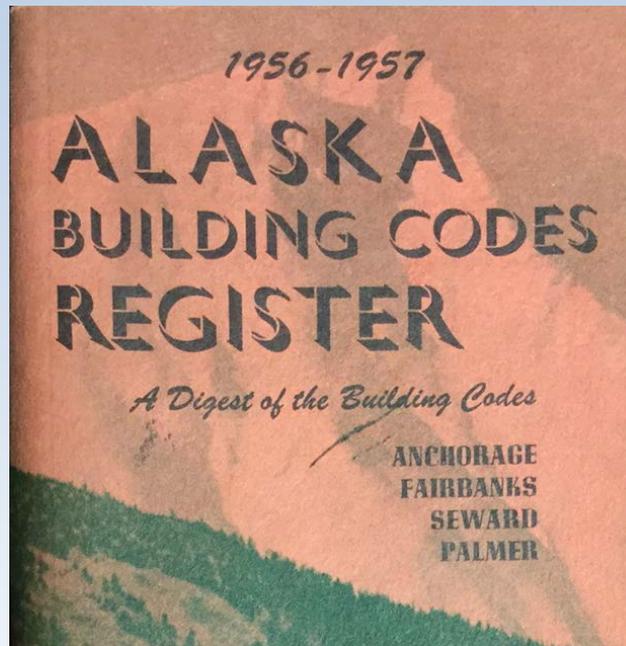


# City of Palmer

## The History of Building Codes in the City of Palmer



By: David Meneses, Building Inspector

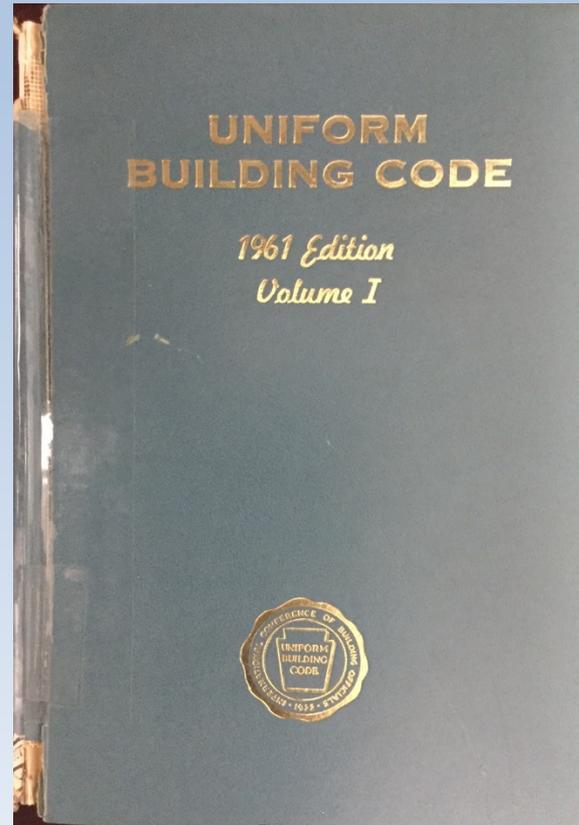
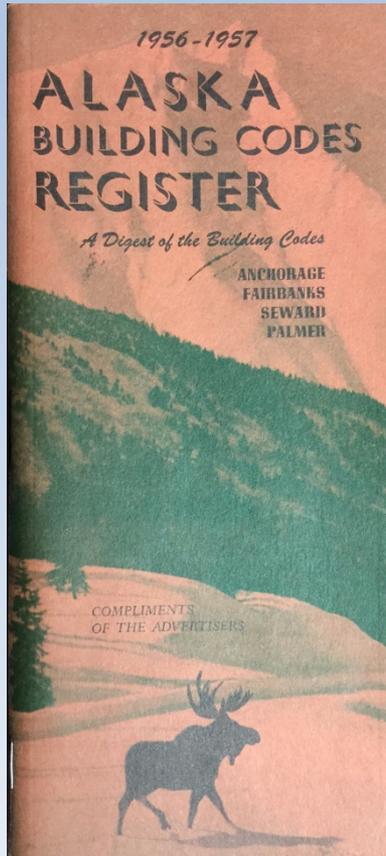
The City of Palmer was formed on May 3, 1951.

