



## New Hope Borough Office of the Fire Marshal

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# Fire Safety Operational 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 operational permits:

**IFC2003-105.6.1 Aerosol products.** An operational permit is required to manufacture, store or handle an aggregate quantity of Level 2 or Level 3 aerosol products in excess of 500 pounds (227 kg) net weight.

**IFC2003-105.6.2 Amusement buildings.** An operational permit is required to operate a special amusement building.

**IFC2003-105.6.3 Aviation facilities.** An operational permit is required to use a Group H or Group S occupancy for aircraft servicing or repair and aircraft fuel-servicing vehicles. Additional permits required by other sections of the Fire Code include, but are not limited to, hot work, hazardous materials and flammable or combustible finishes.

**IFC2003-105.6.4 Carnivals and fairs.** An operational permit is required to conduct a carnival or fair.

**IFC2003-105.6.5 Battery systems.** A permit is required to install stationary lead-acid battery systems having a liquid capacity of more than 50 gallons (189 L).

**IFC2003-105.6.6 Cellulose nitrate film.** An operational permit is required to store, handle or use cellulose nitrate film in a Group A occupancy.

**IFC2003-105.6.7 Combustible dust-producing operations.** An operational permit is required to operate a grain elevator, flour starch mill, feed mill, or a plant pulverizing aluminum, coal, cocoa, magnesium, spices or sugar, or other operations producing combustible dusts as defined in Chapter 2 of the 2003 IFC.

**IFC2003-105.6.8 Combustible fibers.** An operational permit is required for the storage and handling of combustible fibers in quantities greater than 100 cubic feet (2.8 m<sup>3</sup>).

**Exception:** A permit is not required for agricultural storage.

**IFC2003-105.6.9 Compressed gases.** An operational permit is required for the storage, use or handling at normal temperature and pressure (NTP) of compressed gases in excess of the amounts listed in Table 105.6.9.

**Exception:** Vehicles equipped for and using compressed gas as a fuel for propelling the vehicle.

**TABLE 105.6.9  
PERMIT AMOUNTS FOR COMPRESSED GASES**

TYPE OF GAS	AMOUNT (cubic feet at NTP)
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

**IFC2003-105.6.10 Covered mall buildings.** An operational permit is required for:

1. The placement of retail fixtures and displays, concession equipment, displays of highly combustible goods and similar items in a mall.
2. The display of liquid- or gas-fired equipment in a mall.
3. The use of open-flame or flame-producing equipment in a mall.

**IFC2003-105.6.11 Cryogenic fluids.** An operational permit is required to produce, store, transport on site, use, handle or dispense cryogenic fluids in excess of the amounts listed in Table 105.6.11.

**Exception:** Permits are not required for vehicles equipped for and using cryogenic fluids as a fuel for propelling the vehicle or for refrigerating the lading.

**TABLE 105.6.11  
PERMIT AMOUNTS FOR CRYOGENIC FLUIDS**

TYPE OF CRYOGENIC FLUID	INSIDE BUILDING (gallons)	OUTSIDE BUILDING (gallons)
Flammable	More than 1	60
Inert	60	500
Oxidizing (includes oxygen)	10	50
Physical or health hazard not indicated above	Any Amount	Any Amount

**IFC2003-105.6.12 Cutting and welding.** An operational permit is required to conduct cutting or welding operations within the jurisdiction.

**IFC2003-105.6.13 Dry cleaning plants.** An operational permit is required to engage in the business of dry cleaning or to change to a more hazardous cleaning solvent used in existing dry cleaning equipment.

**IFC2003-105.6.14 Exhibits and trade shows.** An operational permit is required to operate exhibits and trade shows.

**IFC2003-105.6.15 Explosives.** An operational permit is required for the manufacture, storage, handling, sale or use of any quantity of explosive, explosive material, fireworks, or pyrotechnic special effects within the scope of Chapter 33 of the 2003 IFC.

**IFC2003-105.6.16 Fire hydrants and valves.** An operational permit is required to use or operate fire hydrants or valves intended for fire suppression purposes which are installed on water systems and accessible to a fire apparatus access road that is open to or generally used by the public.

**Exception:** A permit is not required for authorized employees of the water company that supplies the system or the fire department to use or operate fire hydrants or valves.

**IFC2003-105.6.17 Flammable and combustible liquids.** An operational permit is required:

1. To use or operate a pipeline for the transportation within facilities of flammable or combustible liquids.

This requirement shall not apply to the off-site transportation in pipelines regulated by the Department of Transportation (DOT) nor does it apply to piping systems.

