



Safety & Buildings Update

Wisconsin Fire Inspectors Association 2006 Fall Conference

Bob DuPont

Wisconsin Department of Commerce

Your Accomplishments

- Over 300,000 fire inspections are conducted each year in Wisconsin.
- 55% of Wisconsin Fire Departments reported data to NFIRS in 2004.

Thank You !

- Your hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated.
- You are integral to achieving fire safety in Wisconsin.

Fire Prevention Staff

- John Andersen - West Central
- Sue Birren - Southeast
- Dave Bruflat - Northwest
- Carl Frisque - Northeast
- Terry Nolen - Southwest
- Luann Robb - Madison
- Audrey Fries - Madison
- Joe Hertel - Madison

Commerce Presenters

- Sue Birren and Carl Frisque
 - ◆ Fire Prevention Code Changes
- Monte Ewing and Terry Famaree
 - ◆ Electrical System Concerns
- Dave Holmes and Tim Marty
 - ◆ Elevator Emergency Operations

Commercial Building Code

- Sprinklers may be required for residential buildings - 3 units or more - except townhouses with fire resistive walls between units.
- Concept reflects national model.

Fire Sprinkler Considerations

- State Law directs Commerce to benchmark off national model code for sprinklers
- Commerce Fire Protection Systems Council recommended sprinklers
- Commerce Multifamily Dwelling Code Council recommended sprinklers

Fire Sprinkler Considerations

- 23 other states already require fire sprinklers starting at 3 dwelling units.
- Wisconsin has an average of six civilian fire fatalities each year – in residential buildings containing 3 to 20 units.
- The cost of sprinklers seems reasonable.

Fire Sprinkler Considerations

- Fire Sprinklers have a worldwide record of reducing and often eliminating the devastating effects of fires.
- Support and encouragement from the Fire Service has been helpful and appreciated.
- Some builders have expressed concerns about mandating more fire sprinklers.

Comm 14 Highlights

- 2006 edition of NFPA 1 - Uniform Fire Code to be used as base
- Fire prevention aspects of Comm 7 & 9 to be moved to Comm 14
 - ◆ Comm 7 - Explosives
 - ◆ Comm 9 - Manufacture of Fireworks

Comm 14 Highlights

- Code would allow municipalities to conduct one fire inspection per year by passage of a local ordinance.
- Code would allow municipalities to use the International Fire Code in lieu of NFPA 1 by passage of a local ordinance.

2% Fire Dues Program

- 24 Fire Departments were determined to be non-compliant for 2005 based on self certifications sent to Commerce in Spring 2006
- 23 Municipalities were non-compliant
- All municipalities were paid in 2006

2% Fire Dues Program - 2005

- 2.7 % of Fire Departments were non-compliant
- 1.2 % of Municipalities were non-compliant
- Less than 1 % of Fire Dues Distribution would be withheld if all non-compliances continued through 2006

Fire Dues Aids Distribution

- Fiscal Year 2001 **\$8,964,400**
- Fiscal Year 2006 **\$14,572,500**
- **63%** increase over five years

Administrative Expenditures

- Fiscal Year 2001 **\$611,200**
- Fiscal Year 2006 **\$642,000**
- **5%** increase over five years

Fire Incident Reporting

- Commerce has hired a half-time position to help with Fire Incident Reports.
- Emphasis will be on training and support so Fire Departments can report directly to the National Fire Incident Reporting System.
- We ask that old paper reporting forms (both long and short) no longer be used.

Wisconsin Burning Report

- 2005 Report Expected in March 2007
- 2006 Report Targeted for Fall of 2007
- Suggestions for improvement welcomed
- Authors: Sue Birren and Carl Frisque

Thank You !

