.8. Inadequate support;
  - 6.9. Detached, dislodged or failing connections; or
  - 6.10. Excessive cutting and notching.

Exceptions:

- 1. When substantiated otherwise by an approved method.
- 2. Demolition of unsafe conditions shall be permitted when approved by the code official.

**SECTION 307  
HANDRAILS AND GUARDRAILS**

**307.1 General.** Every exterior and interior flight of stairs having more than four risers shall have a handrail on one side of the stair and every open portion of a stair, landing, balcony, porch, deck, ramp or other walking surface which is more than 30 inches (762 mm) above the floor or grade below shall have guards. Handrails shall not be less than 30 inches (762 mm) in height or more than 42 inches (1067 mm) in height measured vertically above the nosing of the tread or above the finished floor of the landing or walking surfaces. Guards shall not be less than 30 inches (762 mm) in height above the floor of the landing, balcony, porch, deck, or ramp or other walking surface.

Exception: Guards shall not be required where exempted by the adopted building code.

**SECTION 308  
RUBBISH AND GARBAGE**

**308.1 Accumulation of rubbish or garbage.** All exterior property and premises, and the interior of every structure, shall be free from any accumulation of rubbish or garbage.

**308.2 Disposal of rubbish.** Every occupant of a structure shall dispose of all rubbish in a clean and sanitary manner by placing such rubbish in approved containers.

**308.2.1 Rubbish storage facilities.** The owner of every occupied premise shall supply approved covered containers for rubbish, and the owner of the premises shall be responsible for the removal of rubbish. Where dumpsters are used, they must be covered, and be emptied once a week. The accumulation of rubbish for over a one-week period of time is prohibited. Dumpsters placed on any street or Right of Way must be permitted by the City of Bradford and additionally shall comply with alternate parking regulations.

**308.2.2 Appliances, refrigerators, interior type furniture, mattresses, furniture, fixtures, etc.** No outside storage of any appliances, furniture or fixtures customarily stored, housed, or installed inside of a structure shall be allowed to remain outside except for a one-day period to arrange for their disposal. Furthermore, refrigerators and freezer shall not be discarded, abandoned, or stored on premises without first removing the doors.

**308.3 Disposal of garbage.** Every occupant of a structure shall dispose of garbage in a clean and sanitary manner by placing such garbage in an approved garbage disposal facility or approved garbage containers. Said garbage shall not be moved to the street curb for pick-up any earlier than 5PM the night before its scheduled pick-up.

**308.3.1 Garbage facilities.** The owner of every dwelling shall supply one of the following: an approved mechanical food waste grinder in each dwelling unit; an approved incinerator unit in the structure available to the occupants in each dwelling unit; or an approved leak proof, covered, outside garbage container.

**308.3.2 Containers.** The operator of every establishment producing garbage shall provide, and at all times cause to be utilized, approved leak proof containers provided with close-fitting covers for the storage of such materials until removed from the premises for disposal.

**SECTION 309  
PEST ELIMINATION AND HARBORAGE**

**309.1 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

**ACCESSORY STRUCTURE**

A detached structure which is not used or not intended to be used for living or sleeping by human occupants and which is located on or partially on any premises.

**BREEDING AREA**

Any condition which provides the necessary environment for the birth or hatching of vectors.

**COLLECTION OF WATER**

Water contained in ditches, pools, ponds, streams, excavations, holes, depressions, open cesspools, privy vaults, fountains, cisterns, tanks, shallow wells, barrels, troughs, urns, cans, boxes, bottles, tubs, buckets, roof gutters, tanks of flush closets, reservoirs, vessels, receptacles of any kind or other containers or devices which may hold water.

**COVERED RECEPTACLE**

A container of metal, wood or heavy-duty plastic or synthetic material of solid construction, with a tight-fitting cover secured against wind and leakage.

**DER**

The Department of Environmental Resources, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**DILAPIDATED**

Fallen into partial ruin or decay.

**DISPOSAL**

Storage, collection, disposal or handling of refuse.

**EXTERMINATION**

The control and elimination of vectors by eliminating their harborage places; by removing or making inaccessible materials that may serve as their food; by poisoning, spraying, fumigating, fogging, larviciding or trapping; or by any other recognized and legal vector control elimination methods approved by the local or state authority having such administrative authority.

**GARBAGE**

All animal and vegetable wastes resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking or consumption of food.

**HARBORAGE**

Any place where vectors can live, nest or seek shelter.

**OCCUPANT**

Any person over one (1) year of age living, sleeping, cooking or eating in or actually having possession of a dwelling unit or a rooming unit; in dwelling units, a guest will not be considered an "occupant."

**OWNER**

Any person who, alone or jointly or severally with others, shall have:

- A. Legal title to any premises, dwelling or dwelling unit, with or without accompanying actual possession thereof; or
- B. Charge, care or control of any premises, dwelling or dwelling unit as owner or agent of the owner or an executor, administrator, trustee or guardian of the estate of the owner. Any such person thus representing the actual owner shall be bound to comply with the provisions of this chapter and of the rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto to the same extent as if he were the owner.

**PERSON**

Any natural person, firm, partnership, association or corporation.

**REFUSE**

All solid wastes, except human body wastes, and including handling of refuse.

**RUBBISH**

Glass, metal, paper, plant growth, wood or non putrescible solid wastes.

**VECTOR**

A rodent, arthropod or insect capable of transmitting a disease or infection, including but not limited to rats, mosquitoes, cockroaches, flies and ticks.

