

**TOWN OF BUCKFIELD
KEY LOCK BOX ORDINANCE**

ORDINANCE REQUIRING STRUCTURES TO HAVE A KEY LOCK BOX INSTALLED ON THE EXTERIOR OF THE STRUCTURE FOR FIRE SAFETY PURPOSE

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen have determined that the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the Town of Buckfield are promoted by requiring certain structures to have a key lock box installed on the exterior of the structure to aid the Buckfield Fire Department and the Buckfield Rescue Department in gaining access into the structure when responding to calls for emergency service; and

WHEREAS, the key lock box system is being adopted nationally and will operate on a master key basis that will expedite entry into a structure during an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the key lock box system will eliminate forced entries into structures thereby avoiding costly and time-consuming efforts in gaining access into locked structures during an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Buckfield is authorized to pass this Ordinance pursuant to its home rule authority.

SECTION 1

This Ordinance is hereby enacted with the following provisions:

- A. The following structures shall be equipped with a key lock box at or near the main entrance or such other location determined by the Buckfield Fire Chief:
 - a. commercial or industrial structures protected by an automatic alarm system or automatic suppression system or such structures that are secured in a manner that restricts access during an emergency;
 - b. multi-family residential structures that have restricted access through locked doors and have a common corridor for access to the living units;
 - c. governmental structures.
- B. All newly constructed structures subject to this Ordinance shall have a key lock box installed and operational prior to occupancy. All structures in existence on the effective date of this Ordinance and subject to this Ordinance shall have one year from the effective date of this Ordinance to have a key lock box installed and operational.
- C. The Fire Chief shall designate the type of key lock box system to be implemented within the Town.
- D. The owner or operator of a structure required to have a key lock box shall, at all times, keep a key in the lock box that will allow access into the structure.
- E. The Fire Chief shall be authorized to implement rules and regulations for the use of the key lock box system.
- F. Any person who owns or operates a structure subject to this Ordinance and fails to comply with this Ordinance shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$100.00 per day.

SECTION 2

This Ordinance shall take effect on June 20, 2009 upon Town Meeting approval.