

CHAPTER 16
ELECTRICAL CODE

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ELECTRICAL CODE 16.01

16.01 STATE CODE ADOPTED. (1) Wisconsin Administrative Code Ch. SPS 316 and the National Electrical Code is hereby adopted by reference and made a part of this chapter and shall apply to the construction and inspection of electrical wiring installations at farms, public buildings, places of employment, campgrounds, manufactured home communities, public marinas, piers, docks, or wharves, recreational vehicle parks, new single-family and multi-family dwellings and additions or modifications to existing single-family and multi-family dwellings.

(2) Subject to the exceptions set forth in this chapter, the Rules of Electrical Code, Volume 2, of the Wisconsin Administrative Code is hereby adopted by reference and made a part of this chapter and shall apply to all buildings, except those covered in sub. (1) above.

(3) Any further amendments, revisions and modifications of said code and rules incorporated therein are intended *to* be made a part of this chapter.

16.02 DEFINITIONS. In the interpretation and enforcement of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) **ELECTRICAL SYSTEM.** All wires, equipment or devices installed for the purpose of conducting or safeguarding electrical current at all voltages.

(2) **ELECTRICAL WORK.** Any act in connection with the installing, altering or maintaining of electrical systems, which act ordinarily requires the use of tools.

(3) **WIRING.** All conductors and all other devices incidental to the safe conduction of electrical current.

16.03 ELECTRICAL INSPECTION. (1) **APPOINTMENT.** Electrical inspections shall be made by the Building Inspector or the Deputy Inspector designated by the Building Inspector.

(2) **INSPECTIONS; NOTICES.** The Building Inspector shall inspect all buildings and premises and make a thorough examination of all the electrical wiring, equipment and devices installed, and when such are found to be in a dangerous or unsafe conditions, he shall notify the person owning, using, operating or installing the same to place them in a safe condition. Such necessary repairs or changes shall be completed according to the provisions of this chapter. The Inspector may order the discontinuance of electrical service to such defective electrical system until it has been repaired, removed or altered as directed by the Inspector. Failure to obey any such order shall subject such person to the penalties herein provided.

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(3) **AUTHORITY TO TURN OFF CURRENT.** The Building Inspector may cause the immediate turning off of all electrical current to any equipment which he finds, in the exercise of his sound judgment, creates imminent danger to persons or property and to cut or discontinue electrical service in emergencies where he finds, in the exercise of his sound judgment, such electrical current creates imminent danger to persons or property or where such currents may interfere with the work of the Fire Department. No person shall reconnect any equipment thus cut off without the written permission of the Inspector.

(4) **RIGHT OF ENTRY.** The Building Inspector may enter any building or premises in the discharge of his official duties and for that purpose shall be given prompt access upon notification to the proper authority. He may discontinue electrical service to premises to which he is denied access or entry.

16.04 ELECTRICAL PERMITS. (1) **PERMITS REQUIRED.** No person shall perform electrical work, as defined in sec. 16.02(2) of this chapter, without first obtaining an electrical permit from the Building Inspector.

(2) **APPLICATION.** Application for an electrical permit shall be made in writing upon a form furnished by the Inspector, which may be obtained at the office of the City Clerk, and shall describe the nature of the work contemplated and such other information as the Inspector may require.

(3) **ISSUANCE; TERM.** When the Building Inspector is satisfied that the work proposed by the applicant can be done in conformity with the provisions of this chapter, and after the appropriate fees have been paid to the City Clerk, the Building Inspector shall issue the permit. Such permit shall be good for the continuous performance of the work named thereon. A permit shall automatically expire if work has not been commenced within 12 months after the date of issuance.

(4) **PERMITS FOR TEMPORARY WORK.** On applying for a permit for temporary work, the period of time for which such wiring is to remain in service shall be specified. Service shall be cut off at the end of this period and shall not again be connected without written permission from the Building Inspector.

(5) **INSPECTION OF WORK.** The permittee or an authorized representative shall, in writing or orally, request inspections by the Building Inspector at appropriate times required for the enforcement of this code. The Inspector shall perform the requested inspection within 48 hours after notification, except the final inspection. Construction may not proceed beyond the point of inspection until the inspection has been completed,

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except if inspection has not taken place within 48 hours of notification, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, unless otherwise agreed upon between the permittee and the Inspector. No building where electrical service has been cut off due to fire shall be reconnected until authorized by the Inspector. If the Inspector shall determine that the work has not been done in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, the contractor shall correct the same within 10 days after receiving notice thereof. If the defective work has not been corrected within 10 days, the Inspector shall cancel the permit until the provisions of this chapter have been complied with.

(6) **ISSUANCE OF SUBSEQUENT PERMITS.** No permit shall be issued if there are any outstanding corrections to be made. No permit shall be issued if previous permits are not complete as to work done and the fees paid on any work that has been reported as complete.

16.05 FEES. See sec. 14.07 of this Code.

16.06 SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR TEMPORARY INSTALLATION. The Building Inspector may grant special permission, for a limited time, for the installation or use of temporary electric wiring and equipment which does not conform with the regulations of this chapter. The person installing such wiring or equipment shall be directly and legally responsible and accountable for the safe condition of the installation at all times and its complete removal at the end of the fixed temporary period, as set by the Inspector, or any time sooner when ordered by the Inspector. Carnivals, circuses, theatrical acts and exhibitions and all places of temporary outdoor assembly are included in the provisions of this section and all electrical wiring and equipment associated therewith shall be installed, maintained and operated in a safe and workmanlike manner. All such electric wiring and equipment shall be isolated from the public by proper elevation and guarding of all electric fuses, and switches shall be installed in approved enclosures. Cable laid on the ground in areas traversed by the public shall be buried in trenches or protected by approved covers. No wooden raceways shall be used. All temporary services shall be rainproof in their entirety. Where an enclosure is built around non-waterproof equipment, it shall have a hinged cover and be supplied with a hasp and lock.

16.07 NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANCE; APPEAL. Whenever the Building Inspector determines that all or part of the electrical work of any building does not comply with the provisions of this chapter, he shall, in cases where the construction is in progress, give 5 days' written notice thereof to the contractor on the job. In all other cases he shall give 5 days' notice thereof to the owner or his authorized agent or attorney. Such contractor or owner may have such determination reviewed by the Board of Zoning Appeals.

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16.08 NON-ASSUMPTION OF LIABILITY. This chapter shall not be considered as assuming any liability on the part of the City or any official or employee thereof for damages to anyone injured or for any property destroyed by any defect in any building or equipment, or in any plumbing or electric wiring or equipment.

16.15 PENALTY. Any person who shall violate any provisions of this chapter *or any* regulation, rule or order made hereunder shall be subject to a penalty as provided in sec. 25.04 of this Code.