

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS OF THE PERMIAN BASIN

Fire Safety Report for University Housing

Narrative

September 2, 2016

This compliance report is required by the Department of Education via the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008.

Overview

The Student Housing on the University of Texas of the Permian Basin campus has been developed to meet the needs of the student and to the requirements of fire code at the time of construction.

There are four types of housing communities on campus as of October 2016; they are coded by their building numbers.

Buildings 2-6 and 78-80

Also known as Freshman Falcons Nest Apartment, these six buildings are grouped under two sets joined by covered stairwells. Layouts include resident assistant apartments, a two bedroom layout, and a four bedroom layout. These apartments have a living room but do not have a kitchen. This community can house 96 students.

Buildings 8 – 62 are manufactured housing of different ages, styles, and layouts. The common theme is that these are for older students and families. There are layouts with that include efficiency apartments, single to as many as five bedrooms with kitchen/living room. Total capacity is 36, which may include the family members of students. Please not this is down from 111 capacity. In the next year this type of housing will be eliminated.

Buildings 64 - 74 are the original Falcons Nest Apartment complex built in the mid 90's and include eight apartment style buildings set in pairs under a common roof. They consist of a combination of layouts housing four students per apartment in either a two person common bedroom or individual bedrooms. Both layouts include a common kitchen and living area. This community can house 96 students.

Buildings 84-89 consists of six buildings with eight apartments each and a layout of four bedrooms, two baths with common living area and kitchen. There is also an efficiency apartment and a common laundry room. The community has a capacity of 198 students.

Buildings 90 – 99 this community consists of ten limestone and brick clad, two story buildings with a common layout of eight apartments that are two bedroom one bath with a common living area and kitchen. There are also three efficiency apartments and a common laundry room. The community has a capacity of 190 students.

Buildings 101 -105 and 210-215 are based on the same design as 84-89 with minor differences related to the code changes that occurred in the years between construction projects. Eight apartment suites each housing four residents and an additional resident assistant efficiency apartment makes each building

home to thirty three students. Each suite has a full kitchen and living room. The most obvious change in code is the addition of an elevator in each building. This community has a capacity of 297 students.

Description Fire and Life Safety Systems

Each community is homogeneous in its fire and life safety systems; thus, we can speak about each as a community.

Buildings 2 - 6 and 76 – 80 are fitted with a fire detection and alarm systems with supervising a building wide fire sprinkler system.

Buildings 8 - 62 are fitted with linked smoke detectors for the trailers that are hard wired to building power and have battery backups. Each kitchen has a fire extinguisher.

Buildings 64 - 74 are fitted with linked smoke detectors for the apartment suites that are hard wired to building power and have battery backups. Each kitchen has a fire extinguisher.

Buildings 84- 89 are fitted with a supervised fire sprinkler system. The laundry and mechanical spaces also have a common fire alarm system. Each apartment suite is fitted with linked smoke detectors that are on building power and have individual battery backup. There is a fire extinguisher in the kitchen.

Buildings 90-99 are fitted with a supervised fire sprinkler system. The laundry and mechanical spaces also have a common fire alarm system. Each apartment suite is fitted with linked smoke detectors that are on building power and have individual battery backup. There is a fire extinguisher in the kitchen.

Buildings 101-105 and 210-215 are fitted with a fire detection and alarm systems supervising a building wide fire sprinkler system. There is a fire extinguisher in the kitchen.

Fire drills

The fire drills were held on September 29, 2015 for all housing.

Policy and rules

Housing management, with the assistance of Environmental Health & Safety, have banned many common items, appliances, and materials from our housing units including:

- Candles, incense and anything else that uses an open flame
- All flammables, such as gasoline and laboratory chemicals
- Grills, smokers, and BBQ pits. All fuels and lighter fluids.
- Student owned space heaters.
- Removal or disabling of a smoke detector has been banned and can result in disciplinary action, monetary fines, and eviction from housing.

This list is made available to the students in their Student Housing Guide when they sign their lease. The smoke detector clause is part of their lease agreement. The Guide is available online at <http://www.utpb.edu/campus-life/student-housing/student-housing-guide> or at the Parker Ranch House.

Procedures for evacuation

Students are to respond to all alarms. Evacuate to at least 100' form the building or move to the Parker Ranch House. Follow all instruction of the Resident Assistant, Police and Fire Department personnel.

This procedure is also given to the students in the Student Housing Guide that they receive when they sign their lease.

Fire Safety Education and Training

Resident assistants receive training on the use of fire extinguishers, including time on the university's fire extinguisher training simulator, evacuation procedures, and training on what to look for in safety inspections.