

CHANGE TYPE: Modification

CHANGE SUMMARY: The fire sprinkler requirements that previously extended to small bathrooms in Group R-4 occupancies have been deleted.

2018 CODE: 903.3.1.1.2 Bathrooms. In Group R occupancies ~~other than Group R-4 occupancies~~, sprinklers shall not be required in bathrooms that do not exceed 55 square feet (5 m²) in area and are located within individual dwelling units or sleeping units, provided that walls and ceilings, including the walls and ceilings behind a shower enclosure or tub, are of noncombustible or limited-combustible materials with a 15-minute thermal barrier rating.

CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE: Historically, in residential occupancies the required sprinkler protection has typically not been mandated to extend to small bathrooms within such occupancies. However, the allowance has not previously applied to Group R-4 occupancies. These occupancies consist of dwelling space for 6 to 16 persons on a 24-hour basis and provide some type of custodial care, such as alcohol and drug centers, assisted living facilities, congregate care facilities, group homes, halfway houses, residential board and care facilities, and social rehabilitation facilities. Sprinklers are no longer required in small bathrooms in these occupancies in order to be consistent with the other Group R occupancies.

903.3.1.1.2

Omission of Sprinklers in Group R-4 Bathrooms



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Small bathroom in Group R-4 occupancy



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