**VECTOR-PROOFING**

A form of construction to prevent ingress or egress of vectors to or from a given space or building or their

gaining access to food, water or harborage, including but not limited to rat-proofing, fly-proofing and mosquito-proof.

**309.2 Prohibited Acts.** It shall be unlawful:

- A. For any person to deposit or to knowingly permit any person acting as agent, employee or servant of said person to deposit any refuse, offal, pomace, dead animals, decaying matter or organic substance of any kind in or upon any private lot, building, structure, accessory structure or premises or in or upon any street, avenue, alley, parkway, ravine, ditch or gutter or into any of the waters of the commonwealth so that the same shall or may afford food, harborage or breeding areas for vectors.
- B. For any person to deposit or permit to accumulate in or upon any premises, improved or vacant, or on any open lot or alley any lumber, boxes, barrels, bottles, cans, glass, scrap iron, wire, metal articles, pipe, broken stone or cement, broken crockery, broken plaster or rubbish of any kind, unless the same may be kept in covered receptacles or placed on open racks that are elevated not less than eighteen (18) inches above the ground and evenly piled or stacked or unless disposed of **in** a manner approved by the DER.
- C. To maintain a junkyard or place for the dumping or wrecking or disassembling of automobiles, trucks, tractors or machinery of any kind or of any of the parts thereof or for the storing or leaving of any machinery or equipment used by contractors or builders or by other persons **in** such a manner as to afford harborage or breeding areas for vectors.
- D. To store refuse in containers other than covered receptacles, which shall be kept clean by rinsing and draining as often as necessary so as not to provide food or breeding areas for vectors.
- E. To dump, burn, bury, destroy or otherwise dispose of the refuse except at an approved refuse disposal site.
- F. To collect, haul, transport or convey garbage in open, unenclosed, non-leak proof vehicles.
- G. To construct, maintain or use a sewage system, privy, urinal, cesspool or other receptacle for human excrement so that vectors may have access to the excrementitious matter contained therein.
- H. To have, keep, maintain, cause or permit any collection of standing or flowing water, except for agricultural or industrial purposes, in which mosquitoes breed or are likely to breed, unless such collection of water is treated or maintained so as effectually to prevent such breeding.

**309.3 Responsibilities of owners and occupants.**

- A. Every owner of a dwelling containing two (2) or more dwelling units shall maintain in a clean and sanitary condition the shared or public areas of the dwelling and premises thereof in such a manner as to prevent breeding areas and harborage for vectors.
- B. Every occupant of a dwelling unit in a dwelling containing more than one (1) dwelling unit shall be responsible for extermination within his dwelling unit. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this subsection, whenever infestation is caused by failure of the owner to maintain a dwelling in a rodent proof or reasonably insect proof condition, extermination shall be the responsibility of the owner. Whenever infestation exists in two (2) or more of the dwelling units in any dwelling or in the shared or public parts of any dwelling containing two (2) or more dwelling units, extermination shall be the responsibility of the owner.

**309.4 Vector proofing.**

- A. Any dwelling, building, structure, accessory structure, premises or any other place shall be required to be vector proofed when found to provide harborage or breeding areas for vectors, upon written notice at least three (3) days prior to a hearing and upon hearing by the City Council with an opportunity for the owner to be present, to cross-examine witnesses and to receive a written decision to be rendered within two (2) days after the hearing and with a court appeal.
- B. It shall be unlawful for the owner, occupant, contractor, public utility company, plumber or

any other person to remove and fail to restore in like condition the vector-proofing from any building, structure or accessory structure for any purpose.

### **309.5 Private Vector Control Programs.**

A program plan and specifications for private vector control programs shall be required to be submitted by the owner to the City of Bradford upon determination of the necessity by the Vector Control Program Director. Said determination shall be served on the owner personally or by certified mail. Within two (2) days of said service, the owner may contest the necessity of the program by requesting a hearing to be conducted in accordance with 309.4 of this chapter. Said program plan shall be submitted by the owner to the City Council within two (2) days of notice. The program plan shall state the type of vectors to be controlled, the name of the company contracted to carry out the program, if any, and any and all work to be conducted in an effort to control said vectors. The Vector Control Program Director shall review the program plan, and, if the plan is found to be inadequate or incomplete, additional information may be required as well as additional control methods. The owner may request a hearing on the Director's determination in accordance with 309.4 of this chapter.

### **309.6 Authority to abate vector problems.**

- A. From and after passage of this chapter, the City of Bradford and/or a representative of the vector control program is empowered to make periodic inspections of the interior and exterior of all dwellings, buildings, structures and accessory structures, premises, collections of water or any other places to determine full compliance with this chapter and to determine evidence of vector infestation and the need for vector-proofing or additions or repairs to existing vector-proofing.
- B. Whenever it shall be determined by the City Council that any dwelling, building, structure, accessory structure, premises, collection of water or any other place is in violation of this chapter, a notice shall be issued setting forth the alleged violation(s) and advising the owner, occupant, operator or agent that such violation(s) must be corrected. The time for the correction of said violation(s) must be given as well as the necessary methods to be employed in the correction.
- C. Whenever any violation(s) shall fail to be corrected within the time set forth and an extension of time is not deemed necessary, the City of Bradford may proceed to abate the violation(s) in the manner provided by law.
- D. The owner shall have the right to appeal from said determination by hearing in accordance with 309.4 of this chapter.

### **309.7 Violations and penalties.**

Any person, firm or corporation who or which shall violate any provision of this article shall, upon his or its first conviction thereof, be subject to the fines and penalties in Section I06.4.

