

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

AMENDED ORDINANCE CONCERNING FIRE MARSHAL, FIRE PREVENTION, PROTECTION FEES & EMERGENCY SERVICES

Adopted: _____, 2024
Effective: July 1, 2024

RESOLVED, the Town of Woodstock hereby amends the Ordinance Concerning Fire Marshal, Fire Prevention and Protection Fee Ordinance adopted on February 26, 2013 and effective July 1, 2013, for inspections of buildings and events used for public occupancy, manufacturing and occupancies regulated by the Connecticut Fire Safety & Prevention Codes.

SECTION 1: OCCUPANCIES

Pursuant to the provisions of C.G.S. 29-305 mandating inspections by the Fire Marshal of all buildings and facilities of public service, all buildings and facilities used for manufacturing, and all occupancies regulated by the Connecticut Fire Safety and Prevention Codes, the following fee schedule is established.

- Multi-Family Apartment / Condo Buildings, Greater than two (2) Units
- Gasoline Service Stations
- Convenience Stores, Mercantile Occupancies
- Assembly Occupancies
- Business Occupancies
- Industrial Occupancies
- Educational Occupancies
- Liquor permit renewals or application for one
- Restaurants/Food and Beverage Serving Establishments
- Hazardous Materials Inspections/Cargo Tank Vehicles
- Health care facilities – Hospitals, nursing homes, residential care homes
- Day Care facilities
- Outdoor activities such as but not limited to fireworks displays, carnivals with amusement rides, fairs, public bonfires, campgrounds, and other public events that require inspections for applicable fire safety codes or by Town of Woodstock Ordinance.

SECTION 2: PERMITS

- 2.1 An inspection permit shall be required for any occupancy as listed in Section 1 or other event or venue open to the public or where a fee is charged for admission into the event or venue and occupancies regulated by the Connecticut Fire Safety & Prevention Codes as established by the Woodstock Fire Marshal.
- 2.2 Where there is LP gas fueled or electric appliances used for cooking or LP gas filling stations or where there will be erected carnival rides, or other amusements where the Fire Marshal deems an inspection is required for the interest of public safety, the sponsor of the event shall obtain an inspection permit from the Office of the Building Inspector.
- 2.3 The sponsor of the event shall obtain the permit at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening date of the event, seasoning opening, or venue so an inspection date can be scheduled and if applicable notify other Fire, Emergency Medical Departments, and Woodstock Constables that their services may be required for traffic flow considerations as it could affect emergency responses.
- 2.4 The sponsor of the event shall check with the applicable Town of Woodstock departments to determine if other permit fees are required.
- 2.5 The permit applicant shall waive all entry or admission fees for inspectors such as the Fire Marshal, Deputy Fire Marshals or other local and State inspection agency inspectors that are charged to the public and shall provide access in and out of the event or venue along with on-site parking.
- 2.6 Prior to signing the permit for inspections at an event or venue involving amusement rides, the amusement ride company shall add to their blanket liability insurance policy the Town of Woodstock, Fire Marshal, and Deputy Fire Marshals. A copy of the policy showing the addition of the Town of Woodstock, Fire Marshal and Deputy Fire Marshals shall be provided to the Fire Marshal at the time the amusement rides are approved to operate by the Connecticut State Fire Marshal's Office and the Town of Woodstock, Building Inspector.

The amusement company shall have on site during all inspections involving inspectors from the Office of the Connecticut State Fire Marshal, a third party, N.A.A.R.S.O. (National Association of Amusement Ride Safety Officials) Certified minimum Level 1 Inspector. All amusement rides shall be inspected by the N.A.A.R.S.O. certified Level 1 or greater inspector prior to and during the initial inspections performed by the inspectors from the Office of the Connecticut State Fire Marshal. The name of the person along with their certification providing the N.A.A.R.S.O. inspections, shall be provided and listed at the time the permit is requested from the Building Inspectors Office.

