



# City of Southport Fire Prevention Code

Rates/Fees



**Charles A. Drew**  
**Fire Chief/Fire Marshal**  
**May 14, 2015**

## INSPECTION SCHEDULE FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS

### Frequency of Inspection

Inspection schedules of existing buildings shall be in accordance with Section 106 of the N.C. Fire Prevention Code, and shall be conducted no less frequently than described in the schedule below:

OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION	INSPECTION FREQUENCY
Public Schools	Every Six Months
Hazardous	Every Year
Institutional	Every Year
High Rise	Every Year
Assembly	Every Year
Residential Other than one and two family dwellings	Every Year
Industrial	Every Two Years
Educational (Except Public Schools)	Every Two Years
Foster Care Home (GS 131-D)	Every Two Years
Group Care Home	Every Two Years
Business	Every Three Years
Mercantile	Every Three Years
Storage	Every Three Years
Churches and Synagogues	Every Three Years

SCHEDULED INSPECTION FEE	
Under 1,500 square feet <sup>1</sup>	\$50.00
1,500 – 5,000 square feet <sup>1</sup>	\$100.00
5,000 to 10,000 square feet <sup>1</sup>	\$250.00
Over 10,000 square feet <sup>1</sup>	\$300.00 + \$5.00/1,000 square feet
Special Situations (i.e. Outside storage, LP Bulk Storage, No Building)	\$100.00
Foster Care Inspection	50.00
Residential <sup>3</sup>	
Footprint of building less than 10,000 square feet	\$50.00
Footprint of building in excess of 10,000 square feet	\$100.00
Tents under 200 Square feet (Cooking & Concession)	\$50.00
Tents over 200 square feet	\$100.00

<sup>1</sup> Includes First Inspection and One Follow-up Inspection. Each subsequent follow-up until compliant will require an additional regular fee.

<sup>3</sup> Multi-Family occupancies only, the North Carolina Fire Code does not govern one and two family dwellings.

*This inspection schedule is intended to meet the requirements of GS 153A-364 and GS 160A-424. Political subdivisions assuming inspection duties as set out in GS 153A-351 and GS 160A-411, shall have a periodic inspection schedule for the purpose of identifying activities and conditions in buildings, structures and premises that pose dangers of fire, explosion or related hazards. Frequency of inspections of occupancies as mandated by the NC General Statutes shall supercede the above inspection schedule.*

(North Carolina State Building Code Volume V, Fire Prevention, Section 106)

## Plan Reviews

<b>PLAN REVIEW AND INSPECTION FEE SCHEDULE</b>	
Small plan review < 2,500 square feet (includes 1 inspection) <sup>1, 4</sup>	\$50.00
Basic plan review 2,500<10,000 square feet (includes 1 inspection) <sub>1,4</sub>	\$100.00
Intermediate plan review 10,001 – 25,000 square feet (includes 1 inspection) <sup>1,4</sup>	\$150.00
Complex plan review 25,001 – 100,000 square feet (includes 2 inspections) <sup>1,4</sup>	\$200.00
Special plan review >100,001 square feet (includes 2 inspections) <sup>1</sup>	\$250.00 + \$5.00 per 1,000 square feet
Small and Basic re-inspection (each trip) <sup>1</sup>	\$50.00
Intermediate re-inspection (each trip) <sup>1</sup>	\$100.00
Complex re-inspection (each trip) <sup>1</sup>	\$100.00
Special re-inspection (each trip) <sup>1</sup>	\$100.00

*The code official is authorized to receive applications, review construction documents and issue permits for construction regulated by this code, issue permits for operations regulated by this code, inspect the premises for which such permits have been issued and enforce compliance with the provisions of this code.*

(North Carolina State Building Code Volume V, Fire Prevention, Section 104.2)

## Construction Permits

A construction permit must be obtained from the Office of the City of Southport Fire Marshal in the following situations:

<b>3.2.2 – Construction Permits</b> (Applies to installation of new systems and renovations to existing systems)		
<b>Code Section</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Permitting Fee</b>
105.7.1	Automatic fire-extinguishing systems	100.00 + 2.00 per Nozzle/Head
105.7.2	Compressed Gases	100.00
105.7.3	Fire Alarm and Detection systems and Related equipment	100.00 + 2.00 per initiating Device
105.7.4	Fire Pumps and Related Equipment	100.00
105.7.5	Flammable and Combustible liquids	100.00
105.7.6	Hazardous Materials	250.00
105.7.7	Industrial Ovens	100.00
105.7.8	L.P./Natural Gas Installation and Modification (Applies only to occupancies covered by the N.C. Fire Prevention Code)	100.00
105.7.9	Private Fire Hydrants	50.00 per hydrant
105.7.10	Spraying and Dipping	50.00
105.7.11	Standpipe Systems	100.00 with Sprinkler System 50.00 W/O Sprinkler System
105.7.12	Temporary Membrane structures, tents and canopies	100.00

