

## 2009 SEATTLE FIRE CODE

### Activities Requiring a Permit

To download a permit application, write down the Permit Search Category of the desired permit and then use the online [Permit Search](#) to download the application.

If you are not sure whether or not you are required to obtain a permit, please call the Seattle Fire Department Permit Unit for assistance at (206) 386-1450 Monday - Friday - 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Activity or operation	Permit required:	Permit Search Category
<b>Aerosol products</b>	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. (SFC 105.6.1)	Hazardous Materials
<b>Amusement Buildings</b>	To operate a special amusement building. (SFC 105.6.2) See also <a href="#">Special Events</a> .	Special Events & Assembly Occupancies
<b>Assembly occupancy</b>	To operate an assembly occupancy with an occupant load of 100 or more. (SFC 105.6.35)	Special Events & Assembly Occupancies
<b>Aviation facilities</b>	To use a Group H or Group S occupancy for aircraft servicing or repair and aircraft fuel-servicing vehicles. (SFC 105.6.3)	Special Occupancy Uses
<b>Carnivals and fairs</b>	To conduct a carnival or fair that does not already require a City of Seattle Special Events permit. (SFC 105.6.4) See also <a href="#">Special Events</a> .	Special Events & Assembly Occupancies
<b>Battery systems</b>	To install, maintain and operate stationary lead-acid battery systems having an electrolyte liquid capacity of more than 50 gallons (189 L). (SFC 105.6.5.1 & 105.7.1)	Building Systems & Maintenance
<b>Bonfires</b>	To ignite a bonfire. (SFC 105.6.5.2)	Special Events & Assembly Occupancies
<b>Canopies, tents</b>	To erect an air-supported temporary membrane structure or a tent having an area in excess of 200 square feet, or a canopy in excess of 400 square feet. (SFC 105.7.10) See also <a href="#">Special Events</a> .	Special Events & Assembly Occupancies
<b>Cellulose nitrate film</b>	To store, handle or use cellulose nitrate film in a Group A occupancy. (SFC 105.6.6)	Hazardous Materials
<b>Combustible dust-producing operation</b>	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 SFC Chapter 2. (SFC 105.6.7)	Miscellaneous Operations
<b>Combustible fibers</b>	To store or handle combustible fibers in quantities greater than 100 cubic feet (2.8 m <sup>3</sup> ). (SFC 105.6.8.1)	Miscellaneous Operations
<b>Combustible material storage</b>	To store in any building or upon any premises in excess of 2500 cubic feet (71 m <sup>3</sup> ) gross volume of combustible empty packing cases, boxes, barrels or similar containers, rubber tires, rubber, cork, or similar combustible material. (SFC 105.6.8.2)	Miscellaneous Operations
<b>Compressed gases</b>	1. To store, use or handle compressed gases in excess of the amounts listed:	
	<b>Type of Gas</b>	<b>Amount (cubic feet at NTP)</b>
	Corrosive	200
	Flammable (except cryogenic fluids and LP-gas)	200
	Highly toxic	Any amount
	Inert and simple asphyxiant	6,000
	Oxidizing (including oxygen)	504
	Toxic	Any amount
2. To install, repair damage to, abandon, remove, place temporarily out of service, or close or substantially modify a compressed gas system. (SFC 105.6.9 & 105.7.2)		Hazardous Materials
<b>Covered mall building</b>	For the: 1. Placement of retail fixtures and displays, concession equipment, displays of highly combustible goods and similar items in the mall. 2. Display of liquid- or gas-fired equipment in the mall. 3. Use of open-flame or flame-producing equipment in the mall. (SFC 105.6.10.1) See also <a href="#">Special Events</a> .	Special Events & Assembly Occupancies
<b>Cruise ship hazardous operations</b>	To conduct hazardous operations on a cruise ship at a passenger terminal (e.g. hot work and fuel transfers). (SFC 105.6.10.2)	Miscellaneous Operations
<b>Cryogenic fluids</b>	To produce, store, transport on site, use, handle or dispense cryogenic fluids in excess of the amounts listed: (SFC 105.6.11)	
	<b>Type of cryogenic fluid</b>	<b>Inside a building (gallons)</b>
	<b>Outside a building (gallons)</b>	
Flammable	More than 1	60
Inert	60	500

