Chapter 15 Exhaust Systems

Section M1501 General

**M1501.1 Outdoor discharge**

The air removed by every mechanical exhaust system shall be discharged to the outdoors in accordance with Section M1506.3. Air shall not be exhausted into an attic, soffit, ridge vent or crawl space.

*Exception:* Whole-house *ventilation*-type *attic* fans that discharge into the *attic* space of *dwelling units* having private *attics* shall be permitted.

Section M1502 Clothes Dryer Exhaust

**M1502.1 General**

Clothes dryers shall be exhausted in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions.

**M1502.2 Independent exhaust systems**

Dryer exhaust systems shall be independent of all other systems and shall convey the moisture to the outdoors.

*Exception:* This section shall not apply to *listed* and *labeled* condensing (ductless) clothes dryers.

**M1502.3 Duct termination**

Exhaust ducts shall terminate on the outside of the building. Exhaust duct terminations shall be in accordance with the dryer manufacturer’s installation instructions. If the manufacturer’s instructions do not specify a termination location, the exhaust duct shall terminate not less than 3 feet (914 mm) in any direction from openings into buildings. Exhaust duct terminations shall be equipped with a backdraft damper. Screens shall not be installed at the duct termination.