2. To store, handle or use Class I liquids in excess of 5 gallons (19 L) in a building or in excess of 10 gallons (37.9 L) outside of a building, except that a permit is not required for the following:

2.1. The storage or use of Class I liquids in the fuel tank of a motor vehicle, aircraft, motorboat, mobile power plant or mobile heating plant, unless such storage, in the opinion of the code official, would cause an unsafe condition.

2.2. The storage or use of paints, oils, varnishes or similar flammable mixtures when such liquids are stored for maintenance, painting or similar purposes for a period of not more than 30 days.

3. To store, handle or use Class II or Class IIIA liquids in excess of 25 gallons (95 L) in a building or in excess of 60 gallons (227 L) outside a building, except for fuel oil used in connection with oil-burning equipment.

4. To remove Class I or Class II liquids from an underground storage tank used for fueling motor vehicles by any means other than the approved, stationary on-site pumps normally used for dispensing purposes.

5. To operate 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.

6. To place temporarily out of service (for more than 90 days) an underground, protected above-ground or above-ground flammable or combustible liquid tank.

7. To change the type of contents stored in a flammable or combustible liquid tank to a material which poses a greater hazard than that for which the tank was designed and constructed.

8. To manufacture, process, blend or refine flammable or combustible liquids.

9. To engage in the dispensing of liquid fuels into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles at commercial, industrial, governmental or manufacturing establishments.

10. To utilize a site for the dispensing of liquid fuels from tank vehicles into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles at commercial, industrial, governmental or manufacturing establishments.

**IFC2003-105.6.18 Floor finishing.** An operational permit is required for floor finishing or surfacing operations exceeding 350 square feet (33 m<sup>2</sup>) using Class I or Class II liquids.

**IFC2003-105.6.19 Fruit and crop ripening.** An operational permit is required to operate a fruit- or crop-ripening facility or conduct a fruit-ripening process using ethylene gas.

**IFC2003-105.6.20 Fumigation and thermal insecticidal fogging.** An operational permit is required to operate a business of fumigation or thermal insecticidal fogging and to maintain a room, vault or chamber in which a toxic or flammable fumigant is used.

**IFC2003-105.6.21 Hazardous materials.** An operational permit is required to store, transport on site, dispense, use or handle hazardous materials in excess of the amounts listed in Table 105.6.21.

**TABLE 105.6.21  
PERMIT AMOUNTS FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

<b>TYPE OF MATERIAL</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Combustible liquids	See section IFC2003-105.6.17
Corrosive materials	
Gasses	See section IFC2003-105.6.9
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 IFC2003-105.6.9
Liquids	See section IFC2003-105.6.17
Solids	100 pounds
Highly toxic materials	
Gasses	See section IFC2003-105.6.9
Liquids	Any Amount
Solids	Any Amount
Oxidizing materials	
Gasses	See section IFC2003-105.6.9
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 IFC2003-105.6.9
Liquids	Any Amount
Solids	Any Amount
Toxic materials	
Gasses	See section IFC2003-105.6.9
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

**IFC2003-105.6.22 HPM facilities.** An operational permit is required to store, handle or use hazardous production materials.

**IFC2003-105.6.23 High-piled storage.** An operational permit is required to use a building or portion thereof as a high-piled storage area exceeding 500 square feet (46 m<sup>2</sup>).

**IFC2003-105.6.24 Hot work operations.** An operational permit is required for hot work including, but not limited to:

1. Public exhibitions and demonstrations where hot work is conducted.
2. Use of portable hot work equipment inside a structure.
3. Fixed-site hot work equipment such as welding booths.
4. Hot work conducted within a hazardous fire area.
5. Application of roof coverings with the use of an open-flame device.

**Exception:** Work that is conducted under a construction permit.

6. When approved, the fire code official shall issue a permit to carry out a Hot Work Program. This program allows approved personnel to regulate their facility’s hot work operations. The approved personnel shall be trained in the fire safety aspects denoted in the applicable chapter of the Fire Code and shall be responsible for issuing permits requiring compliance with the requirements found in Chapter 26. These permits shall be issued only to their employees or hot work operations under their supervision.

**IFC2003-105.6.25 Industrial ovens.** An operational permit is required for operation of industrial ovens regulated by Chapter 21 of the 2003 IFC.

