



Derry Fire Department

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RADIO MASTER FIRE ALARM BOX INFORMATION



The Derry Fire Communications Center provides emergency communications for Fire and Emergency Medical Services in Southern New Hampshire, serving 5 communities and the Regional Hazardous Materials Team. Our state-of-the-art communications center includes radio fire alarm public reporting system that is designed to receive automatic fire alarm signals from protected properties in our contracted communities. Monitoring services are now available in other Rockingham County communities.

This system meets the requirements of **NFPA 72, *The National Fire Alarm Code*®** and **NFPA 121, *Standard for the Installation, Maintenance and use of Emergency Services Communications Systems***.

Each radio box performs a daily test which is monitored and recorded by our Communications Center staff. Owners of missing radio alarm boxes are immediately notified so issues may be corrected. There is no need for a costly dedicated telephone circuit – the system operates via coded radio signals.

The transmission of alarms is nearly instantaneous – within a few seconds of a building alarm system activating. This results in a very fast response alert being transmitted to the local fire department by our communications center. This is far superior to conventional dialer systems transmitting to a third-party monitoring center which in turn relays the alarm information to the communications center, delaying the response.

For more information on this system please contact your local fire department.

RULES & REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF RADIO FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS

1. The installation of a radio fire alarm system (box) operating on the Derry Fire Department Communications Center system requires approval of the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) for the community where the box will be located and the approval of the Derry Fire Communications Center.
2. Applicants shall submit a completed Derry Fire application on a form available from the AHJ or Derry Fire. Applications shall be submitted directly to Derry Fire at the address listed on the form.
3. All installations shall comply with:
 - a. National Fire Protection Association — National Fire Alarm Code NFPA 72
 - b. Derry Fire Communications Rules and Regulations
 - c. Authority Having Jurisdiction Requirements
 - d. Radio Box Manufacturer's Instructions
 - e. National Electrical Code — NFPA 70
4. Radio boxes shall be of a type and manufacturer approved by Derry Fire.
5. Radio master boxes shall be wall mounted at the main entrance of the building, internally mounted next to the Fire Alarm Control Panel or at a location approved by the AHJ and Derry Fire.
6. A signal strength field test shall be conducted by the manufacturer's representative and Derry Fire prior to installation.
7. The location of the box and the associated antenna shall be approved prior to installation. If the radio box is not located on the exterior of the building a means shall be provided to access the radio box on a twenty four hour/seven day per week basis.
8. Radio master box batteries shall be float charged from an alternating current (AC) source in the Fire Alarm Control Panel and the positive direct current (DC) lead shall be fused at both ends of the charging circuit.
9. Radio master box interface panels, if used, shall be mounted adjacent to the Fire Alarm Control Panel and have its trouble signal wired to the fire alarm control panel trouble circuit. All interface panels shall be equipped with stand-alone power supplies.
10. A "City Disconnect" switch shall be provided to disconnect the radio master box from the Fire Alarm Control Panel. The disconnect switch shall be monitored for integrity by the Fire Alarm Control Panel and the Fire Alarm Annunciator.
11. The name and telephone number(s) of the property owner or representative and the alarm company shall be properly posted at the Fire Alarm Control Panel.

12. All radio master boxes shall be labeled with the box number assigned. Labels shall be constructed of BLACK plastic with one inch (1") engraved WHITE numbers.
13. The installer shall furnish to the AHJ and Derry Fire an NFPA or other approved certificate of inspection and test certifying that the system has been 100% tested and functions in complete compliance with the system specifications and manufacturers recommendations prior to the box activation. The fire alarm system manufacturer representative or other qualified personnel shall complete all testing. All testing shall be coordinated with the AHJ.
14. Derry Fire assumes no responsibility for the proper operation of any fire alarm system.
15. The annual fee for Radio Master Boxes shall be billed on annual basis at the beginning of each year. The fee shall be prorated for the first year of operation.
16. The Derry Fire annual monitoring fee for Radio Master Boxes shall be determined by the Derry Town Council. The current annual fee schedule is as follows:

Commercial Properties	\$300
Residential Properties	\$240
Derry Fire Contract Community-Owned Properties	No Fee