



## New Hope Borough Office of the Fire Marshal

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# Fire Safety Construction Permits in Detail

New Hope Borough Ordinance No. 2004-2 authorizes the Borough to administer and enforce the Pennsylvania Construction Code, Act 45 of 1999, 35 P.S. §§7210.101-7210.1103 and authorizes and charges the New Hope Borough Office of the Fire Marshall to administer the issuance of the following construction permits:

**IFC2003-105.7.1 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 the Fire Code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.

**IFC2003-105.7.2 Compressed gases.** When the compressed gases in use or storage exceed the amounts listed in Table 105.7.2 (below), 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.

The permit applicant shall apply for approval to close storage, use or handling facilities at least 30 days prior to the termination of the storage, use or handling of compressed or liquefied gases. Such application shall include any change or alteration of the facility closure plan filed pursuant to Section 2701.6.3 of the 2003 IFC. The 30-day period is not applicable when the permit is approved based on special circumstances requiring such waiver.

**TABLE 105.7.2  
PERMIT AMOUNTS FOR COMPRESSED GASES**

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

**IFC2003-105.7.3 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 the Fire Code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.

**IFC2003-105.7.4 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 the Fire Code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.

**IFC2003-105.7.5 Flammable and combustible liquids.** A construction permit is required:

1. To 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.

**IFC2003-105.7.6 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 of the 2003 IFC when the hazardous materials in use or storage exceed the amounts listed in Table 105.7.6 (below).

**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.

**TABLE 105.7.6  
PERMIT AMOUNTS FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

TYPE OF MATERIAL	AMOUNT
Combustible liquids	See section IFC2003-105.6.17 (operational permits)
Corrosive materials	
Gasses	See section IFC2003-105.7.2
Liquids	55 gallons
Solids	1000 pounds
Explosive materials	Any amount of explosive, explosive materials, fireworks, or pyrotechnic special effects within the scope of Chapter 33 of the 2003 IFC.
Flammable materials	
Gasses	See section IFC2003-105.7.2
Liquids	See section IFC2003-105.6.17 (operational permits)
Solids	100 pounds
Highly toxic materials	
Gasses	See section IFC2003-105.7.2
Liquids	Any Amount
Solids	Any Amount
Oxidizing materials	
Gasses	See section IFC2003-105.7.2
Liquids	
Class 4	Any Amount
Class 3	1 gallon
Class 2	10 gallons
Class 1	55 gallons
Solids	
Class 4	Any Amount
Class 3	10 pounds
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	
Gasses	See section IFC2003-105.7.2
Liquids	Any Amount
Solids	Any Amount
Toxic materials	
Gasses	See section IFC2003-105.7.2
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

**IFC2003-105.7.7 Industrial ovens.** A construction permit is required for installation of industrial ovens covered by Chapter 21 of the 2003 IFC.

**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.

**IFC2003-105.7.8 LP-gas.** A construction permit is required for installation of, or modification to an LP-gas system.

**IFC2003-105.7.9 Private fire hydrants.** A construction permit is required for the installation or modification of private fire hydrants.

**IFC2003-105.7.10 Spraying or dipping.** A construction permit is required to install or modify a spray room, dip tank or booth.

**IFC2003-105.7.11 Standpipe systems.** A construction permit is required for the 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.

**IFC2003-105.7.12 Temporary membrane structures, tents and canopies.** A construction permit is required to erect an air-supported temporary membrane structure or a tent having an area in excess of 200 square feet (19 m<sup>2</sup>), or a canopy in excess of 400 square feet (37 m<sup>2</sup>).

**Exceptions:**

1. Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.
2. Funeral tents and curtains or extensions attached thereto, when used for funeral services.
3. Fabric canopies and awnings open on all sides which comply with all of the following:
  - 3.1. Individual canopies shall have a maximum size of 700 square feet (65 m<sup>2</sup>).
  - 3.2. The aggregate area of multiple canopies 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<sup>2</sup>) total.
  - 3.3. A minimum clearance of 12 feet (3658 mm) to structures and other tents shall be maintained.

**Note: All citations, definitions, and classifications reference the 2003 International Fire Code.**

This document is provided for informational purposes only. It is not meant to constitute an opinion, interpretation, or change of the code(s) it references. It is being provided for the convenience of the residents and businesses of New Hope Borough only. All inspection and enforcement activities charged to and undertaken by the New Hope Borough Office of the Fire Marshall are in accordance with Borough Ordinance #2004-2.