

## HOTELS, MOTELS, AND TOURIST ROOMING HOUSES



The requirements for hotels, motels, and tourist rooming houses are outlined in [Wisconsin Administrative Code, Chapter HFS 195](#).

Fire safety issues are always a concern at any lodging facility. Because the fire safety codes that cover lodging facilities are located in various places in the state codes, a summary of them is provided here.

- A functioning smoke detector shall be provided in each room rented.
- A smoke detector shall be provided in the basement, at the head of every open stairway, at the door on each floor level leading to every enclosed stairway, and in each sleeping area. The owner shall be responsible for maintaining the smoke detectors and the smoke detection system in good working order.
- An exiting diagram shall be posted in every habitable room to be rented. The exit diagram shall depict the location of the room and directions to at least 2 exits.
- The fire alarm system shall be tested monthly and a record of its testing shall be kept. All fire alarm systems shall be maintained in an operable condition.
- Exit lights shall be maintained in good working order.
- Exit doors shall remain accessible at all times.
- At least one portable fire extinguisher shall be provided on each floor of the building. The extinguishers shall be located in the public area at a distance no greater than 75 feet apart. Fire extinguishers shall be located at the head of each stairway or each elevator group.
- Fire extinguishers shall be conspicuously located where they are readily accessible and immediately available in the event of a fire. Extinguishers shall not be obstructed or obscured from view.
- Any room in which fuel-burning equipment is located shall be supplied with combustion air for safe operation. (Furnace rooms, laundry rooms)
- Fire rated doors must be self-closing in case of fire. **DO NOT PROP THE FIRE DOOR OPEN AT ANY TIME.**
- Exit doors shall not be locked, barred, or bolted at any time while the building is occupied.

The National Fire Protection Agency publishes information on portable fire extinguishers, automatic fire detectors, and household fire warning systems. [www.nfpa.org/](http://www.nfpa.org/)