

Chapter 1

ADMINISTRATION

Section 101 General

101.1 Title.

These regulations shall be known as the *Fire Code* of The City of Corpus Christi, hereinafter referred to as “this code.”

101.2 Scope.

This code establishes regulations affecting or relating to structures, processes and premises and safeguards regarding:

1. The hazard of fire and explosion arising from the storage, handling or use of structures, materials or devices;
2. Conditions hazardous to life, property or public welfare in the occupancy of structures or premises;
3. Fire hazards in the structure or on the premise from occupancy or operation;
4. Matters related to the construction, extension, repair, alteration or removal of fire suppression and alarm systems.
5. Conditions affecting the safety of fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations.

101.2.1 Appendices.

Provisions in the appendices shall not apply unless specifically adopted. The appendices included in this code *and the appendices included in referenced standards are not intended for enforcement unless specifically referenced in the code text or specifically included in this ordinance or necessary to clarify technical issues.*

101.3 Intent.

The purpose of this code is to establish the minimum requirements consistent with nationally recognized good practice for providing a reasonable level of life safety and property protection from the hazards of fire, explosion or dangerous conditions in new and existing buildings, structures and premises, and to provide a reasonable level of safety to fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations.

101.4 Severability.

If a section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this code is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional; such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this code.

101.5 Validity.

In the event any part or provision of this code is held to be illegal or void, this shall not have the effect of making void or illegal any of the other parts or provisions hereof, which are determined to be legal; and it shall be presumed that this code would have been adopted without such illegal or invalid parts or provisions.

Section 102 Applicability

102.1 Construction and design provisions.

The construction and design provisions of this code shall apply to:

1. Structures, facilities and conditions arising after the adoption of this code.
2. Existing structures, facilities and conditions not legally in existence at the time of adoption of this code.
3. Existing structures, facilities and conditions when required in Chapter 11.
4. Existing structures, facilities and conditions that, in the opinion of the fire code official, constitute a distinct hazard to life or property.

102.2 Administrative, operational and maintenance provisions.

The administrative, operational and maintenance provisions of this code shall apply to:

1. Conditions and operations arising after the adoption of this code.
2. Existing conditions and operations.

102.3 Change of use or occupancy.

Changes shall not be made in the use or occupancy of any structure that would place the structure in a different division of the same group or occupancy or in a different group of occupancies, unless such structure is made to comply with the requirements of this code and the *International Building Code*. Subject to the approval of the fire code official, the use or occupancy of an existing structure shall be allowed to be changed and the structure is allowed to be occupied for purposes in other groups without conforming to all the requirements of this code and the *International Building Code* for those groups, provided the new or proposed use is less hazardous, based on life and fire risk, than the existing use.

102.4 Application of building code.

The design and construction of new structures shall comply with the *International Building Code*, and any alterations, additions, changes in use or changes in structures required by this code, which are within the scope of the *International Building Code*, shall be made in accordance therewith.

102.5 Application of residential code. Where structures are designed and constructed in accordance with the *International Residential Code*, the provisions of this code shall apply as follows:

1. Construction and design provisions: Provisions of this code pertaining to the exterior of the structure shall apply including, but not limited to, premises identification, fire apparatus access and water supplies. Where interior or exterior systems or devices are installed, construction permits required by Section 105.7 of this code shall also apply.
2. Administrative, operational and maintenance provisions: All such provisions of this code shall apply.

102.6 Historic buildings.

The provisions of this code relating to the construction, alteration, repair, enlargement, restoration, relocation or moving of buildings or structures shall not be mandatory for existing buildings or structures identified and classified by the state or local jurisdiction as historic buildings where such buildings or structures do not constitute a distinct hazard to life or property. Fire protection in designated historic buildings and structures shall be provided in accordance with an approved fire protection plan as required in Section 1103.1.1.

102.7 Referenced codes and standards.

The codes and standards referenced in this code shall be those that are listed in Chapter 80, and such codes and standards shall be considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference and as further regulated in Sections 102.7.1 and 102.7.2.

102.7.1 Conflicts.

Where conflicts occur between provisions of this code and referenced codes and standards, the provisions of this code shall apply.

102.7.2 Provisions in referenced codes and standards.

Where the extent of the reference to a referenced code or standard includes subject matter that is within the scope of this code, the provisions of this code, as applicable, shall take precedence over the provisions in the referenced code or standard.

102.8 Subjects not regulated by this code.

Where applicable standards or requirements are not set forth in this code, or are contained within other laws, codes, regulation, ordinances or bylaws adopted by the jurisdiction, compliance with applicable standards of the National Fire Protection Association or other nationally recognized fire safety standards, as approved shall be deemed as prima facie evidence of compliance with the intent of this code. Nothing herein shall derogate from the authority of the fire code official to determine compliance with codes or standards for those activities or installations within the code official's jurisdiction or responsibility.

102.9 Matters not provided for.

Requirements that are essential for the public safety of an existing or proposed activity, building or structure, or for the safety of the occupants thereof, that are not specifically provided for by this code shall be determined by the fire code official.

102.10 Conflicting provisions.

Where there is a conflict between a general requirement and a specific requirement, the specific requirement shall be applicable. Where, in a specific case, different sections of this code specify different materials, methods of construction or other requirements, the most restrictive shall govern.

102.11 Other laws. The provisions of this code shall not be deemed to nullify any provisions of local, state or federal law.

102.12 Application of references. References to chapter or section numbers, or to provisions not specifically identified by number, shall be construed to refer to such chapter, section or provision of this code.

**Section 103
Department of Fire Prevention**

103.1 General.

The department of fire prevention is established within the jurisdiction under the direction of the fire code official. The function of the department shall be the implementation, administration and enforcement of the provisions of this code.

103.2 Fire Prevention Bureau

There is hereby established a *division of the Fire Department* to be called the Fire Prevention *Bureau*, and the person in charge shall be known as the fire official *and/or fire marshal*.

103.3 Deputies.

In accordance with the prescribed procedures of this jurisdiction and with the concurrence of the appointing authority, the *fire code official* shall have the authority to appoint a deputy *fire code official*, other related technical officers, inspectors and other employees.

103.4 Liability.

The *fire code official*, member of the board of appeals, officer or employee charged with the enforcement of this code, while acting for the jurisdiction, in good faith and without malice in the discharge of the duties required by this code or other pertinent law or ordinance, shall not thereby be rendered civilly or criminally liable personally, and is hereby relieved from all personal liability for any damage accruing to *persons* or property as a result of an act or by reason of an act or omission in the discharge of official duties.

103.4.1 Legal defense.

Any suit or criminal complaint instituted against any officer or employee because of an act performed by that officer or employee in the lawful discharge of duties and under the provisions of this code shall be defended by the legal representative of the jurisdiction until the final termination of the proceedings. The fire code official or any subordinate shall not be liable for costs in an action, suit or proceeding that is instituted in pursuance of the provisions of this code; and any officer of the department of fire prevention, acting in good faith and without malice, shall be free from liability for acts performed under any of its provisions or by reason of any act or omission in the performance of official duties in connection therewith.

Section 104 General Authority and Responsibilities

104.1 General.

The fire code official is hereby authorized to enforce the provisions of this code and shall have the authority to render interpretations of this code, and to adopt policies, procedures, rules and regulations in order to clarify the application of its provisions. Such interpretations, policies, procedures, rules and regulations shall be in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code and shall not have the effect of waiving requirements specifically provided for in this code.

104.2 Applications and permits.

The fire code official is authorized to receive applications, review construction documents and issue permits for construction regulated by this code, issue permits for operations regulated by this code, inspect the premises for which such permits have been issued and enforce compliance with the provisions of this code.

