



## Fire Department

Charter Township  
of White Lake

7420 Highland Road, White Lake, MI 48383 Tel 248-698-3993

April 7, 2022

To: White Lake Township Board Members

Re: Fire Code Amendment

The Fire Department is presenting an amendment to section 18-25 changes in the code.

Proposed amendment:

- Section 113.11 Request for Nonemergency Assistance

John Holland  
Fire Chief

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE  
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 18, ARTICLE II - FIRE CODE  
OF THE WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP CODE OF ORDINANCES**

**THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE ORDAINS:**

**ARTICLE 1: AMENDMENT.**

Chapter 18, Article II of the Township of White Lake Code of Ordinance, commonly referred to as the Fire Prevention and Protection Ordinances is hereby amended as follows:

**SECTION 18-20: PURPOSE**

The purpose and intent of this article is to prescribe minimum requirements and controls to safeguard life, property, or public welfare from the hazards of fire and explosion arising from the storage, handling or use of substances, materials or devices, and to establish regulations preventing conditions hazardous to life or property in the use or occupancy of buildings or premises. One complete copy of the International Fire Code, 2015 Edition, shall be made available for use and inspection by the general public at the office of the clerk in the Township of White Lake during regular business hours.

**SECTION 18-21: REFERENCES IN CODE**

(a) Where the words "name of jurisdiction" is used in the International Fire Code, they shall be held to mean the Charter Township of White Lake.

(b) Where reference is made in the Code to the "International Building Code," it shall be held to mean the Michigan Building Code.

(c) Where reference is made in the Code to the "International Mechanical Code," it shall be held to mean the Michigan Mechanical Code.

**SECTION 18-22: STATE REGULATIONS PREVAIL**

When state law or regulations apply a higher standard or requirement than is provided in this Code, the higher requirement or standard of state law shall prevail.

**SECTION 18-23: FALSE ALARMS**

It shall be unlawful for any person and/or entity to summon in any way the fire department, unless a valid reason for their response is present, or for any person or entity to fail to maintain a properly operating alarm system.

**SECTION 18-24: ACTIVATION OF FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS**

A person or entity shall not activate a fire alarm system in any building or place within the Charter Township of White Lake unless a valid fire emergency exists within that building or place. A fire alarm system is any system which, upon activation, warns the occupants of the building or place that a fire emergency exists.

**SECTION 18-25: CHANGES IN THE CODE**

The following sections and subsections of the International Fire Code are hereby amended or deleted as set forth, and additional sections and subsections are added as indicated. Subsequent section numbers used in this chapter shall refer to like-numbered sections of the International Fire Code.

**Section 113.6 shall be added to read as follows:**

113.6 RESTITUTION. When the Fire Department or any persons authorized to enforce this Ordinance are called to respond to any emergency or incident which was the result of a violation of federal, state or local regulation governing fire safety, or from gross negligence, the person(s) or entity(ies) responsible shall reimburse the Charter Township of White Lake for all expenses of the response.

Cost recovery for any Hazardous Materials response may be pursued in a civil action, pursuant to the Natural Resource Environmental Protection Act (MCL 324.20135(1)(b)).

**Section 113.7 shall be added to read as follows:**

113.7 ARSON. In any case in which arson takes place, the person(s) convicted of that crime, or of any lesser charge, or by way of a plea bargain, shall be financially responsible for all costs of investigation, fighting and extinguishing the fire and/or for any EMS service, for any board-up services and/or for any other security procedures performed by the Charter Township of White Lake or its agents.

**Section 113.8 shall be added to read as follows:**

113.8 SPECIAL RESPONSE UNIT. In any case where a Special Response Unit (SRU) is required, the person(s) responsible for the need for such unit to arrive at a call shall be financially responsible for the usage of such unit. An SRU is a truck that carries special equipment for hazardous materials incidents, building collapse and/or elevated, confined and subterranean spaces and needs.

**Section 113.9 shall be added to read as follows:**

113.9 UTILITY COMPANIES. In any case where a response results from an actual or possible hazard created by the construction, operation, maintenance, and/or act of God involving any public or private utility company operating within the Charter Township of White Lake, the utility company shall reimburse the Charter Township of White Lake for all expenses of the response, including utility stand-bys. The decision to render such services or provide such

personnel and/or equipment, shall be based either upon the request of a utility, a White Lake Township resident, or upon the sole and exclusive discretion of White Lake Township officials.

**Section 113.10 shall be added to read as follows:**

113.10 EMS TRANSPORT. In any case where a response necessitates transport to a hospital or other medical facility by the White Lake Township Fire Department, White Lake Township shall be entitled to recover all the expenses of the medical transport.

**Section 113.11 shall be added to read as follows:**

**113.11 Request for non-emergency assistance. White Lake Township shall be entitled to recover a reasonable fee from a building owner / operator in any case where a non-emergency response is requested to assist an uninjured individual who is unable (under their own power) to move themselves from an undesired position, while residing within a facility or building that employs staff responsible for resident care and assistance. This includes, but is not limited to – assisted living centers, nursing homes, senior apartment buildings, or any facility with employed staff as described above.**

**ARTICLE 2: SEVERABILITY.**

If any section, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be declared to be unconstitutional, void, illegal or ineffective by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such selection, clause or provision declared to be unconstitutional, void or illegal shall thereby cease to be a part of this Ordinance, but the remainder of the Ordinance shall stand and be in full force and effect.

**ARTICLE 3: EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Ordinance shall take effect following publication in the manner prescribed by law.

**ARTICLE 4: REPEALER.**

All other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

**ARTICLE 5: ADOPTION.**

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of this Charter Township of White Lake at a meeting thereof duly called and held on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022, and ordered to be given publication in the manner prescribed by the Charter of the Charter Township of White Lake.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rik Kowall, Supervisor

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Anthony L. Noble, Clerk