

SERVICE CHARGES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Fire Alarms (excluding trouble):

There is no charge for the first 2 alarms within a calendar year; however, the 3rd, 4th and 5th alarms are \$100 per alarm, 6 through 10 alarms are \$200 per response and 11 or more are \$300 per response.

Burglar/MedicAlert/All Trouble Alarms

There is no charge for the first 4 alarms within a calendar year; however, the 5th, 6th and 7th alarms are \$75 per response; the 8th and 9th alarms are \$100 per alarm, 10th alarm is \$175 and 11 or more alarms are \$200 per response. All service charges must be paid within 30 days of receipt of invoice.

These charges apply regardless of care or fault on the part of any person, and include responses due to a direct hookup or any other notification to the department.

Any alarm system maintained or operated in violation of this ordinance is a nuisance, subject to additional penalties, as provided by the Village Code.

CERTAIN ALARMS MAY BE WAIVED

- A. Evidence of actual intrusion, obvious intrusion attempt, fire, medical, or other emergency;
- B. Evidence of utility outage lasting 4 hours or longer and affecting a general neighborhood area;
- C. Evidence of a tornado, earthquake or other violent or extreme conditions of nature or acts of God, excluding thunder, snow, ice and storms;

- D. Alarm occurrences during the thirty (30) day period following installation of an alarm system;
- E. Evidence, in a form satisfactory to the Chief of Police, that the alarm in question has been satisfactorily serviced or repaired at some time after the alarm occurrence in question. This circumstance shall not, however, constitute grounds for waiver or nullification unless the Chief of Police is completely satisfied that the service or repair will reduce or eliminate alarm occurrences similar to the one in question.
- F. Evidence that the alarm user of the alarm system in question has implemented a training program, satisfactory to the Chief of Police, to instruct involved persons (family members, employees and/or contractual personnel) in the proper use of the alarm system. This circumstance shall not, however, constitute grounds for waiver or nullification unless the program will reduce or eliminate alarm occurrences similar to the one in question.

Requests for a waiver must be made in writing to the Police Department, Attn: Chief Of Police, 350 Walnut Street, Northfield, IL 60093, within 7 days of receipt of notice of the service charge and/or alarm occurrence.

For more information, call the
Communications/Records Supervisor at

446-2131.

Copies of the ordinance are available.

VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD



ALARM SYSTEM INFORMATION

USER PERMIT REQUIRED

The Village Board enacted an ordinance to provide for the imposition of service charges as reasonable compensation for the services and expenditures assumed by the village in responding to police, fire and medic alarm calls due to alarm systems in the village.

Effective July 1, 1992, no person, entity or alarm user may maintain or operate an alarm system in the village without a valid alarm user permit.

An Alarm User Permit is issued for a two year period. A user permit may be obtained by filing a completed User Permit Application at the Police Department along with the appropriate fee.

Failure to pay these required fees will result in substantial fines and may cause the Police Department to discontinue alarm response.

In addition to the bi-ennial application fee, there is a non-refundable, one-time, connection fee and an alarm user fee payable with submission of the alarm user permit application for hookup to the Police Department Alarm Panel. The ordinance imposes service charges for repeated false alarms.

The purpose of the charges for false alarms is to reduce the number of false alarm responses which cause a drain on police and fire/rescue resources and increase risk of liability due to non-bonafide responses.

PERMIT NOTICES:

EXISTING ALARM PERMIT HOLDERS:

All permits for current alarm application holders are issued in January of odd numbered years and are valid for 24 months. ***This fee is non-refundable.***

NEW ALARM PERMIT APPLICATIONS

If the first calendar year of the permit falls on an odd year a permit fee of \$40 will be collected and the permit will be valid for the remainder of the first year and the full second year.

If the first calendar year of the permit falls on an even year a permit will be issued for that year or part of year at a rate of \$20. A 2-year renewal permit will be issued the following January for a \$40 fee. ***This fee is non-refundable.***

TYPES OF ALARMS

Direct Hookup:

A Direct Hookup consists of a dedicated telephone line, which is connected directly to the Police Department's alarm panel. This type of hookup must be made by an alarm company and the telephone company. The alarm panel in the police station is owned and maintained by an alarm company, which requires a one-time hookup fee and monthly maintenance charges. The Police Department charges a \$50 connection fee at initial installation to maintain an alarm on the Police Department's alarm panel.

No alarm system may be connected to the alarm panel unless and until the alarm user executes an agreement with the person, firm or entity under contract with the Village to provide and maintain the Police Department's alarm panel.

Oscillator System:

This is a feature of an alarm system that utilizes one telephone line for the connection of both a burglar and a fire alarm to the Police Department. This type of system is not permitted.

Telephone Direct Dialer:

Telephone dialer systems provide a prerecorded message to the Police Department using regular telephone lines.

These systems are prohibited. Telephone dialers can be used to direct such a message to an alarm company.

PROHIBITED ALARMS:

No Alarm User Permit will be issued for any system that:

- a. Uses an Oscillator System:
- b. Is not equipped with a delay mechanism of 30 seconds;
- c. Uses a Telephone Direct Dialer to the police station; or
- d. Uses an Outside Ringer unless the sound is completely distinguishable from emergency vehicles or other audible village alert systems, and is equipped with an automatic cut-off mechanism that deactivates the ringer within 15 minutes of the initial alarm.

The Communications/Records Supervisor is responsible for administering the Alarm Program. The alarm user will receive notice via mail of the alarm response status of the alarm. The Chief of Police has the authority to waive any service charge and/or nullify a response under certain circumstances, as defined in the ordinance. The Chief of Police has the authority to revoke an Alarm User Permit for Failure to Pay a Service Charge and for Multiple Alarms (11 or more in 1 calendar year). A hearing is available prior to revocation.