Sprinkler Requirements for Bathrooms in R-3 and R-1 Occupancies

The scope of this policy is to specify design, submittal, and inspection requirements for bathrooms in residential occupancies.

1. For NFPA 13D (1999 Edition) systems, sprinklers may be omitted from bathrooms 55 square feet or less in accordance with Section 4-6. The areas occupied by showers and tub enclosures must be included in the floor area when determining the area of the bathroom.

2. For NFPA 13R (1999 Edition) and NFPA 13 (1999 Edition) systems in buildings with one-hour fire resistive rating per the Building Code, sprinklers may be omitted in accordance with Section 2-6.

The area occupied by a noncombustible, full height, shower/bathtub enclosure shall not be required to be added to the floor area when determining the area of the bathroom.

An example of a noncombustible, full height shower/bathtub enclosure is a porcelain bathtub surrounded on three sides with ceramic tiled walls, the fourth side is open to the bathroom and is the side where a shower curtain/glass door would be installed.