**IFC2003-105.6.26 Lumber yards and woodworking plants.** An operational permit is required for the storage or processing of lumber exceeding 100,000 board feet (8,333 ft<sup>3</sup>) (236 m<sup>3</sup>).

**IFC2003-105.6.27 Liquid- or gas-fueled vehicles or equipment in assembly buildings.** An operational permit is required to display, operate or demonstrate liquid- or gas-fueled vehicles or equipment in assembly buildings.

**IFC2003-105.6.28 LP-gas.** An operational permit is required for:

1. Storage and use of LP-gas.

**Exception:** A permit is not required for individual containers with a 500-gallon (1893 L) water capacity or less serving occupancies in Group R-3.

2. Operation of cargo tankers that transport LP-gas.

**IFC2003-105.6.29 Magnesium.** An operational permit is required to melt, cast, heat treat or grind more than 10 pounds (4.54 kg) of magnesium.

**IFC2003-105.6.30 Miscellaneous combustible storage.** An operational permit is required to store in any building or upon any premises in excess of 2,500 cubic feet (71m<sup>3</sup>) gross volume of combustible empty packing cases, boxes, barrels or similar containers, rubber tires, rubber, cork or similar combustible material.

**IFC2003-105.6.31 Open burning.** An operational permit is required for the kindling or maintaining of an open fire or a fire on any public street, alley, road, or other public or private ground. Instructions and stipulations of the permit shall be adhered to.

**Exception:** Recreational fires.

**IFC2003-105.6.32 Open flames and torches.** An operational permit is required to remove paint with a torch; or to use a torch or open-flame device in a hazardous fire area.

**IFC2003-105.6.33 Open flames and candles.** An operational permit is required to use open flames or candles in connection with assembly areas, dining areas of restaurants or drinking establishments.

**IFC2003-105.6.34 Organic coatings.** An operational permit is required for any organic-coating manufacturing operation producing more than 1 gallon (4 L) of an organic coating in one day.

**IFC2003-105.6.35 Places of assembly.** An operational permit is required to operate a place of assembly.

**IFC2003-105.6.36 Private fire hydrants.** An operational permit is required for the removal from service, use or operation of private fire hydrants.

**Exception:** A permit is not required for private industry with trained maintenance personnel, private fire brigade or fire departments to maintain, test and use private hydrants.

**IFC2003-105.6.37 Pyrotechnic special effects material.** An operational permit is required for use and handling of pyrotechnic special effects material.

**IFC2003-105.6.38 Pyroxylin plastics.** An operational permit is required for storage or handling of more than 25 pounds (11 kg) of cellulose nitrate (pyroxylin) plastics and for the assembly or manufacture of articles involving pyroxylin plastics.

**IFC2003-105.6.39 Refrigeration equipment.** An operational permit is required to operate a mechanical refrigeration unit or system regulated by Chapter 6 of the IFC.

**IFC2003-105.6.40 Repair garages and motor fuel-dispensing facilities.** An operational permit is required for operation of repair garages and automotive, marine and fleet motor fuel-dispensing facilities.

**IFC2003-105.6.41 Rooftop heliports.** An operational permit is required for the operation of a rooftop heliport.

**IFC2003-105.6.42 Spraying or dipping.** An operational permit is required to conduct a spraying or dipping operation utilizing flammable or combustible liquids or the application of combustible powders regulated by Chapter 15 of the IFC.

**IFC2003-105.6.43 Storage of scrap tires and tire byproducts.** An operational permit is required to establish, conduct or maintain storage of scrap tires and tire byproducts that exceeds 2,500 cubic feet (71 m<sup>3</sup>) of total volume of scrap tires and for indoor storage of tires and tire byproducts.

**IFC2003-105.6.44 Temporary membrane structures, tents and canopies.** An operational permit is required to operate 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. Fabric canopies open on all sides which comply with all of the following:
  - 2.1. Individual canopies having a maximum size of 700 square feet (65 m<sup>2</sup>).
  - 2.2. 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.
  - 2.3. A minimum clearance of 12 feet (3658 mm) to structures and other tents shall be provided.

**IFC2003-105.6.45 Tire-rebuilding plants.** An operational permit is required for the operation and maintenance of a tire-rebuilding plant.

**IFC2003-105.6.46 Waste handling.** An operational permit is required for the operation of wrecking yards, junk yards and waste material-handling facilities.

**IFC2003-105.6.47 Wood products.** An operational permit is required to store chips, hogged material, lumber or plywood in excess of 200 cubic feet (6 m<sup>3</sup>).

**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.