



River Forest Fire Department

400 Park Avenue River Forest, IL 60305
Fire Department: 708-366-7629
Fire Prevention; 708-714-3562
Fax: 708-366-6548



Special Amusement/Event Application for Permit Permit Fee: \$30.00

Event Type: _____ Date: _____

*Applicant: _____ *Phone: _____ *email: _____

*Address: _____ City: _____ IL _____

The above named Individual/Business hereby makes application for a Special Amusement PERMIT, as required by the International Fire Code (IFC) 2003, Section 105.6.2-Permits and Section 202—Special Amusement Building, and NFPA 101 (2000) Sec. 12.4.7. (See Special Amusement Building —Supplemental Information)

The Special Amusement Building will contain a: _____

and is to be located at: _____

*Building Owner / Occupant: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ River Forest, IL 60305 email: _____

EVENT DATE(S): _____

*Is this Special Amusement permit tied into another event? No Yes

If yes, explain _____

Annual Fee:

\$30.00 per Permit, in accordance with the Municipal Code of the Village of River Forest, Section 7-2-11 for the year ending April 30, _____ or the completion of the event.

STATEMENT

I hereby acknowledge that I have read this application, that the information given is correct, **and that I am the owner, or duly authorized in the owner's behalf and as such, hereby agree to comply with the applicable requirements of this application and the Fire Prevention Code.** It is further understood that this application does not constitute a permit, and is not a license.

*Signed: _____ *Title: _____

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Approved: YES NO Permit Number: _____

Reason for disapproval: _____

Fire Official: _____ Date: _____



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General Requirements for Special Amusement Buildings Haunted Houses

Haunted Houses are considered a “Special Amusement Building” in accordance with the 2000 edition of the NFPA 101-Life Safety Code® (LSC) which has been adopted in Illinois as the State’s minimum fire prevention and safety rules by The Office of The State Fire Marshal.

The LSC’s definition of “Special Amusement Building” is:

A building that is temporary, permanent, or mobile that contains a device or system that conveys passengers or provides a walkway along, around, or over a course in any direction as a form of amusement arranged so that the egress path is not readily apparent due to visual or audio distractions or an intentionally confounded egress path, or is not readily available due to the mode of conveyance through the building or structure.

The LSC Annex makes it clear that a haunted house is intended to be classified as a Special Amusement Building:

A.3.3.25.8 Building, Special Amusement.

Such structures include amusements such as a haunted house, a roller coaster-type ride within a building, a multilevel play structure within a building, a submarine ride, and similar amusements where the occupants are not in the open air.

Special amusement buildings are addressed by Life Safety Code Section 12.4.7 (for new special amusement buildings) or Section 13.4.7 (for existing special amusement buildings). Both Section 12.4.7 and 13.4.7 prescribe identical requirements so only the Section 12.4.7 requirements are addressed below.

12.4.7.1 GENERAL: Special amusement buildings, regardless of occupant load, shall meet the requirements for assembly occupancies in addition to the requirements of 12.4.7, unless the multilevel play structures are not more than 10 ft (3 m) in height and have aggregate horizontal projections not exceeding 160 square ft.

12.4.7.2 Every special amusement building, (other than buildings or structures not exceeding 10 ft in height and not exceeding 160 sq.ft. in horizontal projection), shall be protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system installed and maintained in accordance with Section 9.7. Where the special amusement building is movable or portable, the sprinkler water supply shall be permitted to be provided by an approved, temporary means.

Note: The LSC Annex note to this section indicates that it is the intent to provide a suppression system that will act quickly to provide for life safety of the occupants.

12.4.7.3 Where the nature of the special amusement building is such that it operates in reduced lighting levels, the building shall be protected throughout by an approved automatic smoke detection system in accordance with Section 9.6. Actuation of any smoke detection system device shall sound an alarm at a constantly attended location on the premises. Actuation of the automatic sprinkler system, or any other suppression system, or actuation of a smoke detection system having an approved verification or cross-zoning operation capability shall provide the following:

- (1) Cause illumination in the means of egress to increase to that required by Section 7.8.
- (2) Stop any conflicting or confusing sounds and visuals.