## **CHAPTER 4 LIGHT, VENTILATION AND OCCUPANCY LIMITATIONS**

### **SECTION 401 GENERAL**

**401.1 Scope.** The provisions of this chapter shall govern the minimum conditions and standards for light, ventilation and space for occupying a structure.

**401.2 Responsibility.** The owner of the structure shall provide and maintain light, ventilation and space conditions in compliance with these requirements. A person shall not occupy as owner-occupant, or permit another person to occupy, any premises that do not comply with the requirements of this chapter.

**401.3 Alternative devices.** In lieu of the means for natural light and ventilation herein prescribed, artificial light or mechanical ventilation complying with the International Building Code shall be permitted.

## SECTION 402

### LIGHT

**402.1 Habitable spaces.** Every habitable space shall have at least one window or skylight of approved size facing directly to the outdoors or to a court. The minimum total glazed area for every habitable space shall be eight (8%) percent of the floor area of such room. Wherever walls or other portions of a structure face a window of any room and such obstructions are located less than 3 feet (914 mm) from the window and extend to a level above that of the ceiling of the room, such window shall not be deemed to face directly to the outdoors nor to a court and shall not be included as contributing to the required minimum total window area for the room. When the only window in the room is a skylight-type window, the total window area of such skylight shall equal at least fifteen (15) percent of the total floor of such room.

Exception: Where natural light for rooms or spaces without exterior glazing areas is provided through an adjoining room, the unobstructed opening to the adjoining room shall be at least 8 percent of the floor area of the interior room or space, but a minimum of 25 square feet (2.33 m<sup>2</sup>). The exterior glazing area shall be based on the total floor area being served.

**402.2 Common halls and stairways.** Every common hall and stairway in residential occupancies, other than in one- and two-family dwellings, shall be lighted at all times with at least a 60 watt standard incandescent light bulb for each 200 square feet (19m<sup>2</sup>) of floor area or equivalent illumination, provided that the spacing between lights shall not be greater than 30 feet (9144 mm). In other than residential occupancies, means of egress, including exterior means of egress, stairways shall be illuminated at all times the building space served by the means of egress is occupied with a minimum of 1 foot candle (11 lux) at floors, landings and treads.

**402.3 Other spaces.** All other spaces shall be provided with natural or artificial light sufficient to permit the maintenance of sanitary conditions, and the safe occupancy of the space and utilization of the appliances, equipment and fixtures.

## SECTION 403

### VENTILATION

**403.1 Habitable spaces.** Every habitable space shall have at least one openable window or skylight which can be easily opened. The total openable area of the window or skylight in every room shall be equal to at least 45 percent of the minimum glazed area required in Section 402.1.

Exception: Where rooms and spaces without openings to the outdoors are ventilated through an adjoining room, the unobstructed opening to the adjoining room shall be at least 8 percent of the floor area of the interior room or space, but a minimum of 25 square feet (2.33 m<sup>2</sup>). The ventilation openings to the outdoors shall be based on a total floor area being ventilated.

**403.2 Bathrooms and toilet rooms.** Every bathroom and toilet room shall comply with the ventilation requirements for habitable spaces as required by Section 403.1, except that a window shall not be required in such spaces equipped with a mechanical ventilation system. Air exhausted by a mechanical ventilation system from a bathroom or toilet room shall discharge to the outdoors and shall not be recirculated.

**403.3 Cooking facilities.** Unless approved through the certificate of occupancy, cooking shall not be permitted in any rooming unit or dormitory unit, and a cooking facility or appliance shall not be permitted to be present in the rooming unit or dormitory unit.

Exceptions:

1. Where specifically approved in writing by the code official.
2. Devices such as coffee pots and microwave ovens shall not be considered cooking appliances.



**403.4 Process ventilation.** Where injurious, toxic, irritating or noxious fumes, gases, dusts or mists are generated, a local exhaust ventilation system shall be provided to remove the contaminating agent at the source. Air shall be exhausted to the exterior and not be recirculated to any space.

**403.5 Clothes dryer exhaust.** Clothes dryer exhaust systems shall be independent of all other systems and shall be exhausted outside the structure in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Exception: Listed and labeled condensing (ductless) clothes dryers.

## SECTION 404

### LIGHT, VENTILATION AND OCCUPANCY LIMITATIONS

**404.1 Privacy.** Dwelling units, hotel units, housekeeping units, rooming units and dormitory units shall be arranged to provide privacy and be separate from other adjoining spaces.

**404.2 Minimum room widths.** A habitable room, other than a kitchen, shall be a minimum of 7 feet (2134 mm) in any plan dimension. Kitchens shall have a minimum clear passageway of 3 feet (914 mm) between counter fronts and appliances or counter front and walls.

**404.3 Minimum ceiling heights.** Habitable spaces, hall- ways, corridors, laundry areas, bathrooms, toilet rooms and habitable basement areas shall have a minimum clear ceiling height of 7 feet (2134 mm).

Exception: The required ceiling height of seven (7) feet shall be allowed to be reduced to six feet four inches (6' 4") when the construction of the structure does not allow for 7 feet, and in the opinion of the code official, the room was intended to be habitable at the time of construction. At no time shall any ceiling less than seven (7) feet in height be allowed to be lowered more than the maximum height than the structural members will allow.

**404.4 Bedroom and living room requirements.** Every bedroom and living room shall comply with the requirements of Sections 404.4 .1 through 404.4.5.

