

## CHAPTER 93: FIRE PREVENTION

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#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

##### **§ 93.01 BONFIRES; PERMIT REQUIRED.**

No person shall kindle or maintain any bonfire, or shall knowingly furnish the material for any such fire, or authorize any such fire to be kindled or maintained on or in any street, avenue, road, or lane or public ground or upon any private lot within the limits of the town unless a written permit to do so, shall have first been secured from the Chief of the Fire Department. Nothing in this section shall be

construed to prohibit the burning of trash and rubbish on private lots of residences without a permit when such burning is done in conformity with the provisions of § 93.23(B).

('69 Code, Ch. C, Art. II, § 3) Penalty, see § 93.99

##### **§ 93.02 ENCUMBRANCES BEFORE OR ON FIRE EXIT.**

No person shall at any time, place any encumbrances of any kind whatsoever before or upon any fire escape, balcony or ladder intended as a means of escape from fire. It shall be the duty of every member of the Police and Fire Departments who shall discover any fire escape encumbered in any manner to forthwith report the same through his department channels to the Chief of the Fire Department, who shall immediately notify the owner or owners, their agent, tenant or tenants, to remove such encumbrance and the encumbrance shall thereupon be immediately removed.

('69 Code, Ch. C, Art. II, § 4) Penalty, see § 93.99

##### **§ 93.03 EXIT SIGNS REQUIRED IN THEATERS; MOTION PICTURE HOUSES.**

Every exit in any theater or motion picture house shall be plainly indicated by a sign bearing the word "Exit," which sign shall be kept lighted throughout each performance.

('69 Code, Ch. C, Art. II, § 5) Penalty, see § 93.99

##### **§ 93.04 OBSTRUCTING PASSAGEWAYS; FASTENING DOORS IN PLACES OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLAGE PROHIBITED.**

All doors, aisles and passageways within and leading into or out of the theaters, churches and all other places of public assemblage, shall, during the entire time which any show, performance, service,

exhibition, lecture, concert, ball or other assemblage may be held therein, be kept adequately lighted and free from easels, signs, standards, campstools, chairs, sofas, benches and any other article or articles that might obstruct or delay the exit of the audience, congregation or assemblage. Doors of such buildings while occupied shall not be fastened so that they cannot easily be opened by anyone from within. No person shall sit or stand or remain seated or standing, nor shall the owner or operator of such place allow any person to remain in any such place of public assemblage in any aisle under any circumstances, or in any exit, or passage required for the safe exit of the assemblage. Clear passage from all exits and on outside sidewalks of all theaters and other places of public assemblage shall be maintained at all times. No aisle, passageway or stairway in any store shall be obstructed with tables, show cases or other obstructions during the hours such store is open to the public.

('69 Code, Ch. C, Art. II, § 6) Penalty, see § 93.99

#### **§ 93.05 ACCUMULATION OF INFLAMMABLE MATERIALS ON LOTS PROHIBITED.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to permit or suffer rubbish, refuse or articles of combustible or inflammable nature to accumulate or remain on any lot or premises.

('69 Code, Ch. C, Art. II, § 7) Penalty, see § 93.99

#### **§ 93.06 CERTAIN FIRES TO BE WATCHED.**

All persons, firms or corporations who shall burn any tar kiln or pit of charcoal, or set fire to or burn any brush, grass or other material, whereby any property may be endangered or destroyed shall keep and maintain a careful and competent person in charge of watching such kiln, pit, brush or other material while burning. Fire escaping from such kiln, pit, brush, or other material while burning shall be prima facie evidence of neglect of these provisions.

('69 Code, Ch. C, Art. II, § 8)

#### **§ 93.07 GASOLINE STORAGE TANKS.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to construct or erect any storage tank for gasoline, oil or other combustible or inflammable materials, containing or capable of containing more than 100 gallons, unless the top of such tank or container is buried at least two feet below the surface of the ground at that point, and unless a permit for such construction or erection shall be first obtained upon application from the Town Clerk/Treasurer. The Clerk/Treasurer shall not issue such permit unless directed by the Board.

('69 Code, Ch. J, Art. I, § 5) Penalty, see § 93.99

### ***FIRE LIMITS***

#### **§ 93.20 DESCRIPTION.**

On Main Street between Parker and Pender Streets; on Broad or Railroad Street between Wilson and Nash Streets.

('69 Code, Ch. C, Art. III, § 1)

#### **§ 93.21 BUILDING PERMIT REQUIRED FOR CONSTRUCTION WITHIN FIRE LIMITS.**

No construction or alterations of any kind or description shall be made in either of the above set out fire districts without a building permit, and full compliance with ordinances governing construction in the town.

('69 Code, Ch. C, Art. III, § 2) Penalty, see § 93.99

#### **§ 93.22 UNLAWFUL CONSTRUCTION; METAL FRAME REQUIREMENTS.**

It shall be unlawful to construct or alter any building of wood, or build or repair any wooden building adjoining any brick building, or build or repair any shelter or awning, except of iron or other metal frame and with canvas cover.

('69 Code, Ch. C, Art. III, § 2) Penalty, see § 93.99

**§ 93.23 BURNING TRASH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE FIRE LIMITS.**

(A) No person shall burn or cause to be burned any trash, refuse, shavings, paper, leaves, litter or other material of any kind outside any house, on or in any street, sidewalk, alley, lot or yard within the fire limits of the town. ('69 Code, Ch. C, Art. II, § 1)

(B) Trash shall not be burned on any private lot outside the fire limits except within a safely constructed enclosure made of wire/mesh or in a similar safety device. ('69 Code, Ch. C, Art. II, § 2)

Penalty, see § 93.99

**§ 93.99 PENALTY.**

(A) Any person who violates any provision of this chapter for which no penalty is otherwise provided shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than \$500 or imprisoned for not more than 30 days. (G.S. § 14-4(a))

(B) Any person who violates any provision of § 93.22 shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of \$50 for each offense. Every week such building or awning shall remain, after notice by the Mayor to remove same has been given shall be made a separate offense. ('69 Code, Ch. C, Art. III, § 2)

# Recreational Fire Pit “No Burning” Moratorium Lifted Recreational Fire Pit Only

During the April 2019 Board of Commissioners Meeting, the Board unanimously lifted the ***“No Burning” moratorium allowing usage of recreational fire pits only***. There should be no burning of trash, rubbish, or yard waste. This moratorium was originally placed by the Board for safety and clean air purposes. Any citizen found with an open fire burning in anything other than a recreational fire pit, in the Town limits before such moratorium is lifted will be given a citation from the Wilson County’s Sheriff’s Office. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