104.3 Right of entry.

Whenever it is necessary to make an inspection to enforce the provisions of this code, or whenever the fire code official has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in a building or upon any premises any conditions or violations of this code which made the building or premises unsafe, dangerous or hazardous, the fire code official shall have the authority to enter the building or premises at all reasonable times to inspect or to perform the duties imposed upon the fire code official by this code. If such building or premises is occupied, the fire code official shall present credentials to the occupant and request entry. If such building or premises is unoccupied, the fire code official shall first make a reasonable effort to locate the owner, the owners authorized agent or other person having charge or control of the building or premises and request entry. If entry is refused, the fire code official has recourse to every remedy provided by law to secure entry.

104.3.1 Warrant.

Where the fire code official has first obtained a proper inspection warrant or other remedy provided by law to secure entry, an owner, the owner's authorized agent or occupant or person having charge, care or control of the building or premises shall not fail or neglect, after proper request is made as herein provided, to permit entry therein by the code official for the purpose of inspection and examination pursuant to this code.

104.4 Identification.

The fire code official shall carry proper identification when inspecting structures or premises in the performance of duties under this code.

104.5 Notices and orders.

The *fire code official* is authorized to issue such notices or orders as are required to affect compliance with this code in accordance with sections 109.1 and 109.2.

104.6 Official records.

The fire code official shall keep official records as required by Sections 104.6.1 through 104.6.4. Such official records shall be retained for not less than five years or for as long as the structure or activity to which records relate remains in existence, unless otherwise provided by other regulations.

104.6.1 Approvals.

A record of approvals shall be maintained by the fire code official and shall be available for public inspection during business hours in accordance with applicable laws.

104.6.2 Inspections.

The fire code official shall keep a record of each inspection made, including notices and orders issued, showing the findings and disposition of each.

104.6.3 Fire records.

The fire department shall keep a record of fires occurring within its jurisdiction and of facts concerning the same, including statistics as to the extent of such fires and the damage caused thereby, together with other information as required by the fire code official.

104.6.4 Administrative.

Application for modification, alternative methods or materials and the final decision of the fire code official shall be in writing and shall be officially recorded in the permanent records of the fire code official.

104.7 Approved materials and equipment.

All materials, equipment and devices approved by the fire code official shall be constructed and installed in accordance with such approval.

104.7.1 Material and equipment reuse.

Materials, equipment and devices shall not be reused or reinstalled unless such elements have been reconditioned, tested and placed in good and proper working condition and approved.

104.7.2 Technical assistance.

To determine the acceptability of technologies, processes, products, facilities, materials and uses attending the design, operation or use of a building or premises subject to the inspection by the fire code official, the fire code official is authorized to require the owner or owner's authorized agent to provide, without charge to the jurisdiction, a technical opinion and report. The opinion and report shall be prepared by a qualified engineer, specialist, laboratory or fire safety specialty organization acceptable to the fire code official and shall analyze the fire safety properties of the design, operation or use of the building or premises and the facilities and appurtenances situated thereon, to recommend necessary changes. The fire code official is authorized to require design submittals to be prepared by, and bear the stamp of, a registered design professional.

104.8 Modifications.

Where there are practical difficulties involved in carrying out the provisions of this code, the fire code official shall have the authority to grant modifications for individual cases, provided the fire code official shall first find that special individual reason makes the strict letter of this code impractical and the modification is in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code and that such modification does not lessen health, life and fire safety requirements. The details of action granting modifications shall be recorded and entered in the files of Fire Prevention.

104.9 Alternative materials and methods.

The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been approved. The fire code official is authorized to approve an alternative material or method of construction where the fire code official finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability and safety. Where the alternative material, design or method of construction is not approved, the fire code official shall respond in writing, stating the reasons why the alternative was not approved.

104.9.1. Research reports.

Supporting data, when necessary to assist in the approval of materials or assemblies not specifically provided for in the code, shall consist of valid research reports from *approved* sources.

104.9.2 Tests.

Whenever there is insufficient evidence of compliance with the provisions of this code, or evidence that a material or method does not conform to the requirements of this code, or in order to substantiate claims for alternative materials or methods, the *fire code official* shall have the authority to require tests as evidence of compliance to be made at no expense to the jurisdiction. Test methods shall be as specified in this code or by other recognized test standards. In the absence of recognized and accepted test methods, the *fire code official* shall approve the testing procedures. Tests shall be performed by an *approved* agency. Reports of such tests shall be retained by the *fire code official* for the period required for retention of public records.

104.10 Fire investigations.

The fire code official, the fire department or other responsible authority shall have the authority to investigate the cause, origin and circumstances of any fire, explosion or other hazardous condition. Information that could be related to trade secrets or processes shall not be made part of the public record except as directed by a court of law.

104.10.1 Assistance from other agencies.

Police and other enforcement agencies shall have authority to render necessary assistance in the investigation of fires when requested to do so.

104.10.2 Rewards

The mayor is authorized and directed to make public proclamation in the name of the city offering a reward of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for the arrest and conviction in a court of competent and final jurisdiction, of

any person found guilty of the crime of arson, as defined in the statutes of the state, within the limits of the city and to have the proclamation printed upon placards eight (8) by twelve (12) inches in size and placed in wooden frames, under glass, and posted in at least 20 public buildings in the city.

104.11 Authority at fires and other emergencies.

The fire chief or officer of the fire department in charge at the scene of a fire or other emergency involving the protection of life or property or any part thereof, shall have the authority to direct such operation as necessary to extinguish or control any fire, perform any rescue operation, investigate the existence of suspected or reported fire, gas leaks or other hazardous conditions or situations, or take any other action necessary in the reasonable performance of duty. In the exercise of such power, the fire chief is authorized to prohibit any person, vehicle, vessel or thing from approaching the scene and is authorized to remove, or cause to be removed or kept away from the scene, any vehicle, vessel or thing which could impede or interfere with the operations of the fire department and, in the judgment of the fire chief, any person not actually and usefully employed in the extinguishing of such fire or in the preservation of property in the vicinity thereof.

104.11.1 Barricades.

The fire chief or officer of the fire department in charge at the scene of an emergency is authorized to place ropes, guards, barricades or other obstructions across any street, alley, place or private property in the vicinity of such operation so as to prevent accidents or interference with the lawful efforts of the fire department to manage and control the situation and to handle fire apparatus.

104.11.2 Obstructing operations.

No person shall obstruct the operations of the fire department in connection with extinguishment or control of any fire, or actions relative to other emergencies, or disobey any lawful command of the fire chief or officer of the fire department in charge of the emergency, or any part thereof, or any lawful order of a police officer assisting the fire department.

104.11.3 Systems and devices.

No person shall render a system or device inoperative during an emergency unless by direction of the fire chief or fire department official in charge of the incident.

Section 105 Permits

105.1 General.

Permits shall be in accordance with Section 105.1.1 through 105.7.18.

105.1.1 Permits required.

A property owner or owner's authorized agent who intends to conduct an operation or business, or install or modify systems and equipment that are regulated by this code, or to cause any such work to be performed, shall first make application to the *fire code official* and obtain the required permit.

105.1.2 Types of permits.

There shall be two types of permits as follows:

1. Operational permit. An operational permit allows the applicant to conduct an operation or a business for which a permit is required by Section 105.6 for either:
 - 1.1. A prescribed period.
 - 1.2. Until renewed or revoked.
2. Construction permit. A construction permit allows the applicant to install or modify systems and equipment for which a permit is required by Section 105.7.

105.1.3 Multiple permits for the same location.

When more than one permit is required for the same location, the fire code official is authorized to consolidate such permits into a single permit provided that each provision is listed in the permit.

105.1.4 Emergency repairs.

Where equipment replacement and repairs must be performed in an emergency situation, the permit application shall be submitted within the next working business day to the *fire code official*.

105.1.5 Repairs.

Application or notice to the *fire code official* is not required for ordinary repairs to structures, equipment or systems. Such repairs shall not include the cutting away of any wall, partition or portion thereof, the removal or change of any required *means of egress*, or rearrangement of parts of a structure affecting the egress requirements; nor shall any repairs include addition to, alteration of, replacement or relocation of any standpipe, fire

protection water supply, automatic sprinkler system, fire alarm system or other work affecting fire protection or life safety.