**404.4.1 Living Room Area.** Every living room shall contain at least 120 square feet (11.2m<sup>2</sup>) and every bedroom shall contain a minimum of 70 square feet (6.5 m<sup>2</sup>) and every bedroom occupied by more than one person shall contain a minimum of 50 square feet (4.6 m<sup>2</sup>) of floor area for each occupant thereof.

**404.4.2 Access from bedrooms.** Bedrooms shall not constitute the only means of access to other bedrooms or habitable spaces and shall not serve as the only means of egress from other habitable spaces.

Exception: Units that contain fewer than two bedrooms.

**404.4.3 Water closet accessibility.** Every bedroom shall have access to at least one water closet and one lavatory without passing through another bedroom. Every bedroom in a dwelling unit shall have access to at least one water closet and lavatory located in the same story as the bedroom or an adjacent story.

**404.4.4 Prohibited occupancy.** Kitchens and non-habitable spaces shall not be used for sleeping purposes.

**404.4.5 Other requirements.** Bedrooms shall comply with the applicable provisions of this code including, but not limited to, the light, ventilation, room area, ceiling height and room width requirements of this chapter; the plumbing facilities and water-heating facilities requirements of Chapter 5; the heating facilities and electrical receptacle requirements of Chapter 6; and the smoke detector and emergency escape requirements of Chapter 7.

**404.5 Overcrowding.** Dwelling units shall not be occupied by more occupants than permitted by the minimum area requirements of Table 404.5.

TABLE 404.5  
MINIMUM AREA REQUIREMENTS

Space	Minimum Area in Square Feet		
	1-2 occupants	3-5 occupants	6 or more occupants
Living Room	120	120	150
Bedrooms	Shall comply with Section 404.4.1'		

For **SI**: 1 square foot= 0.093 m2 .

- a. See Section 404.5.2 for combined living room/dining room spaces.
- b. See Section 404.5.1 for limitations on determining the minimum occupancy area for sleeping purposes.

**404.5.1 Sleeping area.** The minimum occupancy area required by Table 404.5 shall not be included as a sleeping area in determining the minimum occupancy area for sleeping purposes. All sleeping areas shall comply with Section 404.4.

**404.5.2 Combined spaces.** Combined living room and dining room spaces shall comply with the requirements of Table 404.5 if the total area is equal to that required for separate rooms and if the space is located so as to function as a combination living room/dining room.

**404.6 Efficiency unit.** Nothing in this section shall prohibit an efficiency living unit from meeting the following requirements:

1. A unit occupied by not more than one occupant shall have a minimum clear floor area of 120 square feet (11.2 m2). A unit occupied by not more than two occupants shall have a minimum clear floor area of 220 square feet (20.4 m2). A unit occupied by three occupants shall have a minimum clear floor area of 320 square feet (29.7 m2). These required areas shall be exclusive of the areas required by Items 2 and 3.
2. The unit shall be provided with a kitchen sink, cooking appliance and refrigeration facilities, each having a minimum clear working space of 30 inches (762 mm) in front. Light and ventilation conforming to this code shall be provided.
3. The unit shall be provided with a separate bathroom containing a water closet, lavatory and bathtub or shower.
4. The maximum number of occupants shall be three.

**404.7 Food preparation.** All spaces to be occupied for food preparation purposes shall contain suitable space and equipment to store, prepare and serve foods in a sanitary manner. There shall be adequate facilities and services for the sanitary disposal of food wastes and refuse, including facilities for temporary storage.

## CHAPTERS PLUMBING FACILITIES AND FIXTURE REQUIREMENTS

### SECTION 501 GENERAL

**501.1 Scope.** The provisions of this chapter shall govern the minimum plumbing systems, facilities and plumbing fixtures to be provided.

**501.2 Responsibility.** The owner of the structure shall provide and maintain such plumbing facilities and plumbing fixtures in compliance with these requirements. A person shall not occupy as owner- occupant or permit another person to occupy any structure or premises which does not comply with the requirements of this chapter.

## SECTION 502 REQUIRED FACILITIES

**502.1 Dwelling units.** Every dwelling unit shall contain its own bathtub or shower, lavatory, water closet and kitchen sink which shall be maintained in a sanitary, safe working condition. The lavatory shall be placed in the same room as the water closet or located in close proximity to the door leading directly into the room in which such water closet is located. A kitchen sink shall not be used as a substitute for the required lavatory.

**502.2 Rooming houses.** At least one water closet, lavatory and bathtub or shower shall be supplied for each four rooming units.

**502.3 Hotels.** Where private water closets, lavatories and baths are not provided, one water closet, one lavatory and one bathtub or shower having access from a public hallway shall be provided for each ten occupants.

**502.4 Employees' facilities.** A minimum of one water closet, one lavatory and one drinking facility shall be available to employees.

**502.4.1 Drinking facilities.** Drinking facilities shall be a drinking fountain, water cooler, bottled water cooler or disposable cups next to a sink or water dispenser. Drinking facilities shall not be located in toilet rooms or bathrooms.

**502.5 Public toilet facilities.** Public toilet facilities shall be maintained in a safe sanitary and working condition in accordance with the International Plumbing Code. Except for periodic maintenance or cleaning, public access and use shall be provided to the toilet facilities at all times during occupancy of the premises.

## SECTION 503 TOILET ROOMS

**503.1 Privacy.** Toilet rooms and bathrooms shall provide privacy and shall not constitute the only passageway to a hall or other space, or to the exterior. A door and interior locking device shall be provided for all common or shared bathrooms and toilet rooms in a multiple dwelling.

**503.2 Location.** Toilet rooms and bathrooms serving hotel units, rooming units or dormitory units or housekeeping units, shall have access by traversing a maximum of one flight of stairs and shall have access from a common hall or passageway.

