



# FIRE CODE PERMIT

## Purpose

Fire Code Permits are required by the 2006 International Fire Code, as adopted with state and local County amendments, effective July 1, 2007 for many types of occupancies in Thurston County. State law gives the Fire Marshal the authority to review all plans and specifications and issue fire safety permits in all geographical areas of the county not having any local authority. A fee is charged for all fire safety permits issued by the Fire Marshal. The fee includes the fire safety permit, construction inspections, and occupancy permit, and can vary according to the structure.

There are two types of permits:

1. **Operational Permits.** An operational permit allows the applicant to conduct an operation or a business for which a permit is required by IFC Section 105.6 for either:
  - a. A prescribed period.
  - b. Until renewed or revoked by the Fire Code Official.
2. **Construction permits.** A construction permit allows the applicant to install or modify systems and equipment for which a fire safety permit is required.

## Fire Code Permits

Aerosol Products  
Aircraft Refueling Vehicles  
Aircraft Repair Hangar  
Automobile Wrecking Yard  
Bowling Pin or Alley Refinishing  
Candles/Open Flames in Assembly Areas  
Carnivals and Fairs  
Cellulose Nitrate Film  
Combustible Fiber Storage  
Combustible Material Storage  
Compressed Gases  
Commercial Rubbish-Handling  
Cryogenics  
Dry cleaning Plants  
Dust-Producing Operations  
Explosives or Blasting Agents  
Fireworks  
Flammable or Combustible Liquid

Fruit Ripening  
Fumigation or Thermal Insecticidal Fogging  
Garages  
Hazardous Materials  
Hazardous Production Materials  
High-Piled Combustible Storage  
Liquefied Petroleum Gases  
Liquid or Gas-Fueled Vehicles or Equipment in  
Assembly Buildings  
Lumber Yards Magnesium Working  
Mall-covered  
Motor Vehicle Fuel-Dispensing Stations  
Nitrate Film  
Open Burning  
Organic  
Coatings Ovens - Industrial Baking/Drying  
Places of Assembly  
Pyrotechnical Special Effects Material  
Radioactive Materials  
Refrigeration Equipment  
Spraying or Dipping  
Tank Vehicles  
Tents/Air-Supported Structures  
Tire Storage  
Welding & Cutting Operations

**The Inspections that are conducted within the County are conducted by the Thurston County Fire Marshal (TCFMO). If you have questions regarding Construction, Fire Safety Inspections or Plan Review questions please contact the TCFMO directly at (360) 754-3355 ext. 6879.**

## Codes and References

Plans are reviewed for compliance with the fire code current at the time of application (check for year). The list is not an exhaustive list of codes or a complete list of construction requirements.

- International Building Code (IBC)
- International Fire Code (IFC) - See the Thurston County Fire Flow Handout.

Washington State RCW 19.27 and Thurston County Ordinance Title 14 amend the codes.

The Thurston County Ordinance is available on line at [www.co.thurston.wa.us](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us). Review and download the

## Thurston County Permit Assistance Center

2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Bldg 1, Second Floor; Olympia, WA 98502  
Phone: (360) 786-5490; TDD line: (360) 754-2933; Fax: (360) 754-2939  
[www.co.thurston.wa.us/permitting](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/permitting)

state amendments on line at the State Building Code website [www.sbccc.wa.gov](http://www.sbccc.wa.gov). The amendments may be purchased from the Washington Association of Building Officials at [www.wabo.org](http://www.wabo.org).

## **Fees**

Fees vary depending on the nature of the work that is being done. See the fee estimation sheet. Fees are collect when the project permit is issued. The applicant is responsible for paying for the plan review fee if the project is withdrawn.

## **Time Limitations**

### **Applications**

If a permit is not issued 180 days from the date of application, the application will be considered abandoned. The permit will be considered active if information required for approval is received within 180 days of the request for information.

Applications may be extended by requesting an extension in writing to the fire code official that demonstrates justifiable cause.

Justifiable cause is a substantial reason put forth in good faith that is not unreasonable, arbitrary or irrational and that is sufficient to create an excuse for an act under the law. Monetary reasons are not considered justifiable cause.

Extension may be granted for periods not exceeding 90 days each.

In case of disagreement, the fire code official or designated representative shall make final determination whether or not an applicant has demonstrated justifiable cause.

Applicants must reapply and submit the required information if the permit has expired. The County does not retain submitted information from expired permits.

### **After Approval**

Permits not issued within one year of approval will expire. A new application package must be submitted if the permit expires.

### **After Issuance**

Once a permit has been issued, the permit self renews for one year from the date of the last approved inspection.

The fire code official is authorized to grant, in writing, one or more extensions of time, for periods not more than one year each. The extension shall be requested in writing and justifiable cause demonstrated

### **I Still Have Questions...**

The information in this bulletin is a general guideline of the procedures and rules. For additional information, speak with the Thurston County Fire Marshal at (360) 754-3355 ext 6879. You may also review all Thurston County Codes online on the County website referenced at the bottom of this page.

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