105.1.6 Annual permit.

Instead of an individual construction permit for each alteration to an already *approved* system or equipment installation, the *fire code official* is authorized to issue an annual permit upon application therefor to any person, fire or corporation regularly employing on or more qualified tradespersons in the building, structure or on the premises owned or operated by the applicant for the permit.

105.1.6.1 Annual permit records.

The person to whom an annual permit is issued shall keep a detailed record of alterations made under such annual permit. The *fire code official* shall have access to such records at all times or such records shall be filed with the *fire code official* as designated.

105.2 Application.

Application for a permit required by this code shall be made to the fire code official in such form and detail as prescribed by the fire code official.

Applications for permits shall be accompanied by such plans as prescribed by the fire code official.

105.2.1 Refusal to issue permit.

If the application for a permit describes a use that does not conform to the requirements of this code and other pertinent laws and ordinances, the fire code official shall not issue a permit, but shall return the application to the applicant with the refusal to issue such permit. Such refusal, shall, where requested, shall be in writing and shall contain the reasons for refusal.

105.2.2 Inspection authorized.

Before a new operational permit is approved, the fire code official is authorized to inspect the receptacles, vehicles, buildings, devices, premises, storage spaces or areas to be used to determine compliance with this code or any other operational constraints required.

105.2.3 Time limitation of application.

An application for a permit for any proposed work or operation shall be deemed to have been abandoned 180 days after the date of filing, unless such application has been diligently prosecuted or a permit shall have been issued; except that the *fire code official* is authorized to grant one or more extensions of time for additional periods not exceeding 90 days each. The extension shall be requested in writing and justifiable cause demonstrated.

105.2.4 Action on application.

The fire code official shall examine or cause to be examined applications for permits and amendments thereto within a reasonable time after filing. If the application or the construction documents do not conform to the requirements of pertinent laws, the fire code official shall reject such application in writing, stating the reasons therefore. If the fire code official is satisfied that the proposed work or operation conforms to the requirements of this code and law and ordinances applicable thereto, the fire code official shall issue a permit therefore as soon as practicable.

105.3 Conditions of a permit.

A permit shall constitute permission to maintain, store or handle materials; or to conduct processes which produce conditions hazardous to life or property; or to install equipment utilized in connection with such activities; or to install or modify any fire protection system or equipment or any other construction, equipment installation or modification in accordance with the provision of this code where a permit is required by Section 105.6. Such permission shall be construed as authority to violate, cancel or set aside any of the provisions of this code or other applicable regulations or laws of the jurisdiction.

105.3.1 Expiration.

An operational permit shall remain in effect until reissued, renewed, or revoked or for such a period of time as specified in the permit. Construction permits shall automatically become invalid unless the work authorized by such permit is commenced within 180 days after its issuance, or if the work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned for a period of 180 days after the time the work is commenced. Before such work recommences, a new permit shall be first obtained and the fee, to recommence work, if any, shall be one-half the amount required for a new permit for such work, provided no changes have been made or will be made in the original construction documents for such work, and provided further that such suspension or abandonment has not exceeded one year. Permits are not transferable and any change in occupancy, operation, tenancy or ownership shall require that a new permit be issued.

105.3.2 Extensions.

A permittee holding an unexpired permit shall have the right to apply for an extension of the time within which the permittee will commence work under that permit where work is unable to be commenced within the time required by this section for good and satisfactory reasons. The *fire code official* is authorized to grant, in writing, one or more extensions of the time period of a permit for periods of not more than 180 days each. Such extensions shall be requested by the permit holder in writing and justifiable cause demonstrated.

105.3.3 Occupancy prohibited before approval.

The building or structure shall not be occupied prior to the *fire code official* issuing a permit and conducting associated inspections indicating the applicable provisions of this code have been met.

105.3.4 Conditional permits.

Where permits are required and upon the request of a permit applicant, the fire code official is authorized to issue a conditional permit to occupy the premises or portion thereof before the entire work or operations on the premises is completed, provided that such portion or portions will be occupied safely prior to full completion or installation of equipment and operations without endangering life or public welfare. The fire code official shall notify the permit applicant in writing of any limitations or restrictions necessary to keep the permit area safe. The holder of a conditional permit shall proceed only to the point for which approval has been given, at the permit holder's own risk and without assurance that approval for the occupancy or the utilization of the entire premises, equipment or operations will be granted.

105.3.5 Posting the permit.

Issued permits shall be kept on the premises designated therein at all times and shall be readily available for inspection by the fire code official.

105.3.6 Compliance with code.

The issuance or granting of a permit shall not be construed to be a permit for, or an approval of, any violation of any of the provisions of this code or of any other ordinance of the jurisdiction. Permits presuming to give authority to violate or cancel the provisions of this code or other ordinances of the jurisdiction shall not be valid. The issuance of a permit based on construction documents and other data shall not prevent the fire code official from requiring the correction of errors in the construction documents and other data. Any addition to or alteration of approved construction documents shall be approved in advance by the fire code official, as evidenced by the issuance of a new or amended permit.

105.3.7 Information on the permit.

The fire code official shall issue all permits required by this code on an approved form furnished for that purpose. The permit shall contain a general description of the operation or occupancy and its location and any other information required by the fire code official. Issued permits shall bear the signature of the fire code official or other approved legal authorization.

105.3.8 Validity of permit.

The issuance or granting of a permit shall not be construed to be a permit for, or an approval of, any violation of any of the provisions of this code or of any other ordinances of the jurisdiction. Permits presuming to give authority to violate or cancel the provisions of this code or other ordinances of the jurisdiction shall not be valid. The issuance of a permit based on *construction documents*, operational documents and other data shall not prevent the *fire code official* from requiring correction of errors in the documents or other data.

105.4 Construction documents.

Construction documents shall be in accordance with Sections 105.4.1 through 105.4.6.

105.4.1 Submittals.

Construction documents and supporting data shall be submitted in two or more sets with each application for a permit and in such form and detail as required by the fire code official. The construction documents shall be prepared by a registered design professional where required by the statutes of the jurisdiction in which the project is to be constructed.

Exception: The *fire code official* is authorized to waive the submission of *construction documents* and supporting data not required to be prepared by a registered design professional if it is found that the nature of the work applied for is such that review of *construction documents* is not necessary to obtain compliance with this code.

105.4.1.1 Examination of documents.

The *fire code official* shall examine or cause to be examined the accompanying *construction documents* and shall ascertain by such examinations whether the work indicated and described is in accordance with the requirements of this code.

105.4.2 Information on construction documents.

Construction documents shall be drawn to scale upon suitable material. Electronic media documents are allowed to be submitted when approved by the fire code official. Construction documents shall be of sufficient clarity to indicate the location, nature and extent of the work proposed and show in detail that it will conform to the provisions of this code and relevant laws, ordinances, rules and regulations as determined by the fire code official.

105.4.2.1 Fire protection system shop drawings.

Shop drawings for the fire protection system(s) shall be submitted to indicate compliance with this code and the *construction documents* and shall be *approved* prior to the start of installation. Shop drawings shall contain all information as required by the referenced installation standards in Chapter 9.

105.4.3 Applicant responsibility.

It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the construction documents include all of the fire protection requirements and the shop drawings are complete and in compliance with the applicable codes and standards.

105.4.4 Approved documents.

Construction documents approved by the fire code official are approved with the intent that such construction documents comply in all respects with this code.

Review and approval by the fire code official shall not relieve the applicant of the responsibility of compliance with this code.

105.4.4.1 Phased approval. The *fire code official* is authorized to issue a permit for the construction of part of a structure, system or operation before the *construction documents* for the whole structure, system or operation have been submitted, provided that adequate information and detailed statements have been filed complying with pertinent requirements of this code. The holder of such permit for parts of a structure, system or operation shall proceed at the holder's own risk with the building operation and without assurance that a permit for the entire structure, system or operation will be granted.

