

CHAPTER 117 FIRE PREVENTION

9.151. Injury to Fire Equipment. No person shall wilfully molest, take for his own private use, or damage in any manner, any fire fighting equipment or apparatus or anything pertaining to the fire fighting system, or drive any vehicle upon or against any hose or equipment of the Fire Department.

9.152. Obstruction of Fire Hydrants. No person shall place any obstruction whatever, nor shall any person responsible for such obstruction permit it to remain, within fifteen (15) feet of any fire hydrant.

9.153. Fire Hydrant - Openings. No person, except authorized City officers and employees shall use any fire hydrant except in case of emergency, without first securing permission from the Department of Water for such use, and paying or agreeing to pay for the water to be used. In no case shall any wrench or tool be used on any fire hydrant other than a regulation City hydrant wrench.

9.154. Fire Inspection. The Fire Chief is hereby empowered to enter at any and all reasonable times upon and into any premises, building or structure for the purpose of examining and inspecting the same, to ascertain the conditions thereof with regard to fire hazards and the condition, size, arrangement and efficiency of any and all appliances for fire fighting. If such inspection shall disclose any fire hazard or any deficiency in fire fighting appliances, the Fire Chief shall order the condition remedied. Every order made by the Fire Chief shall be promptly obeyed and complied with.

9.155. Waste Receptacles and Storage. No person owning or being responsible for any premises shall permit any waste paper, ashes, oil, rags, waste rags, excelsior or any material of a similar nature to accumulate thereon, unless contained in fireproof receptacles.

9.156. Fire Exits. The following rules relative to passageways, stairs and fire exits shall be applicable to

all public buildings, places of assembly, commercial and business buildings, lodging houses, tourist homes and all other buildings including two-family and multiple-family dwellings, except as otherwise expressly limited herein to a particular type of building.

- (1) No fire escape, stairway, balcony or ladder on any building shall be obstructed, out of repair, or maintained in a hazardous condition. Doors and windows leading to any fire escape shall open easily from the inside.
- (2) No combustible material shall be stored, placed or kept under or upon any passageway, stairs, or elevator shaft, nor shall any such material be stored, placed or kept in any other part of any building in such a position as to obstruct or render hazardous egress therefrom.
- (3) All doors, hallways and stairways shall be unobstructed at all times.
- (4) In all theaters, churches, schools and other places of public assembly, no door, aisle or passageway shall be obstructed with any furniture or article; nor shall any person sit or stand or be permitted to sit or stand in any aisle, or in any exit or passageway; and all exits and the sidewalks leading therefrom shall be unobstructed while such places of public assembly are in use.
- (5) No person shall do any act which causes any violation of any of the rules set forth in this section, nor shall any person owning any building or in charge thereof, as agent, employee or otherwise permit any of said rules to be violated.

9.157. Open Fires. Incineration of waste material, refuse, leaves, paper or other combustible debris, outside of a building or structure in the residential areas of the City, shall be permitted if done in accordance with the following rules:

- (1) No such burning may be done within fifteen (15) feet of an existing building, nor upon the paved

portion of any street, nor any place within any duly established Fire Zone.

- (2) No such burning shall be done prior to 7:00 a.m., and must not be continued after 9:00 p.m. on any day.
- (3) No burning shall be done unless under the charge or supervision of a person of mature years and discretion.
- (4) No such burning shall be done at any time or place when wind conditions will create or be apt to create a nuisance to anyone or the property of anyone in the vicinity thereof, or be a danger to the property of any person in the vicinity thereof.
- (5) No such burning shall be done where its maximum size is not controllable by one (1) person of mature years and discretion.
- (6) The Chief of the Fire Department may prohibit any or all bonfires and outdoor rubbish fires when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fire hazardous.

9.158. Nuisances Prohibited. It shall be a nuisance and unlawful for any person to burn or allow to be burned, at any time or place any materials of any kind which exude obnoxious odors, or when such fire emits sparks or burning embers upon adjoining, adjacent, neighboring or nearby premises.

9.159. Blasting. No person shall blast or carry on any blasting operation without first having obtained a written permit from the City Clerk. Before any such permit is issued, the applicant therefor shall file with the City Clerk a policy of insurance in the amount specified by the Clerk, which amount shall be reasonably commensurate with the risk of damage to property and injury or death to such persons arising out of the proposed blasting operation. Such policy of insurance shall indemnify the applicant with respect to sums which the applicant shall become obligated to pay by reason of the liability imposed upon him by law,

for damages because of bodily injury, including death at any time resulting therefrom, or for damages to property, or both, sustained by any person or persons and arising out of the blasting operation.

9.160. Parking Vehicle Containing Explosives. It shall be illegal to park, or leave any vehicle containing dynamite or other explosives upon the public highway or otherwise within 1,000 feet of any structure or building within the City of Bessemer.

9.161. Starting Fires by Smoking. It shall be unlawful for any person in smoking or attempting to light or to smoke a cigarette, cigar or pipe, to set fire to any bed, bedding, furniture, curtains or draperies in any hotel, motel, lodging house or tourist home in the City.

9.162. Loading - Unloading Flammable Liquids.

(1) Definitions:

- (a) Loading - The act of supplying a commercial carrier with fuels.
- (b) Unloading - The act of transferring fuels from a wholesaler to a retailer.
- (c) Storage Facilities - A facility for the bulk storage of defined fuels to be supplied to retail customers.
- (d) Explosive or Inflammable fuels - Those fuels which are required by Federal or State law to be designated as explosive or inflammable.

- (2) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, or corporation, or any agent thereof to complete loading or unloading any explosive or inflammable fuel at a storage facility within the City of Bessemer except between the hours of 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. of the legal local time.
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