

TO: CMS Certified Long Term Care Facilities in the State of Arizona

FROM: Arizona Department of Health Services  
Division of Licensing Services

DATE: August 27, 2008

RE: H.H.S. Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
42 CFR Part 483 (CMS-3191-F) RIN 0938-AN79

Effective on October 14, 2008 all CMS Certified Long Term Care Facilities are required to have approved, supervised automatic sprinklers systems installed through out the facility.

A 5 year phase-in period ending August 13, 2013, has been provided in the final CMS rule. The phase-in period will allow facilities the time and flexibility to install sprinkler systems in a manner that is sensitive to the individual financial circumstances of each facility.

The supervised automatic sprinklers must be installed in accordance with the 1999 edition of NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems.

The regulation also requires every long term care facility to test, inspect, and maintain an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with the 1998 edition of NFPA 25, Standard for the Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Water Based Fire Protection Systems.

Please contact the Office of Special Licensing, Life Safety Code (LSC) Unit if you have any questions:

LSC Team Lead Rudy Karel at (602)364-3048 or

LSC Surveyor John Fiorentino at (602)364-2051.