105.4.5 Amended construction documents.

Work shall be installed in accordance with the *approved construction documents*, and any changes made during construction that are not in compliance with the *approved construction documents* shall be resubmitted for approval as an amended set of *construction documents*.

105.4.6 Retention of construction documents.

One set of *construction documents* shall be retained by the *fire code official* for a period of not less than 180 days from date of completion of the permitted work, or as required by state or local laws. One set of *approved construction documents* shall be returned to the applicant, and said set shall be kept on the site of the building or work at all times during which the work authorized thereby in progress.

105.5 Revocation.

The fire code official is authorized to revoke a permit issued under the provisions of this code when it is found by inspection or otherwise that there has been a false statement or misrepresentation as to the material facts in the application or construction documents on which the permit or approval was based including, but not limited to, any one of the following:

1. The permit is used for a location or establishment other than that for which it was issued.
2. The permit is used for a condition or activity other than that listed in the permit.
3. Conditions and limitations set forth in the permit have been violated.

4. There have been any false statements or misrepresentations as to the material fact in the application for permit or plans submitted or a condition of the permit.
5. The permit is used by a different person or firm than the name for which it was issued.
6. The permittee failed, refused or neglected to comply with orders or notices duly served in accordance with the provisions of this code within the time provided therein.
7. The permit was issued in error or in violation of an ordinance, regulation or this code.

105.6 Required operational permits.

The fire code official is authorized to issue operational permits for the operations set forth in Sections 105.6.1 through 105.6.55.

105.6.1 Aerosol products.

An operational permit is required to manufacture, store or handle an aggregate quantity of Level 2 or Level 3 aerosol products in excess of 500 pounds (227 kg) net weight.

105.6.2 Amusement buildings.

An operational permit is required to operate a special amusement building.

105.6.3 Aviation facilities.

An operational permit is required to use a Group H or Group S occupancy for aircraft servicing or repair and aircraft fuel-servicing vehicles. Additional permits required by other sections of this code include, but are not limited to, hot work, hazardous materials and flammable or combustible liquids.

105.6.4 Carbon dioxide systems used in beverage dispensing applications.

An operational permit is required for carbon dioxide systems used in beverage dispensing applications having more than 100 pounds of carbon dioxide.

105.6.5 Carnivals and fairs.

An operational permit is required to conduct a carnival or fair.

105.6.6 Cellulose nitrate film.

An operational permit is required to store, handle or use cellulose nitrate film in a Group A occupancy.

105.6.7 Combustible dust-producing operations.

An operational permit is required to operate a grain elevator, flour starch mill, feed mill, or a plant pulverizing aluminum, coal, cocoa, magnesium, spices or sugar, or other operations producing combustible dusts as defined in Chapter 2.

105.6.8 Combustible fibers.

An operational permit is required for the storage and handling of *combustible fibers* in quantities greater than 100 cubic feet (2.8 m cubed)

Exception: A permit is not required for agricultural storage.

105.6.9 Compressed gases.

An operational permit is required for the storage, use or handling at normal temperature and pressure (NTP) of compressed gases in excess of the amounts listed in Table 105.6.9

Exception: Vehicles equipped for and using compressed gas as a fuel for propelling the vehicle.

**Table 105.6.9
PERMIT AMOUNTS FOR COMPRESSED GASES**

TYPE OF GAS	AMOUNT (cubic feet at NTP)
Corrosive	200
Flammable (except cryogenic fluids And liquefied petroleum gases)	200
Highly toxic	Any Amount
Inert and simple asphyxiant (a)	6,000
Oxidizing (including oxygen)	504
Pyrophoric	Any Amount
Toxic	Any Amount

For SI: 1 cubic foot = 0.02832 m³.

a. For carbon dioxide used in beverage dispensing application, see Section 105.6.4.

105.6.10 Covered mall buildings.

An operational permit is required for:

1. The placement of retail fixtures and displays, concession equipment, displays of highly combustible goods and similar items in the mall.
2. The display of liquid- or gas-fired equipment in the mall.

3. The use of open-flame or flame-producing equipment in the mall.

105.6.11 Cryogenic fluids.

An operational permit is required to produce, store, transport on site, use handle or dispense cryogenic fluids in excess of the amounts listed in Table 105.6.11.

Exception: Permits are not required for vehicles equipped for and using cryogenic fluids as a fuel for propelling the vehicle or for refrigerating the lading.

**Table 105.6.11
PERMIT AMOUNTS FOR CRYOGENIC FLUIDS**

TYPE OF CRYOGENIC FLUID	INSIDE BUILDING (gallons)	OUTSIDE BUILDING (gallons)
Flammable	More than 1	60
Inert	60	500
Oxidizing (includes oxygen)	10	50
Physical or health hazard not indicated above	Any amount	Any amount

For SI: 1 gallon = 3.785 L.

105.6.12 Cutting and welding.

An operational permit is required to conduct cutting or welding operations within the jurisdiction.

105.6.13 Dry cleaning plants.

An operational permit is required to engage in the business of dry cleaning or to change to a more hazardous cleaning solvent used in existing dry cleaning equipment.

105.6.14 Exhibits and trade shows.

An operational permit is required to operate exhibits and trade shows.

105.6.15 Explosives.

An operational permit is required for the manufacture, storage, handling, sale or use of any quantity of explosive, explosive material, fireworks, or pyrotechnic special effects within the scope of Chapter 56.

Exception: Storage in Group R-3 occupancies of smokeless propellant, black powder and small arms primers for personal use, not for resale and in accordance with Section 5606.

105.6.16 Fire hydrants and valves.

An operational permit is required to use or operate fire hydrants or valves intended for fire suppression purposes which are installed on water systems and accessible to a fire apparatus access road that is open to or generally used by the public.

Exception: A permit is not required for authorized employees of the water company that supplies the system or the fire department to use or operate fire hydrants or valves.

105.6.17 Flammable and combustible liquids.

An operational permit is required:

1. To use or operate a pipeline for the transportation within facilities of flammable or combustible liquids. This requirement shall not apply to the off-site transportation in pipelines regulated by the Department of Transportation (Dotn) nor does it apply to piping systems.
2. To store, handle or use Class I liquids in excess of 5 gallons (19 L) in a building or in excess of 10 gallons (37.9 L) outside of a building, except that a permit is not required for the following:
 - 2.1. The storage or use of Class I liquids in the fuel tank of a motor vehicle, motorboat, mobile power plant or mobile heating plant, unless such storage, in the opinion of the code official, would cause an unsafe condition.
 - 2.2. The storage or use of paints, oils, varnishes or similar flammable mixtures when such liquids are stored for maintenance, painting or similar purposes for a period of not more than 30 days.
3. To store, handle or use Class II or Class IIIA liquids in excess of 25 gallons (95 L) in a building or in excess of 60 gallons (227 L) outside a building, except for fuel oil used in connection with oil-burning equipment.
4. To store, handle or use Class IIIB liquids in tanks or portable tanks for fueling motor vehicles at motor fuel-dispensing facilities or where connected to fuel-burning equipment.

Exception: Fuel oil and used motor oil used for space heating or water heating.

5. To remove Class I or II liquids from an underground storage tank used for fueling motor vehicles by any means other than the *approved*, stationary on-site pumps normally used for dispensing purposes.
6. To operate tank vehicles, equipment, tanks, plants, terminals, wells, fuel-dispensing stations, refineries, distilleries and similar facilities where flammable and *combustible liquids* are produced, processed, transported, stored and dispensed or used.
7. To place temporarily out of service (for more than 90 days) an underground, protected above-ground or above-ground flammable or *combustible liquid* tank.
8. To change the type of contents stored in a flammable or *combustible liquid* tank to a material that poses a greater hazard than that for which the tank was designed and constructed.
9. To manufacture, process, blend or refine flammable or *combustible liquids*.
10. To engage in the dispensing of liquid fuels into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles at commercial, industrial, governmental or manufacturing establishments.
11. To utilize a site for the dispensing of liquid fuels from tank vehicles into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles, marine craft and other special equipment at commercial, industrial, governmental or manufacturing establishments.

