

CHAPTER 7

FIRE PREVENTION AND FIRE PROTECTION

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Part 1
Wood Burning Stoves

§101. Purpose. The purpose of this Part 1 is to maintain the public health, safety and convenience and general welfare of the inhabitants of the Borough of Coplay, and it is not intended as a prohibition of the right of any owner of private property within the said Borough to make lawful use thereof. (Ord. 588, 6/14/1983, §1)

§102. Wood Stoves Regulated. No person, firm, or corporation shall install or operate a wood stove in the Borough without complying with the terms of this Part 1. Any wood stove in existence at the effective date of this Part 1 shall not be used unless and until it complies with the requirements of this Part 1 for installation of wood stoves. (Ord. 588, 6/14/1983, §2)

§103. Permit Required. No person shall install a wood stove without first obtaining a permit from the Building Inspector for such installation. The stove shall not be operated until after it is inspected, upon completion, by the Building Inspector. (Ord. 588, 6/14/1983, §3)

§104. Fee. There shall be a permit fee, as established from time to time by resolution, which shall include the cost of inspections. (Ord. 588, 6/14/1983, §4; as amended by Ord. 623, 2/13/1990)

§105. Information Required. Before a permit is issued, the following information is required to be submitted by the applicant.

1. Manufacturer's data and specifications relating to the stove. If the manufacturer's data is not available, a written opinion by a person with not less than two (2) years full time experience in the heating business may be submitted.

2. Proposed material to be used under the stove, description of all materials, including walls and ceilings, within four (4') feet of the location of the stove.

3. All clearances from the stove and flues to any part of the structure within four (4') feet of the location.

4. A statement, signed by the owner, saying that the owner understands that the flues must be inspected regularly and cleaned not less than once each year.

(Ord. 588, 6/14/1983, §5)

§106. Clearances. Clearances shall be maintained, of not less than the following:

1. From the front of the stove, forty-eight (48") inches (1.22 meters).

2. From the top, rear or sides of the stove, thirty-six (36") inches (.914 meters)

3. From the top of a vent to the ceiling, eighteen (18") inches (.457 meters)

(Ord. 588, 6/14/1983, §6)

§107. Floors.

1. On incombustible floors the unit shall be mounted on a firm, level base of concrete, brick or other incombustible material.

2. On combustible floors the unit shall be mounted on a four (4") inch thick concrete block base or equivalent incombustible material, laid with the holes running parallel to the floor.

(Ord. 588, 6/14/1983, §7)

§108. Chimney. The flue pipe shall be connected to a masonry chimney complying with all applicable laws and ordinances. No other equipment shall be connected to such chimney. The cross-sectional area of the chimney shall be not less than the cross-sectional area of the flue serving the stove. The chimney shall be so constructed as to prevent any leakage of smoke or flue gases. (Ord. 588, 6/14/1983, §8)

§109. Flues and Connections. Flues shall be designed to prevent the escape of smoke or products of combustion, and to withstand corrosion. The connection between the flue and the chimney shall be of the double-walled type, designed to prevent overheating of adjacent wall areas. (Ord. 588, 6/14/1983, §9)

§110. Evidence. In determining whether a proposed installation meets the requirements of this Part 1, the Building Inspector may consider Federal Housing Administration specifications, including FHA minimum property standards FHA number 30, Chapter 813, and including reports of testing laboratories. (Ord. 588, 6/14/1983, §10)

§111. Fuel to be Used. No coal shall be burned in a stove designed or rated for burning wood only. All wood to be burned shall be dry. Pine or other wood with a high concentration of pitch shall not be burned. (Ord. 588, 6/14/1983, §11)

§112. Examining and Cleaning. The owner or some person acting on his behalf shall examine each chimney and flue at least once each six weeks during the heating season and once, before the start of each heating season. Flues and chimneys shall be cleaned at least once a year. (Ord. 588, 6/14/1983, §12)

§113. Penalty. Any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of this Part 1 shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than six hundred dollars (\$600.00); and costs or in default of payment thereof, shall be subject to imprisonment for a term not to exceed thirty (30) days. Every day that a violation of this Part 1 continues shall constitute a separate offense. (Ord. 588, 6/14/1983, §13; as amended by Ord. 623, 2/13/1990)

Part 2

Hazardous Spills; Recovery of Costs

§201. Purpose. The purpose of this Part 2 is to provide for the payment of costs for special equipment, cleanup material and labor used to clean up, control or extinguish petroleum type spills, releases or fires in the Borough of Coplay. (Ord. 633, 7/9/1991)

§202. Responsibility for Control, Estinguishment or Cleanup of Petroleum or Chemical Spills. The owner of petroleum, chemicals or the common carrier of any type whatsoever including pipelines carrying said petroleum or chemicals, shall be responsible for the control, extinguishment or cleanup of petroleum or chemical spills, releases or fires involving said petroleum or chemicals in the Borough of Coplay. In the event of the failure of the owner or common carrier to control, extinguish or cleanup any spill, fire or release, the Borough may perform the necessary work and bill such person to compensate the Borough for both direct and indirect cost and expense including, but not limited to, special equipment and materials used and labor costs. (Ord. 633, 7/9/1991)

§203. Special Equipment or Material Used. The special equipment or material used by the Borough for which any owner or common carrier will be responsible may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- A. Foam.
- B. Dry chemicals.
- C. Sand.
- D. Any other equipment or materials deemed necessary by the Fire Chief or the officer in charge.
- E. Contaminated personal effects or equipment.

(Ord. 633, 7/9/1991)

§204. Cost of Labor. The cost of labor shall include the actual wage rates including fringe benefits paid by the Borough to all personnel involved in the extinguishing of any extraordinary fire or in the cleaning up of any extraordinary spill or release involving chemicals or petroleum. (Ord. 633, 7/9/1991)

§205. Liability for the Cost of Materials. The owner or common carrier of any petroleum or chemicals, including pipelines as aforesaid, shall also be liable for the cost and temporary storage of chemicals or petroleum materials or the cost of disposing them. (Ord. 633, 7/9/1991)

§206. Penalty. Any person who fails, neglects or refuses to comply with any of the terms or provisions of this Part 2, or fails to make payment for billed costs within thirty (30) days shall be fined not more than six hundred (\$600.00) dollars or imprisoned not more than ninety (90) days, or both. Imposition of the aforesaid penalties, however, shall not relieve any responsible person or corporation hereunder from civil liability to the Borough as provided herein. (Ord. 633, 7/9/1991)