	Oxidizing (incl. oxygen)	10	50		
	Physical or health hazard not indicated above	Any amount	Any amount		
<b>Cutting and welding</b>	See hot work operations. (SFC 105.6.12)			Hot Work Operations	
<b>Dry cleaning plants</b>	To engage in the business or dry cleaning or to change to a more hazardous cleaning solvent used in existing dry cleaning equipment. (SFC 105.6.13)			Special Occupancy Uses	
<b>Exhibits and trade shows</b>	To operate exhibits and trade shows. (SFC 105.6.14) See also <a href="#">Special Events</a> .			Special Events & Assembly Occupancies	
<b>Explosives</b>	The storage, handling sale or use of any quantity of explosive, explosive material, fireworks, or pyrotechnic special effects within the scope of SFC Chapter 33. <b>The manufacture of explosives is prohibited!</b> (SFC 105.6.15)			Hazardous Materials	
<b>Fire hydrants and valves</b>	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. <b>Exception:</b> Authorized employees of the water company that supplies the system or the fire department. (SFC 105.6.16)			Contact <a href="#">Seattle Public Utilities</a>	
<b>Flammable and combustible liquids</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To use or operate a flammable or combustible liquid pipeline within a facility.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>To operate, install, construct or alter 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.</li> <li>To place temporarily out of service (for more than 90 days) an underground, protected above-ground or aboveground flammable or combustible liquid tank.</li> <li>To install, alter, remove, abandon or otherwise dispose of a flammable or combustible liquid tank.</li> <li>To change the 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.</li> <li>To manufacture, process, blend or refine flammable or combustible liquids.</li> <li>To engage in the dispensing of liquid fuels into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles at commercial, industrial, governmental or manufacturing establishments.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>To engage in the business of removing, abandoning or otherwise disposing of residential heating oil tanks.</li> </ol> <p>To store, handle or use flammable or combustible liquids in excess of the quantities listed: (SFC 105.6.17 &amp; 105.7.5)</p>			Flammable and Combustible Liquids	
		<b>Storage or Use</b>			
		<b>Class of Liquid</b>	<b>Inside a Building (gallons)</b>		<b>Outside a Building (gallons)</b>
		Class I	5		10
		Class II	25		60
		Class III-A	25		60
	Class III-B	1,000 gallons aggregate on site			
<b>Floor finishing</b>	To conduct floor finishing or surfacing operations exceeding 350 square feet using Class I or Class II liquids. (SFC 105.6.18)			Miscellaneous Operations	
<b>Fruit and crop ripening</b>	To operate a fruit- or crop-ripening facility or conduct a fruit-ripening process using ethylene gas. (SFC 105.6.19)			Miscellaneous Operations	
<b>Fumigation and insecticidal fogging</b>	To operate a business of fumigation or thermal insecticidal fogging and to maintain a room, vault, freight container, or chamber in which a toxic or flammable fumigant is used. (SFC 105.6.20)			Miscellaneous Operations	
<b>Hazardous materials</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To install, repair damage to, abandon, remove, place temporarily out of service, or close or substantially modify a storage facility or other area regulated by SFC Chapter 27. Exceptions: 1) Routine maintenance. 2) Emergency repair work.</li> <li>To store, handle or use hazardous materials in excess of quantities listed in the <a href="#">Hazardous Material Permit Threshold Table</a>. (SFC 105.6.21.1)</li> </ol>			Hazardous Materials	
<b>Hazardous material stabilization</b>	To stabilize potentially unstable (reactive) hazardous materials. (SFC 105.6.21.2)			Hazardous Materials	
<b>HPM facilities</b>	To store, handle or use hazardous production materials. (SFC 105.6.22.1)			Hazardous Materials	
<b>Helicopter lifts</b>	To move suspended loads via helicopter over populated areas. (SFC 105.6.22.2)			Miscellaneous Operations	
<b>High-piled storage</b>	To use a building or portion thereof as a high-piled storage area exceeding 500 square feet (46 m <sup>2</sup> ). (SFC 105.6.23)			Special Occupancy Uses	