105.6.18 Floor finishing.

An operational permit is required for floor finishing or surfacing operations exceeding 350 square feet (33 m²) using Class I or Class II liquids.

105.6.19 Fruit and crop ripening.

An operational permit is required to operate a fruit- or crop-ripening facility or conduct a fruit-ripening process using ethylene gas.

105.6.20 Fumigation and thermal insecticidal fogging.

An operational permit is required to operate a business of fumigation or thermal insecticidal fogging and to maintain a room, vault or chamber in which a toxic or flammable fumigant is used.

105.6.20.1 *Fumigators and thermal insecticidal foggers may pay an annual permit fee in the amount of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00).*

105.6.20.2 *Annual permit holders must call at least twenty-four (24) hours before the fumigation is to begin.*

105.6.20.3 *The fire official is to be notified at least twenty-four (24) hours before any building or structure or ship is to be closed in connection with the use of any toxic or flammable fumigant and at the time the building or structure or ship is released for occupancy.*

105.6.21 Hazardous materials.

An operational permit is required to store, transport on site, dispense, use or handle hazardous materials in excess of the amounts listed in Table 105.6.21.

**Table 105.6.21
PERMIT AMOUNTS FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

TYPE OF MATERIAL	AMOUNT
Combustible liquids	See Section 105.6.17
Corrosive materials	
Gases	See Section 105.6.9
Liquids	55 gallons
Solids	1000 pounds
Explosive materials	See Section 105.6.15
Flammable materials	
Gases	See Section 105.6.9
Liquids	See Section 105.6.17
Solids	100 pounds
Highly toxic materials	
Gases	See Section 105.6.9
Liquids	Any Amount
Solids	Any Amount
Oxidizing materials	
Gases	See Section 105.6.9
Liquids	
Class 4	Any Amount
Class 3	1 gallon <i>a</i>
Class 2	10 gallons
Class 1	55 gallons
Solids	
Class 4	Any amount

Class 3	10 pounds <i>b</i>
Class 2	100 pounds
Class 1	500 pounds
Organic peroxides	
Liquids	
Class I	Any Amount
Class II	Any Amount
Class III	1 gallon
Class IV	2 gallons
Class V	No Permit Required
Solids	
Class I	Any Amount
Class II	Any Amount
Class III	10 pounds
Class IV	20 pounds
Class V	No Permit Required
Pyrophoric materials	
Gases	Any Amount
Liquids	Any Amount
Solids	Any Amount
Toxic materials	
Gases	See Section 105.6.9
Liquids	10 gallons
Solids	100 pounds
Unstable (reactive materials)	
Liquids	
Class 4	Any Amount
Class 3	Any Amount
Class 2	5 gallons
Class 1	10 gallons
Solids	
Class 4	Any Amount
Class 3	Any Amount
Class 2	50 pounds
Class 1	100 pounds
Water-reactive Materials	
Liquids	
Class 3	Any Amount
Class 2	5 gallons
Class 1	55 gallons
Solids	
Class 3	Any Amount
Class 2	50 pounds
Class 1	500 pounds

For SI: 1 gallon = 3.785 L, 1 pound – 0.454 kg.

- a. 20 gallons when Table 5003.1.1(1) Note k applies and hazard identification signs in accordance with Section 5003.5 are provided for quantities of 20 gallons or less.
- b. 200 pounds when Table 5003.1.1(1) note k applies and hazard identification signs in accordance with Section 5003.5 are provided for quantities of 200 pounds or less.

105.6.22 HPM facilities.

An operational permit is required to store, handle or use hazardous production materials.

105.6.23 High-piled storage.

An operational permit is required to use a building or portion thereof as a high-piled storage area exceeding 500 square feet (46 m²)

105.6.24 Hot work operations.

An operational permit is required for hot work including, but not limited to:

1. Public exhibitions and demonstrations where hot work is conducted.
2. Use of portable hot work equipment inside a structure.

Exception: Work that is conducted under a construction permit.

3. Fixed-site hot work equipment such as welding booths.
4. Hot work conducted within a wildfire risk area.
5. Application of roof coverings with the use of an open-flame device.
6. When *approved*, the *fire code official*, shall issue a permit to carry out a hot work program. This program allows *approved* personnel to regulate their facility's hot work operations. The *approved* personnel shall be trained in the fire safety aspects denoted in this chapter and shall be responsible for issuing permits requiring compliance with the requirements found in Chapter 35. These permits shall be issued only to their employees or hot work operations under their supervision.

105.6.25 Industrial ovens.

An operational permit is required for operation of industrial ovens regulated by Chapter 30.

105.6.26 Lumber yards and woodworking plants.

An operational permit is required for the storage or processing of lumber exceeding 100,000 board feet (8,333 ft³) (236 m³).

105.6.27 Liquid- or gas-fueled vehicles or equipment in assembly buildings.

An operational permit is required to display, operate or demonstrate liquid- or gas-fueled vehicles or equipment in assembly buildings.

105.6.28 LP-gas.

An operational permit is required for:

1. Storage and use of LP-gas.

Exception: A permit is not required for individual containers with a 500-gallon (1893 L) water capacity or less or multiple container systems having an aggregate quantity not exceeding 500 gallons (1893L), serving occupancies in Group R-3.

2. Operation of cargo tankers that transport LP-gas.

105.6.29 Magnesium.

An operational permit is required to melt, cast, heat treat or grind more than 10 pounds (4.54 kg) of magnesium.

105.6.30 Miscellaneous combustible storage.

An operational permit is required to store in any building or upon any premises in excess of 2,500 cubic feet (71 m³) gross volume of combustible empty packing cases, boxes, barrels or similar containers, rubber tires, rubber, cork or similar combustible material.

105.6.31 Motor fuel-dispensing facilities.

An operational permit is required for the operation of automotive, marine and fleet motor fuel-dispensing facilities.

105.6.32 Open burning.

An operational permit is required for the kindling or maintaining of an open fire or a fire on any public street, alley, road, or other public or private ground. Instructions and stipulations of the permit shall be adhered to.

Exception: Recreational fires.

105.6.33 Open flames and torches.

An operational permit is required to remove paint with a torch; or to use a torch or open-flame device in a wildfire risk area.

105.6.34 Open flames and candles.

An operational permit is required to use open flames or candles in connection with assembly areas, dining areas of restaurants or drinking establishments.

105.6.35 Organic coatings.

An operational permit is required for any organic-coating manufacturing operation producing more than 1 gallon (4 L) of an organic coating in one day.

105.6.36 Places of assembly.

An operational permit is required to operate a place of assembly.

105.6.37 Private fire hydrants.

An operational permit is required for the removal from service, use or operation of private fire hydrants.

Exception: A permit is not required for private industry with trained maintenance personnel, private fire brigade or fire departments to maintain, test and use private hydrants.

105.6.38 Pyrotechnic special effects material.

An operational permit is required for use and handling of pyrotechnic *or flame* special effects material.

105.6.39 Pyroxylin plastics.

An operational permit is required for storage or handling of more than 25 pounds (11 kg) of cellulose nitrate (pyroxylin) plastics and for the assembly or manufacture of articles involving pyroxylin plastics.

105.6.40 Refrigeration equipment.

An operational permit is required to operate a mechanical refrigeration unit or system regulated by Chapter 6.

105.6.41 Repair garages and motor fuel-dispensing facilities.

An operational permit is required for operation of repair garages.

105.6.42 Rooftop heliports.

An operational permit is required for the operation of a rooftop heliport.

105.6.43 Spraying or dipping.

An operational permit is required to conduct a spraying or dipping operation utilizing flammable or combustible liquids or the application of combustible powders regulated by Chapter 24.