- The community leaders believed in the safety and welfare of the citizens, because the first Building Codes were adopted on Oct. 17, 1951 (1949 Building & Zoning Codes).
- The City has continued this commitment to safety in our community.
- We have enforced International Council of Building Officials (I.C.B.O) and International Code Council (I.C.C.) standards along with National Electrical Code (N.E.C.) and International Association of Plumbing & Mechanical Officials (I.A.P.M.O.) building standards.
- The current codes that are being applied are: IBC, IRC, IFC, IFGC, IEEC, IEBC, IMC, UPC and NEC.

By applying these codes our community is safer. In the 1964 earthquake our community had very little to no structural damage.



# EARLY CODES



# What has this done for our Community?

This provides the community with a level of security that is backed by national standards.

It allows builders and contractors to know the requirements for construction.



# Does this mean that there are no Violations?

No, there are always going to be violations.

- Some are because builders don't know
- Some are because the code has changed
- Some are people trying to cut costs (shortcuts)



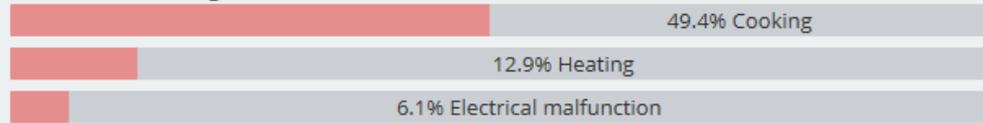
# Residential Fire Cause

## Residential fires



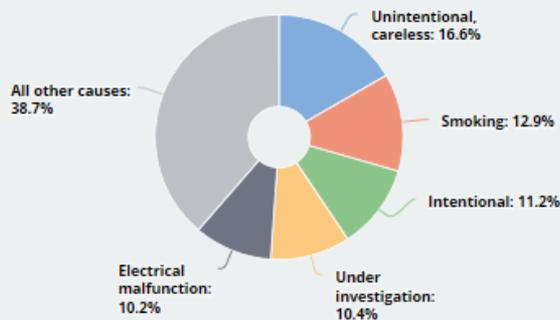
Fire estimate summaries of residential buildings, fire trends and causes (2004-2013) PDF 1.6 MB

### Residential building fire causes (2013)

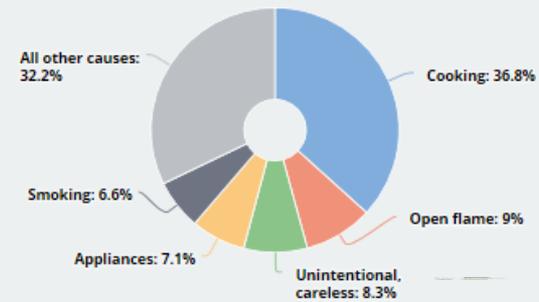


[show all causes +](#)

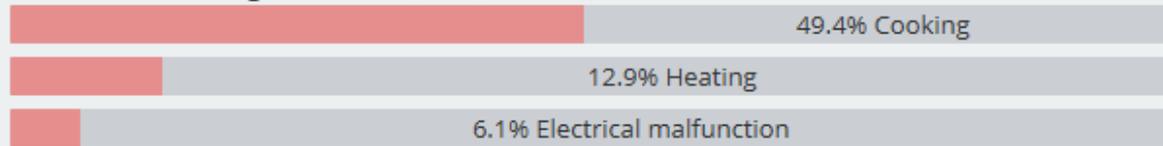
### Causes of fatal residential building fires (2013)



### Causes of residential building fires resulting in injuries (2013)



### Residential building fire causes (2013)



[hide causes](#)

|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Cooking                   | 49.4% |
| Heating                   | 12.9% |
| Electrical malfunction    | 6.1%  |
| Unintentional, careless   | 5.5%  |
| Open flame                | 4.6%  |
| Appliances                | 4.5%  |
| Intentional               | 4.5%  |
| Other heat                | 3.3%  |
| Smoking                   | 2.1%  |
| Exposure                  | 2%    |
| Natural                   | 1.6%  |
| Cause under investigation | 1.1%  |
| Other equipment           | 1.1%  |
| Equipment malfunction     | 0.8%  |
| Playing with heat source  | 0.5%  |



# Plumbing Failures





# Structural Failures





# Conclusion

The application of Building Codes helps to protect the health and welfare of our communities across the State.

Building Codes help to provide security for financial Institutions.

Building Codes promote benefits to our communities including health and safety, economic and peace of mind.