<b>Hot work operations</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conduct hot work at public exhibitions and demonstrations.</li> <li>To use portable hot work equipment.  Exceptions: 1) Within Group R, Division 3 and Group U occupancies. 2) Torch assemblies connected for use to an acetylene gas cylinder having a maximum individual capacity of 40 cubic feet.  3) Approved self-contained torch assemblies having a maximum individual capacity of 2.7 pounds LP-gas.</li> <li>For fixed-site hot work equipment such as welding booths.</li> <li>To apply roof coverings with the use of an open-flame device.</li> <li>To conduct hot work on storage tanks, piping and associated systems containing or previously containing flammable or combustible liquids, or other hazardous materials that could present a fire or explosion hazard.</li> <li>To conduct hot work on marine vessels. (SFC 105.6.24)</li> </ol>	Hot Work Operations or Marine Operations (for hot work on vessels)
<b>Industrial Ovens</b>	To install and operate an industrial oven regulated by SFC Chapter 21. (SFC 105.6.25)	Miscellaneous Operations
<b>Lumber yards and Woodworking plants</b>	To store or process lumber exceeding 100,000 board feet (8,333 ft <sup>3</sup> ). (SFC 105.6.26)	Special Occupancy Uses
<b>Woodworking plants</b>	To store or process lumber exceeding 100,000 board feet (8,333 ft <sup>3</sup> ). (SFC 105.6.26)	Special Occupancy Uses
<b>Liquid or gas-fueled vehicles or equipment in assembly areas</b>	To display, operate or demonstrate liquid- or gas-fueled vehicles or equipment in assembly buildings. (SFC 105.6.27)	Special Events & Assembly Occupancies
<b>LP-gas (propane)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To store and use LP-gas.  Exceptions: 1) Individual containers with a 125-gallon water capacity or less serving occupancies in Group R-3.  2) A single LP-gas container having a capacity not exceeding 5 gallons connected to a LP-gas grill unless located on or serving a public way.</li> <li>To operate cargo tankers that transport LP-gas.</li> <li>To install or modify a LP-gas system. ( SFC 105.6.28 &amp; 105.7.7)</li> </ol>	Liquefied Petroleum Gases
<b>Magnesium</b>	To melt, cast, heat treat or grind more than 10 pounds of magnesium. (SFC 105.6.29)	Hazardous Materials
<b>Marine terminal</b>	To handle or temporarily locate containers, tanks or cylinders of hazardous materials at marine terminals located within the Seattle city limits. (SFC 105.6.30)	Marine Operations
<b>Membrane structure</b>	To erect an air-supported temporary membrane structure or a tent having an area in excess of 200 square feet, or a canopy in excess of 400 square feet. (SFC 105.7.10) See also <a href="#">Special Events</a> .	Special Events & Assembly Occupancies
<b>Motor fuel-dispensing stations</b>	To operate an automotive, marine or fleet motor fuel-dispensing station. (SFC 105.6.39)	Motor Vehicle Fueling
<b>Open burning</b>	To kindle or maintain an open fire or a fire on any public street, alley, road, or other public or private ground. Exception: Recreational fires. (SFC 105.6.31)	Special Events & Assembly Occupancies
<b>Open flames and torches</b>	See hot work operations. (SFC 105.6.32)	Hot Work Operations
<b>Open flames and candles</b>	To use open flames or candles in connection with assembly areas, dining areas or restaurants or drinking establishments. (SFC 105.6.33)	Special Events & Assembly Occupancies
<b>Organic coatings</b>	For any organic-coating manufacturing operation producing more than 1 gallon of an organic coating in a day. (SFC 105.6.34)	Special Occupancy Uses
<b>Private fire hydrants</b>	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. (SFC 105.6.36)	Contact <a href="#">Seattle Public Utilities</a>
<b>Pyrotechnic special effects material</b>	For the use and handling of pyrotechnic special effects material. (SFC 105.6.37) See also <a href="#">Special Events</a> .	Special Events & Assembly Occupancies
<b>Pyroxylin plastics</b>	To store or handle more than 25 pounds of cellulose nitrate (pyroxylin) plastics for the assembly or manufacture of articles involving pyroxylin plastics. (SFC 105.6.38)	Hazardous Materials
<b>Refrigeration equipment</b>	To install a mechanical refrigeration unit or system. (SFC 105.7.8)	Building Systems and Maintenance
<b>Repair garages</b>	To operate a repair garage. (SFC 105.6.39)	Motor Vehicle Fueling, Repair and Wrecking
<b>Rooftop heliports</b>	To operate a rooftop heliport. (SFC 105.6.40)	Special Occupancy Uses
<b>Spraying and dipping</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conduct a spraying or dipping operation utilizing flammable or combustible liquids or to apply combustible powders regulated by SFC Chapter 15.</li> <li>To install or modify a spray room, dip tank or spray booth. (SFC 105.6.41 &amp; 105.7.9)</li> </ol>	Flammable and Combustible Liquids
<b>Tents</b>	To erect an air-supported temporary membrane structure or a tent having an area in excess of 200 square feet, or a canopy in excess of 400 square feet. (SFC 105.7.10) See also <a href="#">Special Events</a> .	Special Events & Assembly Occupancies