105.6.44 Storage of scrap tires and tire byproducts.

An operational permit is required to establish, conduct or maintain storage of scrap tires and tire byproducts that exceeds 2,500 cubic feet (71 m³) of total volume of scrap tires and for indoor storage of tires and tire byproducts.

105.6.45 Temporary membrane structures and tents

An operational permit is required to operate an air-supported temporary membrane structure, a temporary stage canopy or a tent having an area in excess of 400 square feet (37 m²).

Exception:

1. Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.
2. Tents and awnings open on all sides which comply with all of the following:
 - 2.1 Individual tents shall have a maximum size of 700 square feet (65 m square).
 - 2.2. The aggregate area of multiple tents placed side by side without a fire break clearance of not less than 12 feet (3658 mm) shall not exceed 700 square feet (65 m square).
 - 2.3 A minimum clearance of 12 feet (3658 mm) to and other tents shall be maintained.
3. Funeral tents and curtains or extensions attached thereto, when used for funeral services.

105.6.46 Tire-rebuilding plants.

An operational permit is required for the operation and maintenance of a tire-rebuilding plant.

105.6.47 Waste handling.

An operational permit is required for the operation of wrecking yards, junk yards, and waste material-handling facilities.

105.6.48 Wood products.

An operational permit is required to store chips, hogged material, lumber or plywood in excess of 200 cubic feet (6 m³).

105.6.49 Child/Adult Day Care Facilities

A permit shall be required to operate a day care facility.

105.6.50 Foster Home/Group Homes

A permit shall be required to operate a foster home or a group home.

105.6.51 High rise life safety systems.

No person shall install, enlarge or extend a high rise life safety system without a permit from the fire official.

105.6.52 Hospitals and Nursing Homes

A permit shall be required to operate a hospital or nursing home.

105.6.53 Restaurants

A permit shall be required to operate a restaurant.

105.6.54 Unvented and Portable Fuel Burning Heaters

No person shall sell, purchase or use an unvented portable fuel burning heater within the city limits without a permit.

105.6.55 Commercial Vent-a-Hood Cleaning.

An operational permit is required to clean commercial vent-a-hoods, documentation must be provided indicating training from a nationally recognized agency complying with NFPA 96.

105.7 Required construction permits.

The fire code official is authorized to issue construction permits for work as set forth in Sections 105.7.1 through 105.7.18.

105.7.1 Automatic fire-extinguishing systems.

A construction permit is required for installation of or modification to an automatic fire-extinguishing system. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.

105.7.2 Battery Systems

A permit is required to install stationary storage battery systems having a liquid capacity of more than 50 gallons (189 L).

105.7.3 Compressed gases.

When the compressed gases in use or storage exceed the amounts listed in Table 105.6.9, a construction permit is required to install, repair damage to, abandon, remove, place temporarily out of service, or close or substantially modify a compressed gas system.

Exceptions:

1. Routine maintenance.
2. For emergency repair work performed on an emergency basis, application for permit shall be made within two working days of commencement of work.

105.7.4 Cryogenic fluids. A construction permit is required for installation of or *alteration* to outdoor stationary *cryogenic fluid* storage systems where the system capacity exceeds the amounts listed in Table 105.6.11. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered an *alteration* and does not require a construction permit.

105.7.5 Emergency responder radio coverage system.

A construction permit is required for installation of or modification to emergency responder radio coverage systems and related equipment. Maintenance performed in accordance with code is not considered to be a modification and does not require a construction permit.

105.7.6 Fire alarm and detection systems and related equipment.

A construction permit is required for installation of or modification to fire alarm and detection systems and related equipment. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.

105.7.7 Fire pumps and related equipment.

A construction permit is required for installation of or modification to fire pumps and related fuel tanks, jockey pumps, controllers, and generators. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.

105.7.8 Flammable and combustible liquids.

A construction permit is required:

1. To install, repair or modify a pipeline for the transportation of flammable or combustible liquids.
2. To install, construct or alter tank vehicles, equipment, tanks, plants, terminals, wells, fuel-dispensing stations, refineries, distilleries and similar facilities where flammable and combustible liquids are produced, processed, transported, stored, dispensed or used.
3. To install, alter, remove, abandon, or otherwise dispose of a flammable or combustible liquid tank.
4. *The application for the permit to install an aboveground flammable or combustible liquid tank shall be accompanied by the following:*
 1. *Manufacturer's installation requirements.*
 2. *Listing for tank*
 3. *Site plan showing address and proposed installation location.*

105.7.9 Gates and barricades across fire apparatus access roads.

A construction permit is required for the installation of or modification to a gate or barricade across a fire apparatus access road.

105.7.10 Hazardous materials.

A construction permit is required to install, repair damage to, abandon, remove, place temporarily out of service, or close or substantially modify a storage facility or other area regulated by Chapter 27 when the hazardous materials in use or storage exceed the amounts listed in Table 105.6.21.

Exceptions:

1. Routine maintenance.
2. For emergency repair work performed on an emergency basis, application for permit shall be made within two working days of commencement of work.

105.7.11 Industrial ovens.

A construction permit is required for installation of industrial ovens covered by Chapter 30.

Exceptions:

1. Routine maintenance.
2. For repair work performed on an emergency basis, application for permit shall be made within two working days of commencement of work.

105.7.12 LP-gas.

A construction permit is required for installation of or modification to an LP-gas system. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered to be a modification and does not require a permit.

105.7.13 Private fire hydrants.

A construction permit is required for the installation or modification of private fire hydrants. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered to be a modification and does not require a permit.

105.7.14 Smoke control or smoke exhaust systems.

Construction permits are required for installation of or alteration to smoke control or smoke exhaust systems. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered to be an alteration and does not require a permit.

105.7.15 Solar photovoltaic power systems.

A construction permit is required to install or modify solar photovoltaic power systems. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered to be a modification and does not require a permit.

105.7.16 Spraying or dipping.

A construction permit is required to install or modify a spray room, dip tank or booth. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered to be a modification and does not require a permit.

105.7.17 Standpipe systems.

A construction permit is required for the installation, modification, or removal from service of a standpipe system. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.

105.7.18 Temporary membrane structures and tents

A construction permit is required to erect an air-supported temporary membrane structure or *tent* having an area in excess of 400 square feet (37 m²).

Exceptions:

1. Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.
2. Funeral tents and curtains or extensions attached thereto, when used for funeral services.
3. Tents and awnings open on all sides which comply with all of the following:
 - 3.1 Individual tents shall have a maximum size of 700 square feet (65 m square).
 - 3.2. The aggregate area of multiple tents placed side by side without a fire break clearance of not less than 12 feet (3658 mm) shall not exceed 700 square feet (65 m square).
 - 3.3 A minimum clearance of 12 feet (3658 mm) to structures and other tents shall be maintained.

105.9 Applications and fees required for failure to pass inspections.

If a site does not meet the standards after the first inspection, or is not cancelled prior to the arrival of the inspector, the applicant must pay a new permit fee before any subsequent inspections will be conducted.

105.10 Burn permits.

Burn permits will not be issued unless both Fire Prevention and Environment Control Division approve the material to be burned.

Section 106 Inspections

106.1 Inspection authority.

The fire code official is authorized to enter and examine any building, structure, marine vessel, vehicle, or premises in accordance with Section 104.3 for the purpose of enforcing this code.

106.2 Inspections.

The fire code official is authorized to conduct such inspections as are deemed necessary to determine the extent of compliance with the provisions of this code and to approve reports of inspection by approved agencies or individuals. All reports of such inspections shall be prepared and submitted in writing for review and approval. Inspection reports shall be certified by a responsible officer of such approved agency or by the responsible individual. The fire code official is authorized to engage such expert opinion as deemed necessary to report upon unusual, detailed or complex technical issues subject to the approval of the governing body.

106.2.1 Inspection requests. It shall be the duty of the holder of the permit or their duly authorized agent to notify the *fire code official* when work is ready for inspection. It shall be the duty of the permit holder to provide access to and means for inspections of such work that are required by this code.