**503.3 Location of employee toilet facilities.** Toilet facilities shall have access from within the employees' working area. The required toilet facilities shall be located a maximum of one story above or below the employees' working area and the path of travel to such facilities shall not exceed a distance of 500 feet (152 m). Employee facilities shall either be separate facilities or combined employee and public facilities.

Exception: Facilities that are required for employees in storage structures or kiosks, which are located in adjacent structures under the same ownership, lease or control, shall not exceed a travel distance of 500 feet (152 m) from the employees' regular working area to the facilities.

[P] 503.4 Floor surface. In other than dwelling units, every toilet room floor shall be maintained to be a smooth, hard, nonabsorbent surface to permit such floor to be easily kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

**SECTION 504  
PLUMBING SYSTEMS AND FIXTURES**

**504.1 General.** All plumbing fixtures shall be properly installed and maintained in working order, and shall be kept free from obstructions, leaks and defects and be capable of performing the function for which such plumbing fixtures are designed. All plumbing fixtures shall be maintained in a safe, sanitary and functional condition.

**504.2 Fixture clearances.** Plumbing fixtures shall have adequate clearances for usage and cleaning.

**504.3 Plumbing system hazards.** Where it is found that a plumbing system in a structure constitutes a hazard to the occupants or the structure by reason of inadequate service, inadequate venting, cross connection, back siphonage, improper installation, deterioration or damage or for similar reasons, the code official shall require the defects to be corrected to eliminate the hazard.

**504.4 Miscellaneous.** Water closets of the so-called "flush hopper", frost proof hooper" or similar type shall not be permitted. Every water supply line shall be so installed that no potable water supply line or plumbing fixture is connected in any way to a non potable water supply.

**SECTION 505  
WATER SYSTEM**

**505.1 General.** Every sink, lavatory, bathtub or shower, drinking fountain, water closet or other plumbing fixture shall be properly connected to either a public water system or to an approved private water system. All kitchen sinks, lavatories, laundry facilities, bathtubs and showers shall be supplied with hot or tempered and cold running water in accordance with the International Plumbing Code.

**505.2 Contamination.** The water supply shall be maintained free from contamination, and all water inlets for plumbing fixtures shall be located above the flood-level rim of the fixture. Shampoo basin faucets, janitor sink faucets and other hose bibs or faucets to which hoses are attached and left in place, shall be protected by an approved atmospheric-type vacuum breaker or an approved permanently attached hose connection vacuum breaker.

**505.3 Supply.** The water supply system shall be installed and maintained to provide a supply of water to plumbing fixtures, devices and appurtenances in sufficient volume and at pressures adequate to enable the fixtures to function properly, safely, and free from defects and leaks.

**505.4 Water heating facilities.** Water heating facilities shall be properly installed, maintained and capable of providing an adequate amount of water to be drawn at every required sink, lavatory, bathtub, shower and laundry facility at a minimum temperature of 110°F (43°C). A gas-burning water heater shall not be located in any bathroom, toilet room, bedroom or other occupied room normally kept closed, unless adequate combustion air is provided. An approved combination temperature and pressure-relief valve and relief valve discharge pipe shall be properly installed and maintained on water heaters.

**SECTION 506  
SANITARY DRAINAGE SYSTEM**

**506.1 General.** All plumbing fixtures shall be properly connected to either a public sewer system or to an approved private sewage disposal system. Each waste line shall drain freely without obstruction or leaks and all waste lines of water- using fixtures shall be trapped.

**506.2 Maintenance.** Every plumbing stack, vent, waste and sewer line shall function properly and be kept free from obstructions, leaks and defects.

**506.3 Grease interceptors.** Grease interceptors and automatic grease removal devices shall be maintained in accordance with this code and the manufacturer's installation instructions. Grease interceptors and automatic grease removal devices shall be regularly serviced and cleaned to prevent the discharge of oil, grease, and other substances harmful or hazardous to the building drainage system, the public sewer, the private sewage disposal system or the sewage treatment plant or processes. All records of maintenance, cleaning and repairs shall be available for inspection by the code official.

## **SECTION 507 STORM DRAINAGE**

**507.1 General.** Drainage of roofs and paved areas, yards and courts, and other open areas on the premises shall not be discharged in a manner that creates a public nuisance nor into a sanitary sewer, nor in any other unlawful manner.

## **CHAPTER 6 MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS**

### **SECTION 601 GENERAL**

**601.1 Scope.** The provisions of this chapter shall govern the minimum mechanical and electrical facilities and equipment to be provided.

**601.2 Responsibility.** The owner of the structure shall provide and maintain mechanical and electrical facilities and equipment in compliance with these requirements. A person shall not occupy as owner-occupant or permit another person to occupy any premises which does not comply with the requirements of this chapter.

### **SECTION 602 HEATING FACILITIES**

**602.1 Facilities required.** Heating facilities shall be provided in structures as required by this section.

**602.2 Residential occupancies.** Dwellings shall be provided with heating facilities capable of maintaining a room temperature of 68°F (20°C) in all habitable rooms, bathrooms and toilet rooms based on the winter outdoor design temperature for the locality indicated in Appendix D of the International Plumbing Code. Cooking appliances shall not be used, nor shall portable unvented fuel-burning space heaters be used, as a means to provide required heating.

Exception: In areas where the average monthly temperature is above 30°F (-1°C), a minimum temperature of 65°F (18°C) shall be maintained.

