

# CITY OF MILPITAS

Building & Safety Department  
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.  
Milpitas, CA 95035  
408-586-3240

[www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov](http://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov)



# RESIDENTIAL IRRIGATION SPRINKLERS

## 1. PERMIT INFORMATION:

- The installation of a new irrigation system that is being connected to the public water system requires a Permit. A permit is not required to repair an existing irrigation system, however the installation requirements for backflow prevention still must be met and a permit is required if a new backflow device is being installed.
- A Permit may be issued only to a State of California Licensed Contractor with the proper license classification or the Homeowner.
- If the work is performed by the Homeowner personally or by his/her workers, and an inspection indicates the work cannot be completed satisfactorily, then a licensed contractor must perform the work.
- If the Homeowner hires workers, State Law requires the Homeowner to obtain Worker's Compensation Insurance. Proof of this insurance is required prior to inspection.

## 2. INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

- Building Codes:** All work must comply with the 2016 California Residential Code (CRC) or 2016 California Building Code, 2016 California Electrical Code (CEC), 2016 California Mechanical Code (CMC), 2016 California Plumbing Code (CPC), 2016 California Energy Code, 2016 California Green Building Code and 2016 Milpitas Municipal Code (MMC).
- An approved back-flow prevention device must be installed between the domestic water system and the irrigation system (CPC 603.5.6).
- All hose-bibbs shall have non-removable hose-bibb backflow preventers installed in accordance with CPC 603.5.7.

## 3. SMOKE ALARMS, CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS & SPARK ARRESTERS:

- In single family and multi-family residences (including townhomes, condominiums and apartments), installation of smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms and spark arresters on all chimneys is required prior to the final inspection. Refer to the "*Smoke Alarm, Carbon Monoxide Alarm and Spark Arrester Certificate*" attached for detailed information.

## 4. INSPECTION PROCEDURES

- A final inspection is required after all the work is completed. The Permit Card and the Approved Job Copy of the Drawings (if any) must be presented to the inspector. Permits expire 180 days after issuance or last inspection passed, whichever is the latest.

## 5. QUESTIONS:

- If you have any questions regarding your project contact the Building & Safety Department at (408) 586-3240.



## SMOKE ALARM, CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM and SPARK ARRESTER CERTIFICATE

This "Certificate" can be signed by the property owner and provided to the Building Inspector prior to final inspection if access to the interior of the dwelling for inspection of the smoke and carbon monoxide alarms is not possible and the permitted is exterior only (such as re-roofing, re-siding, patio covers, swimming pools and the like).

In single family and multi-family residences (including townhomes, condominiums and apartments), installation of smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms and spark arresters is required prior to the final inspection as follows: (CRC R314 & R315 and CBC 907.2.11)

**Smoke Alarms** listed in accordance with UL 217, listed and approved by the California State Fire Marshal and tested & maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions shall be installed in existing or new dwellings as follows: **in each sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms and on each story of the dwelling.** 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. Alarms that no longer function shall be replaced. New smoke alarms that are solely battery powered must have a non-replaceable and non-removable battery capable of powering the smoke alarm for at least 10 years. Fire alarm systems shall be permitted in lieu of smoke alarms if they comply with the provisions of NFPA 72. The installation of smoke alarms and smoke detectors shall also comply with the following requirements:

1. Smoke alarms shall not be located where ambient conditions, including humidity and temperature, are outside the limits specified by the manufacturer's published instructions.
2. Smoke alarms shall not be located within unfinished attics or garages or in other spaces where temperatures can fall below 40°F or exceed 100°F.
3. Where the mounting surface could become considerably warmer or cooler than the room, such as a poorly insulated ceiling below an unfinished attic or an exterior wall, alarms shall be mounted on an inside wall.
4. Smoke alarms shall be installed a minimum of 20 feet horizontal distance from a permanently installed cooking appliance, except Ionization smoke alarms with an alarm-silencing switch or Photoelectric smoke alarms shall be permitted to be installed 10 feet or greater from a permanently installed cooking appliance and Photoelectric smoke alarms shall be permitted to be installed greater than 6 feet from a permanently installed cooking appliance where the kitchen or cooking area and adjacent spaces have no clear interior partitions and the 10 foot distances would prohibit the placement of a required smoke alarm or smoke detector. Smoke alarms listed for use in close proximity to a permanently installed cooking appliance can be installed in accordance with their listing.
5. Smoke alarms shall be installed not less than a 3 foot horizontal distance from the door or opening of a bathroom that contains a bathtub or shower unless this would prevent placement of a smoke alarm required by the code.
6. Smoke alarms shall not be installed within a 36 inch horizontal path from the supply registers of a forced air heating or cooling system and shall be installed outside of the direct airflow from those registers.
7. Smoke alarms shall not be installed within a 36 inch horizontal path from the tip of the blade of a ceiling-suspended (paddle) fan.
8. Where stairs lead to other occupied levels, alarm shall be located so that smoke rising in the stairway cannot be prevented from reaching the alarm by an intervening door or obstruction.
9. For stairways leading up from a basement, alarms shall be located on the basement ceiling near the entry to the stairs.
10. For tray-shaped ceilings (coffered ceilings), alarms shall be installed on the highest portion of the ceiling or on the sloped portion of the ceiling within 12 inch vertically down from the highest point.
11. Smoke alarms installed in rooms with joists or beams shall comply with the requirements of NFPA 72.
12. Heat alarms and detectors installed in rooms with joists or beams shall comply with NFPA 72.

**Carbon Monoxide Alarms** listed in accordance with UL 2034, or combination carbon and smoke alarm listed in accordance with UL2034 and UL217, listed and approved by the California State Fire Marshal and installed and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions shall be installed in existing or new dwellings having a fuel-fired appliance, fireplace or an attached garage with an opening communicating with the dwelling as follows: **outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of bedroom(s) and on every occupiable level of a dwelling unit.** If there is a fuel-burning appliance located with a bedroom or its attached bathroom, an alarm shall be located within the bedroom.

**Power supply:** Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms shall receive their primary power from the building wiring and shall be equipped with a battery back-up. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than as required for overcurrent protection. Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are permitted to be solely battery operated (carbon monoxide alarms can also be plug-in with battery back-up) in existing buildings where no construction is taking place; in existing areas of buildings undergoing alterations or repairs that do not result in the removal of interior walls or ceiling finishes exposing the structure unless there is an attic or crawl space available which could provide access for building wiring without the removal of interior finishes; where repairs or alterations are limited to the exterior surfaces of dwellings, such as the replacement of roofing or siding, or the addition or replacement of windows or doors, or the addition of a porch or deck; or when work is limited to the installation, alteration or repairs of plumbing or mechanical systems or the installation, alteration or repair of electrical systems which do not result in the removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure.

**Interconnection:** Where more than one smoke or carbon monoxide alarm is required to be installed within an individual dwelling or sleeping unit, the alarms shall be interconnected in such a manner that the activation of one alarm will activate all of the alarms in the individual unit, except interconnection is not required in buildings that are not undergoing alterations, repairs or construction of any kind; where alterations or repairs do not result in the removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure unless there is an attic or crawl space available which could provide access for interconnection without the removal of interior finishes; where repairs or alterations are limited to the exterior surfaces of dwellings, such as the replacement of roofing or siding, or the addition or replacement of windows or doors, or the addition of a porch or deck; or when work is limited to the installation, alteration or repairs of plumbing, mechanical or electrical systems which do not result in the removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure.

**Spark arresters:** When a permit has been issued and the value of the work exceeds \$1,000, a spark arrester must be installed on all fireplace chimneys if one does not already exist, per MMC Section II-3-2.06. Spark arresters shall be constructed in conformance with CRC Section 1003.9.2.

**\* CERTIFICATION \***

**I understand the above requirements and certify that I now have smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms and spark arrestors installed as required above.**

HOMEOWNERS NAME (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ PERMIT NO. \_\_\_\_\_