



**BURGLAR** ESTABLISHED 1981  
**& FIRE ALARM**

ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN

APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

**Period 3**  
**Related Training Instruction (RTI)**  
**Module 3 – Michigan Building Code (MBC), Chapter 9**  
**Part 1**

**Reading material associated with this module:**  
**Chapter 9**  
**Michigan Building Code (MBC), 2021 Edition**

**Michigan Building Code (MBC), 2021  
Edition  
Chapter 9 – Sections 901 to 906**

## 2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

### Chapter 9 – Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems:

- Section 901 – General:
  - Fire protection and life safety systems shall be installed, repaired, operated and maintained in accordance with this code and the *International Fire Code* (IFC).
  - Any fire protection or life safety system for which an exception or reduction to the provisions of this code has been granted shall be considered to be a required system.
  - Exception: Any fire protection or life safety system or portion thereof not required by this code shall be permitted to be installed for partial or complete protection, provided the system meets the requirements of the code.

901.2

## 2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

### Chapter 9 – Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems:

- Section 901 – General:
  - Persons shall not remove or modify any fire protection system installed or maintained under the provisions of this code or the IFC without approval by the building official.
  - Acceptance tests: Fire protection systems shall be tested in accordance with the requirements of this code and the IFC. When required, tests shall be conducted in the presence of the building official. It shall be unlawful to occupy portions of a structure until the required fire protection systems within that portion of the structure have been tested and approved.

901.3, 901.5

## 2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

### Chapter 9 – Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems:

- Section 901 – General:
  - Where required, fire protection systems shall be monitored by an approved supervising station in accordance with NFPA 72.
  - Automatic sprinkler systems shall be monitored by an approved supervising station, except for:
    - Automatic sprinkler systems protecting one- and two-family dwellings.
    - Limited area sprinkler systems that meet the following:
      - No more than six heads in any single fire area.
      - Only areas classified by NFPA 13 as Light Hazard or Ordinary Hazard Group 1 are permitted to be protected by limited area systems.
      - Control valves shall be an approved indicating type that are supervised or secured in the open position.

## 2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

### Chapter 9 – Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems:

- Section 901 – General:
  - Fire alarm systems required for all occupancies where required by Section 907.2 and Sections 907.2 and 907.9 of the International Fire Code (IFC) shall be monitored by an approved supervising station in accordance with Section 907.6.6 of this code.
    - Exceptions are allowed for:
      - Single- and multiple-station smoke alarms as required by Section 907.2.11.
      - Smoke detectors in Group I-3 occupancies (correctional facilities).
      - Automatic sprinkler systems in one- and two-family dwellings.

901.6.3

## 2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

### Chapter 9 – Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems:

- Section 901 – General:
  - Supervision and monitoring of the emergency alarm, detection, and automatic fire-extinguishing systems in Group H (hazardous) occupancies shall be in accordance with the IFC.

901.6.4

## 2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

### Chapter 9 – Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems:

- Section 903 – Automatic Sprinkler Systems:
  - Valves controlling the supply of water for automatic sprinkler systems, pumps, tanks, water levels and temperatures, critical air pressures and waterflow switches shall be supervised by a listed fire alarm control unit.
  - Exceptions:
    - Automatic sprinkler systems protecting one- and two-family dwellings.
    - Limited area sprinkler systems.
    - NFPA 13R systems where a common domestic supply main is used to supply both domestic water and the automatic sprinkler system, and a separate shutoff valve for the automatic sprinkler system is not provided.
    - Jockey pump control valves that are sealed or locked in the open position.

## 2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

### Chapter 9 – Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems:

- Section 903 – Automatic Sprinkler Systems:
  - Exceptions (continued):
    - Control valves to commercial kitchen hoods, paint spray booths or dip tanks that are sealed or locked in the open position.
    - Valves controlling the fuel supply to fire pump engines that are locked or sealed in the open position.
    - Trim valves to pressure switches in dry, pre-action and deluge sprinkler systems that are sealed or locked in the open position.
    - Underground key or hub gate valves in roadway boxes.

903.4

## 2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

### Chapter 9 – Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems:

- Section 903 – Automatic Sprinkler Systems:
  - Alarm, supervisory, and trouble signals shall be distinctly different and shall be automatically transmitted to an approved supervising station or, where approved by the fire code official, shall sound an audible signal at a constantly attended location.
  - Exception:
    - Backflow prevention device test valves located in limited area sprinkler system supply piping shall be locked in the open position. In occupancies required to be equipped with a fire alarm system, the backflow preventer valves shall be electrically supervised by a tamper switch installed in accordance with NFPA 72 and separately annunciated.

903.4.1

## 2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

### Chapter 9 – Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems:

- Section 903 – Automatic Sprinkler Systems:
  - An approved audible device, located on the exterior of the building in an approved location, shall be connected to each automatic sprinkler system. Where a fire alarm system is installed, actuation of the sprinkler system shall actuate the building fire alarm system.
  - *Systems provided for sprinkler supervision (Supervisory Service) are not required to be provided with notification appliances for occupant notification per Construction Code Commission Formal Interpretation 09-53, approved by the Commission on November 4, 2009, and binding on all governmental units in Michigan.*
  - Approved supervised indicating control valves shall be provided at the point of connection to the riser on each floor in high-rise buildings.

903.4.2, 903.4.3

## 2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

### Chapter 9 – Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems:

- Section 904 – Alternative Automatic Fire-Extinguishing Systems:
  - Where a building fire alarm system is installed, automatic fire-extinguishing systems shall be monitored by the building fire alarm system in accordance with NFPA 72.
- Section 905 – Standpipe Systems:
  - Valves controlling water supplies shall be supervised in the open position so that a change in the normal position of the valve will generate a supervisory signal at the supervising station.
    - Exceptions:
      - Valves to underground key or hub valves in roadway boxes do not require supervision.
      - Valves locked in the normal position and inspected as provided in this code in buildings not equipped with a fire alarm system.

## 2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

### Chapter 9 – Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems:

- Section 906 – Portable Fire Extinguishers:
  - Portable fire extinguishers shall be selected and in accordance with this section and NFPA 10.
    - *NFPA 10 allows electronic monitoring of portable fire extinguishers:*
      - *Inspection requirements are relaxed when electronic monitoring is provided.*
      - *Electronic monitoring typically interfaces to the fire alarm system and creates a trouble or supervisory signal if the extinguisher is removed from its location, loses its charge or is otherwise obstructed.*

906.2

END OF PERIOD 3 – MODULE 3