**602.3 Heat supply.** Every owner and operator of any building who rents, leases or lets one or more dwelling units or sleeping units on terms, either expressed or implied, to furnish heat to the occupants thereof shall supply heat necessary to maintain a minimum temperature of 68°F (20°C) in all habitable rooms, bathrooms and toilet rooms.

Exceptions:

- 1 When the outdoor temperature is below the winter outdoor design temperature for the

locality, maintenance of the minimum room temperature shall not be required provided that the heating system is operating at its full design capacity. The winter outdoor design temperature for the locality shall be as indicated in Appendix D of the International Plumbing Code.

- 2 In areas where the average monthly temperature is above 30°F (-1 °C) a minimum temperature of 65°F (18°C) shall be maintained.

**602.4 Occupiable work spaces.** Indoor occupiable work spaces shall be supplied with heat necessary to maintain a minimum temperature of 65°F (18°C) during the period the spaces are occupied.

Exceptions:

- 1 Processing, storage and operation areas that require cooling or special temperature conditions.
- 2 Areas in which persons are primarily engaged in vigorous physical activities.

**602.5 Room temperature measurement.** The required room temperatures shall be measured 3 feet (914 mm) above the floor near the center of the room and 2 feet (610 mm) inward from the center of each exterior wall.

## SECTION 603 MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT

**603.1 Mechanical appliances.** All mechanical appliances, fireplaces, solid fuel-burning appliances, cooking appliances and water heating appliances shall be properly installed and maintained in a safe working condition, and shall be capable of performing the intended function.

**603.2 Removal of combustion products.** All fuel-burning equipment and appliances shall be connected to an approved chimney or vent.

Exception: Fuel-burning equipment and appliances which are labeled for unvented operation.

**603.3 Clearances.** All required clearances to combustible materials shall be maintained.

**603.4 Safety controls.** All safety controls for fuel-burning equipment shall be maintained in effective operation.

**603.5 Combustion air.** A supply of air for complete combustion of the fuel and for ventilation of the space containing the fuel-burning equipment shall be provided for the fuel-burning equipment.

**603.6 Energy conservation devices.** Devices intended to reduce fuel consumption by attachment to a fuel burning appliance, to the fuel supply line thereto, or to the vent outlet or vent piping therefrom, shall not be installed unless labeled for such purpose and the installation is specifically approved.

## SECTION 604 ELECTRICAL FACILITIES

**604.1 Facilities required.** Every occupied building shall be provided with an electrical system in compliance with the requirements of this section and Section 605.

**604.2 Service.** The size and usage of appliances and equipment shall serve as a basis for determining the need for additional facilities in accordance with NFPA 70. Dwelling units shall be served by a three-wire, 120/240 volt, single-phase electrical service having a minimum rating of 60 amperes.

**604.3 Electrical system hazards.** Where it is found that the electrical system in a structure constitutes a hazard to the occupants or the structure by reason of inadequate service, improper

fusing, insufficient receptacle and lighting outlets, improper wiring or installation, deterioration or damage, or for similar reasons, the code official shall require the defects to be corrected to eliminate the hazard.

**604.3.1 Abatement of electrical hazards associated with water exposure.** The provisions of this section shall govern the repair and replacement of electrical systems and equipment that have been exposed to water.

**604.3.1.1 Electrical equipment.** Electrical distribution equipment, motor circuits, power equipment, transformers, wire, cable, flexible cords, wiring devices, ground fault circuit interrupters, surge protectors, molded case circuit breakers, low-voltage fuses, luminaires, ballasts, motors and electronic control, signaling and communication equipment that have been exposed to water shall be replaced in accordance with the provisions of the International Building Code.

Exception: The following equipment shall be allowed to be repaired where an inspection report from the equipment manufacturer or approved manufacturer's representative indicates that the equipment has not sustained damage that requires replacement:

1. Enclosed switches, rated a maximum of 600 volts or less;
2. Bus way, rated a maximum of 600 volts;
3. Panel boards, rated a maximum of 600 volts;
4. Switchboards, rated a maximum of 600 volts;
5. Fire pump controllers, rated a maximum of 600 volts;
6. Manual and magnetic motor controllers;
7. Motor control centers;
8. Alternating current high-voltage circuit breakers;
9. Low-voltage power circuit breakers;
10. Protective relays, meters and current transformers;
11. Low- and medium-voltage switchgear;
12. Liquid-filled transformers;
13. Cast-resin transformers;
14. Wire or cable that is suitable for wet locations and whose ends have not been exposed to water;
15. Wire or cable, not containing fillers, that is suitable for wet locations and whose ends have not been exposed to water;
16. Luminaires that are listed as submersible;
17. Motors;
18. Electronic control, signaling and communication equipment.

**604.3.2 Abatement of electrical hazards associated with fire exposure.** The provisions of this section shall govern the repair and replacement of electrical systems and equipment that have been exposed to fire.

**604.3.2.1 Electrical equipment.** Electrical switches, receptacles and fixtures, including furnace, water heating, security system and power distribution circuits that have been exposed to fire, shall be replaced in accordance with the provisions of the International Building Code.

Exception: Electrical switches, receptacles and fixtures that shall be allowed to be repaired where an inspection report from the equipment manufacturer or approved manufacturer's representative indicates that the equipment has not sustained damage that requires replacement.

**SECTION 605  
ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT**

**605.1 Installation.** All electrical equipment, wiring and appliances shall be properly installed and maintained in a safe and approved manner.