106.2.2 Approval required. Work shall not be done beyond the point indicated in each successive inspection without first obtaining the approval of the *fire code official*. The *fire code official*, upon notification, shall make the requested inspections and shall either indicate the portion of the construction that is satisfactory as completed, or notify the permit holder or his or her agent wherein the same fails to comply with this code. Any portions that do not comply shall be corrected and such portion shall not be covered or concealed until authorized by the *fire code official*.

106.3 Concealed work.

It shall be the duty of the permit applicant to cause the work to remain accessible and exposed for inspection purposes. Whenever any installation subject to inspection prior to use is covered or concealed without having first been inspected, the fire code official shall have the authority to require that such work be exposed for inspection. Neither the *fire code official* nor the jurisdiction shall be liable for expense entailed in the removal or replacement of any material required to allow inspection.

106.4 Approvals

Approval as the result of an inspection shall not be construed to be an approval of a violation of the provisions of this code or of other ordinances of the jurisdiction. Inspections presuming to give authority to violate or cancel provisions of this code or of other ordinances of the jurisdiction shall not be valid.

Section 107 Maintenance

107.1 Maintenance of safeguards.

Where any device, equipment, system, condition, arrangement, level of protection, or any other feature is required for compliance with the provisions of this code, or otherwise installed, such device, equipment, system, condition, arrangement, level of protection, or other feature shall thereafter be continuously maintained in accordance with this code and applicable referenced standards.

107.2 Testing and operation.

Equipment requiring periodic testing or operation to ensure maintenance shall be tested or operated as specified in this code.

107.2.1 Reinspection and testing.

Where any work or installation does not pass an initial test or inspection, the necessary corrections shall be made so as to achieve compliance with this code. The work or installation shall then be re-submitted to the fire code official for inspection and testing.

107.3 Recordkeeping.

A record of periodic inspections, tests, servicing and other operations and maintenance shall be maintained on the premises or other approved location for not less than 3 years, or a different period of time where specified in this code or referenced standards. Records shall be made available for inspection by the fire code official and a copy of the records shall be provided to the *fire code official* upon request.

The *fire code official* is authorized to prescribe the form and format of such recordkeeping. The *fire code official* is authorized to require that certain required records be filed with the *fire code official*.

107.4 Supervision.

Maintenance and testing shall be under the supervision of a responsible person who shall ensure that such maintenance and testing are conducted at specified intervals in accordance with this code.

107.5 Rendering equipment inoperable.

Portable or fixed fire-extinguishing systems or devices and fire-warning systems shall not be rendered inoperative or inaccessible except as necessary during emergencies, maintenance, repairs, alterations, drills or prescribed testing.

107.6 Overcrowding.

Overcrowding or admittance of any person beyond the approved capacity of a building or a portion thereof shall not be allowed. The fire code official, upon finding any overcrowding conditions or obstructions in aisles, passageways or other means of egress, or upon finding any condition which constitutes a life safety hazard, shall be authorized to cause the event to be stopped until such condition or obstruction is corrected.

Section 108 Board of Appeals

108.1 Appointment

The city manager, the fire chief, and the fire marshal, acting together, shall have the power to modify any provision of the fire prevention code, upon application in writing by the owner or lessee or their duly authorized agents, when there are practical difficulties in the way of carrying out the strict letter of the code; provided that the spirit of the code shall be observed, public safety secured and substantial justice done. Such modification shall only be applicable upon the unanimous approval of the city manager, fire chief, and the fire marshal in writing. The particulars of such modification when granted or allowed by such unanimous approval shall be entered into the records of the fire marshal and a signed copy be furnished to the applicant.

108.2 Appeals

***108.2.1 General.** Whenever it is claimed that the provisions of this code do not apply, or when it is claimed that the true intent and meaning of this code or any of the regulations of this code have been misconstrued or incorrectly interpreted, the owner of such building or structure, or the owner's duly authorized agent, may appeal the decision of the fire official to the city manager by filing notice of appeal with the fire chief. Notice of appeal shall be in writing and filed within 15 days after the decision is rendered by the fire official.*

***108.2.2 Unsafe or Dangerous Building.** In case of a building, structure or operation which, in the opinion of the fire official, is unsafe or dangerous, the fire official may, in his or her order, limit the time for such appeal to a shorter period.*

108.3 Decisions

***108.3.1 Variances.** The city manager, fire chief, and fire marshal, collectively, when so appealed to and after a hearing, may vary the application of any*

provision of this code to any particular case, when, in its opinion, the enforcement thereof would do manifest injustice and would be contrary to the spirit and purpose of this code or public interest, or when, in its opinion, the interpretation of the fire official should be modified or reversed.

108.3.2 Action. *In every case, reach a decision without unreasonable or unnecessary delay. Each decision shall also include the reasons for the decision. If a decision reverses or modified a refusal, order, or disallowance of the fire official, or varies the application of any provision of this code, the fire official shall immediately take action in accordance with such decision.*

108.3.3 Decisions Are Final. *Every decision of the city manager, fire chief, and fire marshal shall be final, subject however to such remedy as any aggrieved party might have at law or in equity.*

108.4 Limitations on authority.

An application for appeal shall be based on a claim that the intent of this code or the rules legally adopted thereunder have been incorrectly interpreted, the provisions of this code do not fully apply, or an equivalent method of protection or safety is proposed. The board shall have no authority to waive requirements of this code.

108.5 Administration .The fire code official shall take action in accordance with the decision of the board.

Section 109

Violations

109.1 Unlawful acts.

It shall be unlawful for a person, firm or corporation to erect, construct, alter, repair, remove, demolish or utilize a building, occupancy, premises or system regulated by this code, or cause same to be done, in conflict with or in violation of any of the provisions of this code.

109.2 Owner/Occupant responsibility.

Correction and abatement of violations of this code shall be the responsibility of the owner or the owner's authorized agent. Where an occupant creates, or allows to be created, hazardous conditions in violation of this code, the occupant shall be held responsible for the abatement of such hazardous conditions.

109.3 Notice of violation.

Where the fire code official finds a building, premises, vehicle, storage facility or outdoor area that is in violation of this code, the code official is authorized to prepare a written notice of violation describing the conditions deemed unsafe and, when compliance is not immediate, specifying a time for re-inspection.

109.3.1 Service.

A notice of violation issued pursuant to this code shall be served upon the owner, the owner's authorized agent, operator, occupant or other person responsible for the condition or violation, either by personal service, mail, or by delivering the same to, and leaving it with, some person of responsibility upon the premises. For unattended or abandoned locations, a copy of such notice of violation shall be posted on the premises in a conspicuous place at or near the entrance to such premises and the notice of violation shall be mailed by certified mail with return receipt requested or a certificate of mailing, to the last known address of the owner, the owner's authorized agent, or occupant or both.

109.3.2 Written Notices and citations.

At such time as an inspection is conducted by a representative of the fire prevention bureau and minor fire code violations are found to exist written notice specifying the defects is to be given to the business owner or any person in charge of the premises. A reasonable amount of time shall be given to abate the violation. If a violation of the fire prevention code is unabated after written notice and a reasonable amount of time, then the fire official or fire inspector may issue a citation to the business owner or to any person in charge of the premises. However, the following violations are considered to be of a serious nature and citations may be issued immediately without prior written notice.

109.3.2.1 *Locked or blocked exits in assembly or educational occupancies.*

109.3.2.2 *Nonfunctional or disabled fire alarm system.*

109.3.2.3 *Closed valves to sprinkler system.*

109.3.2.4 *Overcrowded conditions.*

109.3.2.5 *Illegal burning.*

109.3.2.6 *No smoke detectors where required.*

109.3.2.7 *No fire extinguisher where required.*

109.3.2.8 *Any other condition that in the opinion of the fire inspector, poses imminent danger.*

109.3.3 Compliance with orders and notices.

A notice of violation issued or served as provided by this code shall be complied with by the owner, the owner's authorized agent, operator, occupant or other person responsible for the condition or violation to which the notice of violation pertains.

