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This Assistance Bulletin only applies to property within unincorporated Snohomish County and does not apply to property within incorporated city limits.

Fire Code Related Construction Permits and Fees

Assistance Bulletin

110

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Q: When is a construction permit required under the County's Fire Code in Chapter 30.53A SCC?

A: A construction permit is required by the County's Fire Code in [Chapter 30.53A](#) of the Snohomish County Code (SCC) for the following:

- **Automatic fire-extinguishing systems:** installation of or modification to an automatic fire-extinguishing system. Maintenance performed in accordance with the fire code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.
- **Battery systems:** installation of stationary storage battery systems regulated by Section 1206.2 of the International Fire Code (IFC).
- **Capacitor energy storage systems:** installation of capacitor energy storage system regulated by Section 1206.3 of the IFC.
- **Compressed gases:** to install, repair damage, abandon, remove, place temporarily out of service, or modify a compressed gas system.
Exceptions:
 - (1) Routine maintenance.
 - (2) For emergency repair work performed on an emergency basis, the fire marshal shall be contacted within two working days of commencement of work to determine if an operational permit is required.
- **Cryogenic fluids:** installation of or an alteration to outdoor stationary cryogenic fluid storage systems. Maintenance performed in accordance with the fire code is not considered a modification and does not require a construction permit.
- **Emergency responder radio coverage systems:** installation of or modification to this system. Maintenance performed does not require a permit.
- **Fire alarms and detection systems:** installation of or modification to fire alarm and detection systems and related equipment. Maintenance performed in accordance with the fire code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.
- **Fire pumps and related equipment:** installation of or modification to fire pumps and related fuel tanks, jockey pumps, controllers, and generators. Maintenance performed in accordance with the fire code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.
- **Flammable and combustible liquids:** (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.
- **Fuel cell power systems:** installation of this system.
- **Gas detection systems:** installation of or modification of this system.

This bulletin is intended only as an information guide. The information may not be complete and is subject to change. For complete legal information, refer to Snohomish County Code.

- **Gates and barricades across fire access roads:** installation and maintenance of gates or other approved barricades across fire apparatus access roads, trails or other access ways, not including public streets, alleys, or highways.
- **Hazardous materials:** 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 50 of the IFC.
 - Exceptions:
 - (1) Routine maintenance.
 - (2) Emergency repair work for which an application for permit is made within two working days of commencement of work.
- **High-piled combustible storage:** installation of or modification to a structure exceeding 500 square feet, including aisles.
- **Industrial ovens:** installation of industrial ovens covered by chapter 30 of the IFC.
 - Exceptions:
 - (1) Routine maintenance.
 - (2) For repair work for which an application for permit is made within two working days of commencement of work.
- **Liquid petroleum gas systems:** installation of or modification to a liquid petroleum gas system.
- **Marijuana & Plant extraction systems:** to install a marijuana/cannabis extraction system regulated under WAC 314-55-104, or a plant extraction system.
- **Motor vehicle repair rooms & booths:** installation or modification.
- **Smoke control or smoke exhaust systems:** installation or modification.
- **Solar photovoltaic power systems:** installation or modification of this system.
- **Special event structure:** to erect and take down a temporary structure.
- **Spraying or dipping:** to install or modify a spray room, dip tank or booth.
- **Standpipe systems:** installation, modification, or removal from service of a standpipe system. Maintenance performed in accordance with the fire code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.
- **Underground supply piping for automatic sprinkler system:** installation of the portion of the underground water supply piping, public or private, supplying a water-based protection system. Applies to all underground piping and appurtenances downstream of the first control valve on the lateral piping or service line from the distribution main to one foot above finished floor of the facility with the fire protection system. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code does not require a permit.
 - Exceptions:
 - (1) When the underground piping is installed by the aboveground piping contractor.
 - (2) Underground piping serves a fire protection system installed in accordance with NFPA 13D.

Q: What fees are associated with a construction permit for the Fire Code?

A: The fees associated with a construction permit can be found in Chapter 30.86 SCC. Most of the Fire Code related fees can be found in [Table 30.86.430](#) of the Snohomish County Code, and others dealing with mechanical structures can be found in Table 30.86.400(10) or in Table 30.86.410.

Q: What other permits are required by the Fire Code?

A: Other permits required by the Fire Code include operational, (examples: aviation facilities, cutting and welding, emergency responder radio coverage systems, and private fire hydrant), fireworks, special events (examples: exhibits, trade shows, and amusement buildings) and open burn. For a complete list of the permits required under the County’s Fire Code please see Chapter 30.53A SCC.

For more information regarding a burn permit, please read [Assistance Bulletin #68](#) “Burn Permit Ordinance”.