**605.2 Receptacles.** Every habitable space in a dwelling shall contain at least two separate and remote receptacle outlets. Every laundry area shall contain at least one grounded-type receptacle or a receptacle with a ground fault circuit interrupter. Every bathroom shall contain at least one receptacle. Any new bathroom receptacle outlet shall have ground fault circuit interrupter protection. All receptacle outlets shall have the appropriate faceplate cover for the location.

**605.3 Luminaires.** Every public hall, interior stairway, toilet room, kitchen, bathroom, laundry room, boiler room and furnace room shall contain at least one electric luminaire. Pool and spa luminaries over 15 V shall have ground fault circuit interrupter protection.

**605.4 Wiring.** Flexible cords shall not be used for permanent wiring, or for running through doors, windows, or cabinets, or concealed within walls, floors, or ceilings.

**SECTION 606  
ELEVATORS, ESCALATORS AND DUMBWAITERS**

**606.1 General.** Elevators, dumbwaiters and escalators shall be maintained in compliance with ASME A1 7.1. The most current certificate of inspection shall be on display at all times within the elevator or attached to the escalator or dumbwaiter, be available for public inspection in the office of the building operator or be posted in a publicly conspicuous location approved by the code official. The inspection and tests shall be performed at not less than the periodic intervals listed in ASME A 17.1, Appendix N, except where otherwise specified by the authority having jurisdiction.

**606.2 Elevators.** In buildings equipped with passenger elevators, at least one elevator shall be maintained in operation at all times when the building is occupied.

Exception: Buildings equipped with only one elevator shall be permitted to have the elevator temporarily out of service for testing or servicing.

**SECTION 607  
DUCT SYSTEMS**

**607.1 General.** Duct systems shall be maintained free of obstructions and shall be capable of performing the required function.

**CHAPTER 7  
FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS**

**SECTION 701  
GENERAL**

**701.1 Scope.** The provisions of this chapter shall govern the minimum conditions and standards for fire safety relating to structures and exterior premises, including fire safety facilities and equipment to be provided.

**701.2 Responsibility.** The owner of the premises shall provide and maintain such fire safety facilities and equipment in compliance with these requirements. A person shall not occupy as owner-occupant or permit another person to occupy any premises that do not comply with the requirements of this chapter.



## SECTION 702 MEANS OF EGRESS

**702.1 General.** A safe, continuous and unobstructed path of travel shall be provided from any point in a building or structure to the public way. Means of egress shall comply with the International Fire Code.

**702.2 Aisles.** The required width of aisles in accordance with the International Fire Code shall be unobstructed.

**702.3 Locked doors.** All means of egress doors shall be readily openable from the side from which egress is to be made without the need for keys, special knowledge or effort, except where the door hardware conforms to that permitted by the International Building Code, 2012 edition, Section 111-1.

**702.4 Emergency escape openings.** Required emergency escape openings shall be maintained in accordance with the code in effect at the time of construction, and the following. Required emergency escape and rescue openings shall be operational from the inside of the room without the use of keys or tools. Bars, grilles, grates or similar devices are permitted to be placed over emergency escape and rescue openings provided the minimum net clear opening size complies with the code that was in effect at the time of construction and such devices shall be releasable or removable from the inside without the use of a key, tool or force greater than that which is required for normal operation of the escape and rescue opening.

## SECTION 703 FIRE-RESISTANCE RATINGS

**703.1 Fire-resistance-rated assemblies.** The required fire-resistance rating of fire-resistance-rated walls, fire stops, shaft enclosures, partitions and floors shall be maintained.

**703.2 Opening protectives.** Required opening protectives shall be maintained in an operative condition. All fire and smoke stop doors shall be maintained in operable condition. Fire doors and smoke barrier doors shall not be blocked or obstructed or otherwise made inoperable.

## SECTION 704 FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS

**704.1 General.** All systems, devices and equipment to detect a fire, actuate an alarm, or suppress or control a fire or any combination thereof shall be maintained in an operable condition at all times in accordance with the International Fire Code.

**704.1.1 Automatic sprinkler systems.** Inspection, testing and maintenance of automatic sprinkler systems shall be in accordance with NFPA 25.

**704.2 Smoke alarms.** Single- or multiple-station smoke alarms shall be installed and maintained in Group R or I-1 occupancies, regardless of occupant load at all of the following locations:

1. On the ceiling or wall outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of bedrooms.
2. In each room used for sleeping purposes.
3. In each story within a dwelling unit, including basements and cellars but not including crawl spaces and uninhabitable attics. In dwellings or dwelling units with split levels and without an intervening door between the adjacent levels, a smoke alarm installed on the upper level shall suffice for the adjacent lower level provided that the lower level is less than one full story below the upper level.

**704.3 Power source.** In Group R or 1-1 occupancies, single-station smoke alarms shall receive their primary power from the building wiring provided that such wiring is served from a commercial source and shall be equipped with a battery backup. Smoke alarms shall emit a signal when the batteries are low. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than as required for overcurrent protection.

Exception: Smoke alarms are permitted to be solely battery operated in buildings where no construction is taking place, buildings that are not served from a commercial power source and in existing areas of buildings undergoing alterations or repairs that do not result in the removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure, unless there is an attic, crawl space or basement available which could provide access for building wiring without the removal of interior finishes.

**704.4 Interconnection.** Where more than one smoke alarm is required to be installed within an individual dwelling unit in Group R or 1-1 occupancies, the smoke alarms shall be interconnected in such a manner that the activation of one alarm will activate all of the alarms in the individual unit. Physical interconnection of smoke alarms shall not be required where listed wireless alarms are installed and all alarms sound upon activation of one alarm. The alarm shall be clearly audible in all bedrooms over background noise levels with all intervening doors closed.

