



**Fire Marshal's Office**  
**(757) 382-6566**  
**Fax (757) 382-8313**

### **Operational Fire Code Permits**

The Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC) regulates the requirements for an Operational Fire Code Permit. Various activities, businesses and occupancies shall be required to obtain a permit for; handling, use and storage of certain hazardous materials, open burning, assembly and educational facilities. Chesapeake enforces the SFPC which is based on the International Fire Code, 2000 edition. A list of all Operational Fire Code Permits may be obtained from this code.

The Chesapeake Fire Marshal's Office is providing the following information to assist you in determining if your business is required to obtain an Operational Fire Code Permit. Information is provided on where and how to obtain the necessary permit.

### **Who Must Obtain a Fire Code Permit?**

Certain operations and activities such as; cutting and welding, marine and vehicle repair garages, use, storage and handling of regulated amounts of hazardous materials, waste handling, regulated open burning, wrecking and junk yard operators. Structures and occupancies with an assembly or educational use are also required to obtain a permit. Premises and commercial establishments where these operations and activities occur must obtain an Operational Fire Code Permit in accordance with the SFPC.

See the [Operational Fire Code Permit Table & Info Handout](#) for a detailed list of required permits.

### **How to Obtain an Operational Fire Code Permit**

Operational Fire Code Permits are required by the Fire Official as required by the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC). The SFPC regulates and sets the standard requirements for all fire code permits. A Fire Inspector, while conducting an inspection, will gather all the necessary information for your business needed to obtain any required Fire Code Permit(s). Once your facility is in compliance with all State, Federal and Local Laws, a permit will be issued to your place of business.

If you wish to obtain a permit prior to your annual inspection, and if you meet the requirements as set forth in the application, you may visit our office and fill out an application or download a permit application from our web site and mail it to us. Our address is:

Chesapeake Fire Marshal's Office  
304 Albemarle Drive  
Chesapeake, Va. 23322  
Office (757) 382-6566 / Fax (757) 382-8313

See the [Operational Fire Code Permit Application](#) for an application.

### **Cost of an Operational Fire Code Permit**

Effective July 1, 2004, Chapter 34 of the Chesapeake City Code, entitled "Fire Prevention and Protection" is amended by adding Section 34-6 (a) which require Operational Fire Code Permits be obtained for a fee. Pursuant to City Ordinance 34-6 (a) as ordained by Chesapeake City Council, a fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) shall be paid to the City for each Operational Fire Code Permit, obtained pursuant to the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC), as amended. For the purposes of this section, "commercial establishment" shall mean an establishment which is not used entirely for residential purposes.

### **Permit Expiration Date**

Only Fire Code Permits issued under authority of the SFPC effective October 1, 2003 are still valid. All issued permits shall be valid for one year unless otherwise noted on the permit. Permits may be revoked if conditions or requirements of the permit are not met. Reinstatement of a permit after revocation shall require submittal of an application, payment of a fee and issuance of a new Fire Code Permit. All Fire Code Permits also require an annual Fire Safety Inspection prior to renewal of the permit.