SECTION 3: FEES

- 3.1 **Base Fee Inspection \$40.00:** As required by the Fire Marshal and listed herein for occupancies listed in Section 1, including but not limited to the following:
- Some indoor assembly events including sales & assemblies
 - Outdoor various activities
 - Tents 1,200 sq ft or greater
 - Campground permits
 - LP gas transfer refill stations
 - Gasoline stations
 - Restaurants & food services
 - Bed & breakfast (Over 6 guests. 6 or less is considered a 1-2 family residence)
 - Day care facilities
 - Hazardous materials such as cargo tank truck, UST/AST
 - Gas piping / fire protection sprinkler system pressure testing inspections including residential 3 family or greater
 - Wood Stove/Pellet Stove-Insurance Inspections, Wood Burning furnaces, Insurance Inspections and Smoke Detection – Insurance Inspections
 - Events or venues with up to ten (10) vendors using LP gas or electric cooking appliances are included in the base fee of \$40.00. When there are more than ten (10) vendors there will be a \$12.00 fee for each vendor inspected in addition to the base permit fee.
 - For outdoor events or venues operating more than three consecutive days, the base fee of \$40.00 will be required for each day open to the public. For outdoor events or venues that are not continuous but operate on separate weekends or days the base fee of \$40.00 will be required for each collective group of days.
- 3.2 Blasting permits shall be \$60.00 or as set forth by the State of Connecticut.
- 3.3 For outdoor events such as carnivals or fairs involving amusement rides, a fee of \$60.00 will be charged to the amusement company for each day open to the public and each day of required inspections with the Connecticut, State Fire Marshal's Office.
- 3.4 For outdoor events involving the display of fireworks or other pyrotechnics either open to the public or a private showing, a permit fee of \$350.00 will be required from the sponsor of the display, being the same sponsor a listed on the permit approved by the Connecticut State Fire Marshal's Office. The sponsor will also be required to pay for fire protection at the site provided by one of the local fire departments as required by the Fire Marshal and any required overtime costs of the Fire Marshal's Office. The cost of the fire protection shall be worked out between the fire department providing the protection and the sponsor.
- 3.5 **The following fees shall be charged for the inspections, review, and issuance of the following classes of permits.**
- **Plan Reviews:** Fire Marshal review of building plans – for additions, renovations, and new buildings, a fee of \$65.00 per hour shall be charged to the submitter of the plans being reviewed for occupancies covered by the Fire Marshal. **Excluded are one- & two-family residential buildings.**

- Plan Reviews: For large scale occupancy plan reviews, the Fire Marshal may require from the person / company / owner submitting the plans, a “third party” independent certified plan reviewer approved by the Fire Marshal to complete the plan review and submit a detailed review as it pertains to all aspects of the Connecticut Fire Safety & Prevention Codes. The cost of this review shall be paid by the person / company or owner submitting the plans for review. This does not exempt the fees being charged by the Fire Marshal for time spent on the plan review.
- Overtime: Fire Marshal & Deputy Fire Marshal Inspection hours shall take place Monday through Friday between 6:00 am to 6:00 pm excluding Holidays and weekends. If the inspection cannot be completed during the normal listed inspection hours or that require continued inspections as deemed required by the Fire Marshal, such as but not limited to carnivals, fairs, fireworks show, outdoor events and large assembly gatherings, an additional overtime fee of \$40.00 per hour, per person, up to a maximum of 4 hours per person, per day shall be charged to the responsible party of the event. The Fire Marshal has the authority to waive the overtime fees depending on the circumstances of the inspections.
- Residential Apartment / Condo Buildings (3 Family or More) Required Inspections: An inspection fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) per unit shall be paid by the responsible party of the building (owner / agent) for the annual required inspection. The building responsible party shall request the annual inspection or as scheduled by the Fire Marshal and pay the appropriate fee depending on the number of units in each building at the Woodstock Building Inspectors Office.
- Liquor License Permits: The permit fee for annual liquor license inspections shall be \$100.00. For Hotels and Bed & Breakfast establishments with more than 3 rooms requesting a liquor permit, an additional fee of \$65.00 shall be charged for the inspection of the hotel & Bed & Breakfast.
- Healthcare facilities such as residential board & care: The annual inspection fees for healthcare facilities are \$40.00 up to 16 residents and \$80.00 for greater than 16 residents.
- **Educational Occupancies:** There will not be an annual inspection fee for the Woodstock Elementary, Middle and Woodstock Academy. Other events held at these locations may be subject to an inspection fee as required by the Fire Marshal depending on the event.

3.6 Penalties:

Any person or persons who open, allow to occupy, operate, or conduct an event, campground or various outdoor venues or blasting without first being granted the proper permit and paying the appropriate permit fee, shall be in violation of this Ordinance within the Town of Woodstock, which shall be deemed an infraction offense, punishable by the maximum fine of \$250.00 and shall immediately stop the function taking place without the proper permit. Any person or persons who continue to operate the event, campground, venue or blasting after having been served with a stop order from the Woodstock Fire Marshal, Woodstock Building Inspector or Connecticut State Police, shall be liable to a fine of not less than \$100.00 or more than \$250.00 for each day that such violation continues, each violation shall be deemed a separate offense or any other C.G.S. applicable to the offense and issued by the Connecticut State Police or other State of Connecticut, enforcement agency. The fine shall be paid directly to the Town of Woodstock.

SECTION 4: OPERATIONS; TRAFFIC CONTROL

- 4.1 Traffic control on local town roads: Any Town of Woodstock Constable or Connecticut State Police Officer at the request of a Chief Officer from any of the three fire departments in the Town of Woodstock, Fire Marshal or Deputy Fire Marshal, First Selectmen or Road Foreman, has the authority to control the movement of traffic including parking on town roads. This includes any of the events within the scope of this ordinance along with private functions which may restrict the movement of emergency vehicles as requested, due to unapproved parking on town roads. This authority includes but is not limited to clearing traffic where deemed necessary and to have vehicles towed from the scene with the owner of the vehicle responsible for all fees incurred, including but not limited to the cost of removal, storage or damage.

This ordinance shall become effective July 1, 2024, having been published in a newspaper having a circulation in the Town of Woodstock.