12.4.7.4.1 Exit marking shall be in accordance with Section 7.10.

12.4.7.4.2 Floor proximity exit signs shall be provided in accordance with 7.10.1.5.

12.4.7.4.3 In special amusement buildings where mazes, mirrors, or other designs are used to confound the egress path, approved directional exit marking that becomes apparent in an emergency shall be provided. The LSC Annex note to this section indicates that consideration should be given to the provision of directional exit marking on or adjacent to the floor.

12.4.7.5 Interior Finish. Interior finish shall be Class A throughout in accordance with Section 10.2.

Realize that Special Amusement Buildings are also subject to the other requirements of the Life Safety Codes Assembly Occupancy chapter. These include, but are not limited to:

- Provision of an adequate number and width of means of egress to accommodate occupant loads within the building
- Provision of panic hardware on exit doors
- Restrictions on dead end pathways
- Stairway construction (including riser height and tread depth, provision of handrails, and fire rated enclosure in some situations).
- Restrictions on the use of open flame devices or pyrotechnic special effects (also realize that Illinois law requires specific permitting and operator licensing for the use of indoor pyrotechnics and furthermore, prohibits the use of pyrotechnics in buildings that are not protected by an automatic sprinkler system. Use of pyrotechnics before a proximate audience is regulated by NFPA 1126 and flame effects before an audience is regulated by NFPA 160).
- Furnishings and decorations (including all draperies and curtains) are required to be flame resistant as proven in a test in accordance with NFPA 701 *Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Flame Propagation of Textiles and Films*.
- In accordance with both LSC requirements and Illinois' Furniture Fire Safety Act, any upholstered furniture in the occupancy must comply with testing and labeling requirements.

****Smoke machines are NOT APPROVED in Special Amusement Buildings unless specifically approved by the River Forest Fire Prevention Bureau.****

2003 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE® SPECIAL DETAILED REQUIREMENTS BASED ON USE AND OCCUPANCY

SECTION 411 SPECIAL AMUSEMENT BUILDINGS

411.1 General. Special amusement buildings having an occupant load of 50 or more shall comply with the requirements for the appropriate Group A occupancy and this section. Amusement buildings having an occupant load of less than 50 shall comply with the requirements for a Group B occupancy and this section.

Exception: Amusement buildings or portions thereof that are without walls or a roof and constructed to prevent the accumulation of smoke. For flammable decorative materials, see the *International Fire Code*.

411.2 Special amusement building. A special amusement building is any temporary or permanent building or portion thereof that is occupied for amusement, entertainment or educational purposes and that contains a device or system that conveys passengers or provides a walk way along, around or over a course in any direction so arranged that the means of egress path is not readily apparent due to visual or audio distractions or is intentionally confounded or is not readily available because of the nature of the attraction or mode of conveyance through the building or structure.

[F] 411.3 Automatic fire detection. Special amusement buildings shall be equipped with an automatic fire detection system in accordance with Section 907.

[F] 411.4 Automatic sprinkler system. Special amusement buildings shall be equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1. Where the special amusement building is temporary, the sprinkler water supply shall be of an approved temporary means.

Exception: Automatic fire sprinklers are not required where the total floor area of a temporary special amusement building is less than 1,000 square feet (93m²) and the travel distance from any point to an exit is less than 50 feet (15 240 mm).

[F] 411.5 Alarm. Actuation of a single smoke detector, the automatic sprinkler system or other automatic fire detection device shall immediately sound an alarm at the building at a constantly attended location from which emergency action can be initiated including the capability of manual initiation of requirements in Section 907.2.11.2.

[F] 411.6 Emergency voice/alarm communications system. An emergency voice/alarm communications system shall be provided in accordance with Sections 907.2.11 and 907.2.12.2, which is also permitted to serve as a public address system and shall be audible throughout the entire special amusement building.

411.7 Exit marking. Exit signs shall be installed at the required exit or exit access door ways of amusement buildings. Approved directional exit markings shall also be provided. Where mirrors, mazes or other de signs are utilized that disguise the path of egress travel such that they are not apparent, approved low-level exit signs and directional path markings shall be provided and located not more than 8 inches (203 mm) above the walking surface and on or near the path of egress travel. Such markings shall become visible in an emergency. The directional exit marking shall be activated by the automatic fire detection system and the automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 907.2.11.2.

411.8 Interior finish. The interior finish shall be Class A in accordance with Section 803.