



State Fire Marshal's Notice

August 2014 rev

Multipurpose Residential Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems

It has come to the attention of the State Fire Marshal's Office that there are still questions regarding the design, installation and inspection of these systems. The following is offered as clarification and as a reminder of the importance to remain in complete compliance with all provisions, rules, regulations and/or statutes enacted to govern fire protection sprinkler systems in Texas.

Definition

A **multipurpose residential fire protection sprinkler system** is one that uses a single piping system to provide potable water for fire protection sprinklers and for domestic plumbing fixtures and appliances.

Background

In 2011, the 82nd Legislature (HB2376) determined that these systems were best addressed by the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners (TSBPE). The legislation called for the training program curriculum to be approved by the TSBPE.

Who can design ?

In order to design these systems, the person must be a master plumber and hold a *multipurpose residential fire protection sprinkler specialist* endorsement issued by the board.

The Plumbing License Law, Sec. 1301.3565(a-1)

Who can install ?

In order to install these systems, the person must be a master plumber or journeyman plumber and hold a *multipurpose residential fire protection sprinkler specialist* endorsement issued by the board.

The Plumbing License Law, Sec. 1301.3565(a)

Who can inspect ?

A licensed and qualified plumbing inspector may inspect a multipurpose residential fire protection sprinkler installation.

The Plumbing License Law, Sec. 1301.3565(f)

The question of whether the local fire marshal can inspect the fire protection portion and enforce NFPA 13D is best addressed by the local fire department, city attorney, and code officials. There is nothing in the TSBPE rules that prohibits a local fire marshal from inspecting the fire protection portion of these systems in conjunction with the qualified plumbing inspector.

For more information;

Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners

800-845-6584

www.tsbpe.state.tx.us