Exceptions:

1. Interconnection is not required in buildings which are not undergoing alterations, repairs or construction of any kind.
2. Smoke alarms in existing areas are not required to be interconnected where alterations or repairs do not result in the removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure, unless there is an attic, crawl space or basement available which could provide access for interconnection without the removal of interior finishes.

## **SECTION 705 CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTION/ ALARMS**

**705.1 Carbon Monoxide Alarms.** In group I or R occupancies located in a building containing a fuel-burning appliance or in a building which has an attached garage shall be equipped with a carbon monoxide alarms. The carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed as complying with UL 2034 and be installed and maintained in accordance with NFPA 720 and the manufacturer's instructions. An open parking garage, as defined in Chapter 2 of the international Building Code, or an enclosed parking garage ventilated in accordance with Section 404 of the International Mechanical Code shall not be considered an attached garage.

**Exception:** Sleeping units or dwelling units which do not themselves contain a fuel-burning appliance or have an attached garage, but which are located in a building with a fuel-burning appliance or and attached garage, need not be equipped with single-station carbon monoxide alarms provided that:

1. The sleeping unit or dwelling unit is located more than one story above or below any story which contains a fuel-burning appliance or an attachment garage;
2. The sleeping unit or dwelling unit is not connected by duct work or ventilation shafts to any room containing a fuel-burning appliance or to an attached garage; and
3. The building is equipped with a common area carbon monoxide alarm system.

**CHAPTERS  
REFERENCED STANDARDS**

This chapter lists the standards that are referenced in various sections of this document. The standards are listed herein by the promulgating agency of the standard, the standard identification, the effective date and title and the section or sections of this document that reference the standard. The application of the referenced standards shall be as specified in Section 102.7.

American Society of Mechanical Engineers  
Three Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10016-5990

<u>Standard reference number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Section#</u>
AI 7.1/CSA B44-2007	Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators	606.1

ASTM International  
100 Barr Harbor Drive  
West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959

<u>standard reference number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>section</u>
# F 1346-91 (2003)	Performance Specifications for Safety Covers		303.2
And Labeling Requirements	All Covers for Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs		

International Code Council  
500 New Jersey Avenue, NW 6th Floor  
Washington, DC 20001

<u>Standard reference number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Section #</u>
IBC- 12 702.3	International Building Code		102.3, 201.3, 401.3,
IEBC- 12	International Existing Building Code		305.1.1, 306.1.1
IFC-12 604.3.2.1,	International Fire Code		201.3, 604.3.1.1, 702.1, 702.2, 704.1, 704.2
IFGC- 12	International Fuel Gas Code		102.3
IMC- 12	International Mechanical Code		102.3, 201.3
IPC-12 602.3	International Plumbing Code		201.3, 505.1, 602.2,
IRC-12	International Residential Code		201.3
IZC- 12	International Zoning Code		102.3, 201.3

National Fire Protection Association  
1 Batterymarch Park  
Quincy, MA 01906

Standard reference number	Title	Code section number
25-11	Inspection , Testing and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems	704.1.1
70-11	National Electrical Code	102.4,201.3,604.2

## APPENDIX A

### A101-GENERAL

**A101.1 General.** All windows and doors shall be boarded in an approved manner to prevent entry by unauthorized persons and shall be painted to correspond to the color of the existing structure.

### A102-MATERIALS

**A102.1 Boarding sheet material.** Boarding sheet material shall be minimum 1/2-inch (12.7 mm) thick wood structural panels complying with the International Building Code.

**A102.2 Boarding framing material.** Boarding framing material shall be minimum nominal 2-inch by 4-inch (51 mm by 102 mm) solid sawn lumber complying with the International Building Code.

**A102.3 Boarding fasteners.** Boarding fasteners shall be with screws and nails alternating every 6 inches (152 mm) on center.

### A103-INSTALLATION

**A103.1 Boarding installation.** The boarding installation shall be in accordance with Figures A103.1 (1) and A103.1 (2) and Sections A103.2 through A103.5.

**A103.2 Boarding sheet material.** The boarding sheet material shall be cut to fit the door or window opening neatly or shall be cut to provide an equal overlap at the perimeter of the door or window.

**A103.3 Windows.** The window shall be opened to allow the carriage bolt to pass through or the window sash shall be removed and stored. The 2-inch by 4-inch (51 mm by 102 mm) strong back framing material shall be cut minimum 2 inches (51 mm) wider than the window opening and shall be placed on the inside of the window opening 6 inches minimum above the bottom and below the top of the window opening. The framing and boarding shall be predrilled. The assembly shall be aligned and the bolts, washers and nuts shall be installed and secured.

**A103.4 Door walls.** The door opening shall be framed with minimum 2-inch by 4-inch (51 mm by 102 mm) framing material secured at the entire perimeter and vertical members at a maximum of 24 inches (610 mm) on center. Blocking shall also be secured at a maximum of 48 inches (1219 mm) on center vertically. Boarding sheet material shall be secured at a maximum of

48 inches (1219 mm) on center vertically. Boarding sheet material shall be secured with screws and nails alternating every 6 inches (152mm) on center.

**A103.5 Doors.** Doors shall be secured by the same method as for windows or door openings. One door to the structure shall be available for authorized entry and shall be secured and locked in an approved manner.

#### A104-REFERENCED STANDARDS

IBC-12 International Building Code A102.1, A102.2, A102.3

#### FIGURE A103 .1(1) BOARDING OF DOOR OR WINDOW

Insert Figure A103.1 (1)