



LEBANON FIRE DEPARTMENT

12 South Park St
Lebanon, NH 03766

Phone 603-448-8810
Fax 603-448-8811
Email: Fire@LebCity.Com

One and Two Family Home Construction Requirements

The City of Lebanon Fire Department, Fire Prevention Bureau has prepared this informational sheet to help guide you through some of the more important code requirements dealing with the construction of a one or two family home. These items need to be complete in order for a Certificate of Occupancy to be issued. During the construction you are encouraged to request an inspection by the Fire Prevention Bureau to help uncover any potential issues that would prevent a Certificate of Occupancy being issued. If you wish to receive more information or would like to discuss any questions that you may have please do not hesitate to contact the Fire Prevention Bureau.

- Is the street number visible from the street, posted in arabic numerals that contrast with their background?
- Are all outside stairs serving an exit in good condition. (More than three stairs requires handrails.)
- Does every sleeping room and every living area have at least one primary means of escape and one secondary means of escape? (Every story more than 2000ft² in area within the dwelling unit shall have two primary means of escape that are remotely located from each other unless the building has been provided with an approved fire sprinkler system.)
 - ✧ Per the 2003 NFPA 101, Life Safety Code a means of escape is defined as: a way out of a building or structure that does not conform to the strict definition of means of egress but does provide a way out. The door that the occupants normally use to enter and leave the dwelling can typically serve as the primary means of escape.
- Secondary means of escape shall be:
 - (A) A door, stairway, passage, or hall providing travel to the outside of the dwelling at street or ground level that is independent of and remote from the primary means of escape.
 - (B) A passage through an adjacent nonlockable space, independent of and remote from the primary means of escape, to any approved means of escape.
 - (C) An outside window or door operable from the inside without the use of tools, keys, or special effort that provides a clear opening of not less than 5.7ft². The width shall not be less than 20 in. and the height not less than 24 in. The bottom of the opening shall be not more than 44 in. above the floor. Such means of escape shall be acceptable where one of the following criteria are met:

Smoke Detectors Save Lives

- (1) The window is within 20 ft of grade
- (2) The window is directly accessible to fire dept. rescue apparatus as approved.
- (3) The window or door opens onto an exterior balcony.
- (4) Windows having a sill height below the adjacent ground level shall be provided with a window well.
(Please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau for these requirements.)

- Have smoke detectors been installed in the following locations:
 1. In all sleeping rooms
 2. Outside each sleeping area, in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms.
 3. On each level of the residence, including basements.
- Are all smoke detectors connected to house electricity and are they interconnected?
- Are doors in the means of escape at least 28 in. wide and 78 in. tall?
- Bathroom doors shall not be less than 24 in. wide and 78 in. tall.
- Closet door latches shall be such that children can open the door from inside the closet.
- Every bathroom door shall be designed to allow opening from the outside during an emergency when locked.
- Doors with locking devices shall be easily disengaged from inside of the building. Ordinary double-cylinder locks and key-operated chain locks are prohibited.
- Interior stairways shall be provided with adequate lighting.
- The clear width of stairs, landings, ramps, balconies, and porches shall be not less than 36 in.
- Hallways shall be not less than 36 in. in width and 84 in. in height.
- Bulkhead enclosures shall provide direct access to the basement from the exterior where provided.