<b>Tire, scrap tire and tire byproduct storage</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To establish, conduct or maintain storage of tires, scrap tires, and tire byproducts that exceeds 2,500 cubic feet of total volume.</li> <li>2. To store tires and tire byproducts inside a building. (SFC 105.6.42)</li> </ol>	Miscellaneous Operations
<b>Tire rebuilding plants</b>	For the operation and maintenance of a tire-rebuilding plant. (SFC 105.6.43)	Special Occupancy Uses
<b>Waste handling</b>	To operate a waste-handling facility. (SFC 105.6.44)	Miscellaneous Operations
<b>Wrecking yard</b>	To operate a wrecking yard or junk yard. (SFC 105.6.44)	Motor Vehicle Fueling, Repair and Wrecking
<b>Wood products</b>	To store chips, hogged material, lumber or plywood in excess of 200 cubic feet. (SFC 105.6.45)	Miscellaneous Operations

**Hazardous Materials Permit Threshold Table**

Type of material	Permit is required for quantities in excess of:	Download an application for permit
<b>Combustible liquids</b>	See flammable and combustible liquids	Level II blank permit app
<b>Corrosive Materials</b> Gases Liquids Solids	See compressed gases 55 gallons 1,000 pounds	Level II blank permit app
<b>Flammable materials</b> Gases Liquids Solids	See compressed gases See flammable liquids 100 pounds	Level II blank permit app
<b>Highly toxic materials</b> Gases Liquids Solids	See compressed gases Any amount Any amount	Level II blank permit app
<b>Oxidizing materials</b> Gases Liquids Class 4 Class 3 Class 2 Class 1 Solids Class 4 Class 3 Class 2 Class 1	See compressed gases  Any amount 1 gallon 10 gallons 55 gallons  Any amount 10 pounds 100 pounds 500 pounds	Level II blank permit app
<b>Organic peroxides</b> Liquids Class I Class II Class III Class IV Class V Solids Class I Class II Class III Class IV Class V	Any amount Any amount 1 gallon 2 gallons No permit required  Any amount Any amount 10 pounds 20 pounds No permit required	Level II blank permit app
<b>Pyrophoric materials</b> Gases Liquids Solids	See compressed gases Any amount Any amount	Level II blank permit app
<b>Toxic materials</b> Gases Liquids Solids	See compressed gases 10 gallons 100 pounds	Level II blank permit app
<b>Unstable materials</b> Liquids Class 4 Class 3 Class 2 Class 1 Solids Class 4 Class 3 Class 2 Class 1	Any amount Any amount 5 gallons 10 gallons  Any amount Any amount 50 pounds 100 pounds	Level II blank permit app
<b>Water-reactive materials</b> Liquids Class 3 Class 2 Class 1 Solids Class 3 Class 2 Class 1	Any amount 5 gallons 55 gallons  Any amount 50 pounds 500 pounds	Level II blank permit app