

**NFPA<sup>®</sup>**

# 501A

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**Standard for Fire Safety  
Criteria for Manufactured  
Home Installations, Sites, and  
Communities**

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**2017**



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## NFPA® 501A

### Standard for

## Fire Safety Criteria for Manufactured Home Installations, Sites, and Communities

### 2017 Edition

This edition of NFPA 501A, *Standard for Fire Safety Criteria for Manufactured Home Installations, Sites, and Communities*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Manufactured Housing. It was issued by the Standards Council on June 7, 2016, with an effective date of June 22, 2016, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA was approved as an American National Standard on June 22, 2016.

### Origin and Development of NFPA 501A

NFPA activity associated with manufactured homes began in 1937, when NFPA organized its first Committee on Trailers and Trailer Courts. The first NFPA standard covering trailer coach camps appeared in 1939, with revisions in 1940, 1952, 1960, and 1964. A completely new edition was adopted in 1971, and that text was revised in 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1977, and 1982.

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) approved the 1972 NFPA edition on May 8, 1973; the 1973 NFPA edition on December 28, 1973; the 1974 NFPA edition on January 30, 1975; the 1975 NFPA edition on February 27, 1976; and the 1977 NFPA edition on October 18, 1977.

The 1982 edition of *Standard for Firesafety Criteria for Mobile Home Installations, Sites, and Communities* superseded the 1977 edition and was adopted by NFPA at its Annual Meeting held in San Francisco in 1982. The 1982 edition was produced by the newly formed Committee for Firesafety for Mobile Homes (created June 1979), which was charged with the responsibility of developing documents for fire safety criteria for single-family mobile homes, including the installation, sites, and communities, and the maintenance of and improvements for existing mobile homes. Therefore, the 1982 edition excluded all sections of previous editions not considered within the committee scope. Notably excluded were stabilizing and anchoring systems, requirements for piers and footings, and plumbing, including sewage disposal systems. Requirements for park electrical systems were addressed by reference to *NFPA 70, National Electrical Code*. Modifications were also made in sections dealing with fuel supply, air conditioning, and life and fire safety.

Major revisions to the standard were made in the 1987 edition in an attempt to better coordinate the NFPA chapters in a joint publication with the National Conference of States on Building Codes and Standards (NCSBCS), ANSI A225.1/NFPA 501A. Major changes included substituting *manufactured home* for *mobile home* throughout; deleting Chapter 3, Air Conditioning; expanding Chapter 2, Fuel Supply; and combining three appendixes into two.

The standard was reconfirmed in 1992 with a plan to expand the scope of NFPA 501A to cover fire safety requirements for the design, construction, installation, alteration/rehabilitation, maintenance, use, and occupancy of manufactured homes, manufactured home sites, and manufactured home communities, including accessory buildings and structures. This was a major revision of the scope and the entire standard, and the committee targeted a complete revision of NFPA 501A for 1994.

The 1997 edition was a reconfirmation of the 1992 edition of NFPA 501A. The proposed expansion of the scope of the 1992 edition, as noted in the preceding paragraph, was discussed and acted on by the technical committee. The scope of NFPA 501A was not expanded; instead, a new document, NFPA 501, *Standard on Manufactured Housing*, was generated. NFPA 501 represented the reconstituted 1977 edition of NFPA 501B, *Standard for Mobile Homes*, which was the basis for the federal *Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards*.