

## **Chapter 38 FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION**

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### **Sec. 38-1. Fire inspections.**

The fire chief is hereby empowered to enter at any and all reasonable times upon and into any premises, building or structure for the purpose of examining and inspecting the premises, building or structure, to ascertain the conditions thereof with regard to fire hazards and the condition, size, arrangement and efficiency of any and all appliances for firefighting. If such inspection shall disclose any fire hazard or any deficiency in firefighting appliances, the fire chief shall order the condition remedied. Every order made by the fire chief shall be promptly obeyed and complied with.

### **Sec. 38-2. Injuring fire equipment.**

No person shall willfully molest, take for his own private use, or damage in any manner any firefighting equipment or apparatus or anything pertaining to the firefighting system, or drive any vehicle upon or against any hose or equipment of the fire department.

*[State Law reference - Destruction of fire department property, MCL 750.377b.]*

### **Sec. 38-3. Obstruction of fire hydrants.**

No person shall place any obstruction whatever, nor shall any person responsible for such obstruction permit it to remain, within 15 feet of any fire hydrant.

*[State Law reference - Parking near fire hydrant, MCL 257.674(1)(d).]*

### **Sec. 38-4. Opening fire hydrant.**

No person except authorized city officers and employees shall use any fire hydrant, except in case of emergency, without first securing permission from the department of public works for such use and paying or agreeing to pay for the water to be used. In no case shall any wrench or tool be used on any fire hydrant other than a regulation city hydrant wrench.

### **Sec. 38-5. Storage of flammable waste.**

No person owning or being responsible for any premises shall permit any waste paper, ashes, oil, rags, waste rags, excelsior or material of a similar nature to accumulate thereon, unless contained in fireproof receptacles.

**Sec. 38-6. Fire exits.**

- (a) The following rules relative to passageways, stairs and fire exits shall be applicable to all public buildings, places of assembly, commercial and business buildings, hotels, apartment buildings, lodginghouses, tourist homes and other buildings, except private dwellings and except as otherwise expressly limited in this section to a particular type of building:
- (1) No fire escape, stairway, balcony or ladder on any building shall be obstructed, out of repair, or maintained in a hazardous condition. Doors and windows leading to any fire escape shall open easily from the inside.
  - (2) No combustible material shall be stored, placed or kept under or upon any passageway, stairs or elevator shaft, nor shall any such material be stored, placed or kept in any other part of any building in such a position as to obstruct or render hazardous egress therefrom.
  - (3) All doors, hallways and stairways shall be unobstructed at all times.
  - (4) In all theaters, churches, schools and other places of public assembly, no door, aisle or passageway shall be obstructed with any furniture or article, and no person shall sit or stand or be permitted to sit or stand in any aisle, or in any exit or passageway. All exits and the sidewalks leading therefrom shall be unobstructed while such places of public assembly are in use.
- (b) No person shall do any act which causes any violation of any of the rules set forth in this section, nor shall any person owning any building or in charge thereof, as agent, employee or otherwise, permit any of such rules to be violated.

**Sec. 38-7. Open fires.**

No person shall kindle a fire in or upon any street or alley. No person shall kindle a fire for the purpose of burning garbage, construction debris, or other materials which release chemical or toxic fumes. All fires shall be at least 15 feet away from any building.

No person shall kindle a fire on public or private property unless such fire is for recreational purposes and confined in a safe container. A safe container for recreational purposes shall be a fire ring composed of non-combustible material (e.g., metal, concrete, cement), and in no case shall the fire ring exceed four (4) feet in diameter. All materials to be burned shall not exceed a length equivalent to the diameter of the fire ring in which they are to be placed, and shall not protrude beyond the outside edge of the fire ring. Every person who shall kindle any fire shall have some competent person constantly in charge and tending the fire until it is completely extinguished.

**Sec. 38-8. Blasting.**

No person shall blast or carry on any blasting operation without first having obtained a written permit from the city manager. Before any such permit is issued, the applicant therefor shall file with the city clerk a policy of insurance in the amount specified by the city manager, in an amount reasonably commensurate with the risk of damage to property and injury or death to such persons arising out of the proposed blasting operation. Such policy of insurance shall indemnify the applicant with respect to sums which the applicant shall become obligated to pay by reason of the liability imposed upon him by law, for damages because of bodily injury, including death at any time resulting therefrom, or for damages to property, or both, sustained by any person and arising out of the blasting operation.

*[State Law reference - Fire prevention code, MCL 29.1 et seq.; false fire alarms, MCL 750.240.]*