

**NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
1202 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1202
919-661-5880**

Limited Area Sprinklers

Code: 2012 Fire Prevention Code
Section: 903.3.5.1.1

Date: September 1, 2011

Question:

Does the code provide for an inexpensive option to protect one or two rooms with a sprinkler system?

Answer:

Yes, Section 903.3.5.1.1 provides criteria for a Limited Area Sprinkler System which is viewed as a partial system containing less than 20 sprinklers and part of the domestic water supply. The cost benefits of a Limited Area Sprinkler System include the following:

- The elimination of monitoring and alarms (i.e. water motor gong) in accordance with Exception #2 of Section 903.4 of the fire code,
- The elimination of the supervisory service (i.e. central station monitoring) in accordance with Exception #2 of Section 901.6.1 of the North Carolina Building Code
- The need for a specific backflow preventer for a partial sprinkler system installed as part of the domestic water system, and
- As part of the domestic water system, a Fire Department Connection is not required.