

Wake County Code of Ordinances 2023-2024 Amendments

Chapter 70 Emergency Management
Chapter 72 Fire Prevention and Protection



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Agenda

Background

Why update now?

Emergency Management Suggested Amendments

Fire Prevention & Protection Suggested Amendments

How to Proceed

Background

- In 1990, the County adopted suggested Amendments to Chapter 70 (Emergency Management) of the Code of Ordinance's. No amendments since that time.
- In 1979, the County adopted Chapter 72 (Fire Prevention and Protection). No changes since that time
- The purpose of these ordinances is to preserve and promote the public health, safety and welfare by enforcement and control through regulations adopted by the State Building Code and Department of Insurance
- These ordinances sets polices and procedures pursuant to state laws
- Wake County's Chapter 72 in 1979 predated most all Fire Prevention and Protection State Laws
- July 1991, NC adopted a Statewide Fire Code

Why update now?

- State Laws have changed
- The County's policies and procedures have evolved in accordance with state laws
- Fire and Emergency Management Departments have grown
- It is time to update and amend the ordinances for consistency

Chapter 70 Amendments/Changes

- Throughout document – replaced cities, towns with municipality or municipalities and cleaned up specific wording issues with County Attorneys Office
- 70.03 – Added definition for Homeland Security
- 70.05 – Changed language in all areas from Coordinator to Director
- 70.06 - Removed language concerning reassignment of employees
- 70.06 – Added language that allows the County to enter into lease agreements for buildings, not just shelters, during an emergency
- 70.07 – Added “coordinate and maintain a county wide alerting system”
- 70.07 – Added “ maintains situational awareness for complex incidents”

Chapter 70 Amendments/Changes

- 70.11 – Updated language to include National Integration Center
- Updated references to NCGS 166A
- 70.28 – changed language to State of Emergency Termination to match State terminology
- 70.31 – language included to reflect possession of firearms and ammunition to be allowed under certain circumstances to match State Statute definition
- 70.50 – Removed NCGS 95.173 from reference

Chapter 72 Amendments/Changes

- Footnote added concerning NC Building Code Applicability throughout State
- Throughout Chapter 72 – Wording Changes at the direction of County Attorneys Office
- 72.02 – Section was deleted and repurposed with language outlining the intent of the Fire Code
- 72.03 – Reworded and relabeled to be more specific to applicability in the County
- 72.04 – Section has been reworded to clarify positions that are authorized to enforce the NC State Fire Code

Chapter 72 Amendments/Changes

- 72.05 – Reworded and acknowledges that NCGS 143-138(e) requires the Fire Code to apply statewide
- 72.06 – Relabeled to Fire Inspection Violation Fees to utilize as an enforcement tool per NCGS 153A-123
- 72.07 through 72.12– All have been deleted and removed as these sections are referenced by NCGS's and NC Administrative Code

How to proceed/Next Steps

- Next Steps to be provided at this time by County Attorneys Office

Questions?