109.3.4 Prosecution of violations.

If the notice of violation is not complied with promptly, the fire code official is authorized to request the legal counsel of the jurisdiction to institute the appropriate legal proceedings at law or in equity to restrain, correct or abate such violation or to require removal or termination of the unlawful occupancy of the structure in violation of the provisions of this code or of the order or direction made pursuant thereto.

109.3.5 Unauthorized tampering.

Signs, tags, or seals posted or affixed by the fire code official shall not be mutilated, destroyed or tampered with or removed without authorization from the fire code official.

109.4 Violation penalties.

Persons who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, install, alter, repair or do work in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the code official, or of a permit or certificate used under provisions of this code, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than fifty (\$50.00) and not more than two thousand (\$2,000.00) dollars. Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.

109.4.1 Abatement of violation.

In addition to the imposition of the penalties herein described, the fire code official is authorized to institute appropriate action to prevent unlawful construction or to restrain, correct or abate a violation; or to prevent illegal occupancy of a structure or premises; or to stop an illegal act, conduct of business or occupancy of a structure on or about any premises.

Section 110 Unsafe Buildings

110.1 General.

All buildings or structures which do not provide adequate egress, which constitute a fire hazard, or are otherwise dangerous to human life, or which, in relation to existing use, constitute a hazard to safety or health are considered unsafe buildings. All such unsafe buildings are hereby declared illegal, and the fire official shall refer the building to the *Zoning and Code Enforcement Administrator* for abatement by repair and rehabilitation or by demolition.

110.1.1 Unsafe conditions.

Structures or existing equipment that are or hereafter become unsafe or deficient because of inadequate means of egress or which constitute a fire hazard, or are

otherwise dangerous to human life or the public welfare, or which involve illegal or improper occupancy or inadequate maintenance, shall be deemed an unsafe condition. A vacant structure which is not secured against unauthorized entry as required by Section 311 shall be deemed unsafe.

110.1.2 Structural hazards.

When an apparent structural hazard is caused by the faulty installation, operation, or malfunction of any of the items or devices governed by this code, the fire code official shall immediately notify the building code official in accordance with Section 110.1.

110.2 Evacuation.

The fire code official or the fire department official in charge of an incident shall be authorized to order the immediate evacuation of any occupied building deemed unsafe when such building has hazardous conditions that present imminent danger to building occupants. Persons so notified shall immediately leave the structure or premises and shall not enter or re-enter until authorized to do so by the fire code official or the fire department official in charge of the incident.

110.3 Summary abatement.

Where conditions exist that are deemed hazardous to life and property, the fire code official or fire department official in charge of the incident is authorized to abate summarily such hazardous conditions that are in violation of this code.

110.4 Abatement.

The owner, the owner's authorized agent, operator, or occupant of a building or premises deemed unsafe by the fire code official shall abate or cause to be abated or corrected such unsafe conditions either by repair, rehabilitation, demolition, or other approved corrective action.

Section 111 Stop Work Order

111.1 Order.

Whenever the fire code official finds any work regulated by this code being performed in a manner contrary to the provisions of this code or in a dangerous or unsafe manner, the fire code official is authorized to issue a stop work order.

111.2 Issuance.

A stop work order shall be in writing and shall be given to the owner of the property, or to the owner's authorized agent, or to the person doing the work. Upon issuance of a stop work order, the cited work shall immediately cease. The stop work order shall state the

reason for the order, and the conditions under which the cited work is authorized to resume.

111.3 Emergencies.

Where an emergency exists, the fire code official shall not be required to give a written notice prior to stopping the work.

111.4 Failure to comply.

Any person who shall continue any work after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as that person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be liable to a fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) or more than two thousand (\$2,000) dollars.

Section 112 Service Utilities

112.1 Authority to disconnect service utilities. The *fire code official* shall have the authority to authorize disconnection of utility service to the building, structure or system in order to safely execute emergency operations or to eliminate an immediate hazard. The *fire code official* shall notify the serving utility and, where possible, the *owner* or the owner's authorized agent and the occupant of the building, structure or service system of the decision to disconnect prior to taking such action if not notified prior to disconnection. The *owner*, the owner's authorized agent or occupant of the building, structure or service system shall be notified in writing as soon as practical thereafter.

Section 113 Fees

113.1 Fees. A permit shall not be issued until the fees have been paid, nor shall an amendment to a permit be released until the additional fee, if any, has been paid.

113.2 Schedule of permit fees. A fee for each permit shall be paid as required, in accordance with the schedule as established by the applicable governing authority.

113.3 Work commencing before permit issuance. Any *person* who commences any work, activity or operation regulated by this code before obtaining the necessary permits shall be subject to an additional fee established by the applicable governing authority, which shall be in addition to the required permit fees.

113.4 Related fees. The payment of the fee for the construction, *alteration*, removal or demolition of work done in connection to or concurrently with the work or activity authorized by a permit shall not relieve the applicant or holder of the permit from the payment of other fees that are prescribed by law.

113.5 Refunds. The applicable governing authority is authorized to establish a refund policy.

**Corpus Christi Fire Department
Fire Prevention Permit Fee Schedule**

<i>Permit Fee</i>	<i>Fee</i>
After Hours Overtime Inspections	50.00 per hour (3 hours minimum) pre-paid prior to scheduling inspection
Airports, heliports and helistops	100.00 annually
Assembly	100.00 annually
Automatic sprinklers, standpipes, and fire lines (testing)	100.00 per visit
Bars	100.00 annually
Churches (one-time fee – no day care facility on premises)	100.00
Combustible fibers (storage and handling)	100.00 annually
Compressed gas	100.00 annually
Commercial Vent-A-Hood cleaning	50.00 annually
Cryogenic fluids	100.00 annually
Day care facilities (or similar short-term occupancies)	75.00 annually
Dry cleaning plants	100.00 annually
Exhibits/Trade Shows (Special Events)	100.00 per event
Explosives, Demolition	250.00 per event
Explosives, blasting agents and ammunition	150.00 annually
Extinguishing systems	100.00 per inspection
Fire alarm systems	75.00 per floor – per test visit
Fire alarm systems (required 15,000 square foot zones)	75.00 per zone – per test visit
Fireworks display (aerial)	250.00 per display
Fireworks display (non-aerial)	150.00 per display
Flammable and combustible liquids	100.00 annually
Flammable finishes	100.00 annually
Flame Effects	150.00 per display
Foster homes and group homes	75.00 annually

Fumigation and thermal insecticide fogging	350.00 annually
Hazardous chemicals	100.00 annually
High piled combustible stock	100.00 annually
High rise life safety system (testing before issuance of C. of O.)	100.00 per test
Hospitals and nursing homes (per bed)	1.20 per bed + \$250.00 flat fee
Liquified natural gas	100.00 annually
Liquified petroleum gas	100.00 annually
Lumber storage	100.00 annually
Mechanical refrigeration	100.00 annually
Open burning	750.00 per day
Plans Review	150.00 per review
Pressure Test (Fuel Storage Tanks and/or Product Lines)	100.00 per visit
Organic coatings	100.00 annually
Plans Review	150.00 per review
Pressure Test (Fuel Storage Tanks and/or Product Lines)	100.00 per visit
Repair Garages	100.00 annually
Restaurants	100.00 annually
Special Handling Fee (Less than 24 Hour Notice)	100.00 per inspection
Tank vehicles for flammable and combustible liquids	100 .00 annually
Tents and air supported structures	75.00 annually
Tire rebuilding plant	100.00 annually
Underground/Aboveground fuel tanks (installation and removal)	100.00 per inspection
Visuals – Fire Alarm/Automatic Sprinkler (Aboveground/Underground)	50.00 per visit
Wrecking yard, junkyard or waste handling	100.00 annually