*The code official is authorized to issue construction permits for work as set forth in sections 105.7.1 through 105.7.12.*

(North Carolina State Building Code Volume V, Fire Prevention, Section 105.7)

## Operational Permits

3.2.1 – Operational Permits		
Code Section	Description	Permitting Fee*
105.6.1	Aerosol products	50.00
105.6.2	Amusement Buildings	100.00
105.6.3	Aviation Facilities	100.00
105.6.4	Carnivals and Fairs	250.00
105.6.5	Battery Systems	50.00
105.6.6	Cellulose Nitrate Film	50.00
105.6.7	Combustible Dust-Producing Operations	50.00
105.6.8	Combustible Fibers (Except Agriculture)	50.00
105.6.9	Compressed Gases	100.00
105.6.10	Covered Mall Buildings	100.00
105.6.11	Cryogenic Fluids	50.00
105.6.12	Cutting and Welding	100.00
105.6.13	Dry Cleaning Plants	50.00
105.6.14	Exhibits and Trade Shows	100.00
105.6.15	Explosives	100.00
105.6.16	Fire Hydrants and Valves	50.00 each unit
105.6.17(1)	Flammable and Combustible Liquids Pipeline	100.00
105.6.17(2)	Flammable and Combustible Liquids Class I Storage	100.00
105.6.17(3)	Flammable and Combustible Liquids Class II Storage	100.00
105.6.17(4)	Flammable and Combustible Liquids Removal	100.00
105.6.17 (5)	Flammable and Combustible Liquids production, processing, transportation, storage, dispensed, used	100.00
105.6.17 (6)	Install, alter, remove, or abandon flammable or combustible liquid tanks	100.00
105.6.17 (7)	Change the contents of a flammable or combustible liquid tank	100.00
105.6.17 (8)	Manufacture, process, blend, or refine flammable or combustible liquids	100.00
105.6.17 (9)	To engage in the dispensing of liquid fuels into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles at commercial, industrial, governmental, or manufacturing establishments	100.00

105.6.17 (10)	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	100.00
105.6.18	Floor Finishing using Class I or II Liquids	100.00
105.6.19	Fruit and Crop Ripening	50.00
105.6.20	Fumigation and Thermal insecticidal fogging	50.00
105.6.21	Hazardous Materials Storage, Transport, Dispense, Use and Handling	100.00
105.6.22	Hazardous Materials Facilities	100.00
105.6.23	High-Piled Storage	100.00
105.6.24	Hot Work	50.00
105.6.25	Industrial Ovens	50.00
105.6.26	Lumber Yards and Woodworking Plants	50.00
105.6.27	Liquid or Gas fueled vehicles or equipment in assembly buildings	50.00
105.6.28	L.P.Gas Bulk Storage	100.00
105.6.29	Magnesium	50.00
105.6.30	Miscellaneous Combustible Storage	50.00
105.6.32	Open Flames and Candles	100.00
105.6.33	Organic Coatings	50.00
105.6.34	Operation of Places of Assembly	100.00
105.6.35	Private fire hydrants removal from service, use or operation	50.00 per hydrant
105.6.36	Pyrotechnic special effects materials	250.00
105.6.37	Pyroxylin Plastics	50.00
105.6.38	Regulated Refrigeration Equipment	50.00
105.6.39	Repair Garages and Service Stations	50.00
105.6.40	Rooftop Heliports	50.00
105.6.41	Spraying or dipping operations	50.00
105.6.42	Storage of Scrap Tires and Tire Byproducts	100.00
105.6.43	Temporary membrane structures, tents and canopies	100.00
105.6.44	Tire-Rebuilding Plants	100.00
105.6.45	Waste Handling	100.00
105.6.46	Wood Products	100.00

\*Churches and synagogues shall be exempt from Operational permitting fees  
These permits will only be issued during a new construction situation. The permit will be valid for the same period as the inspection schedule in section 106 and the renewal will be the payment of the inspection fee for existing buildings.

An existing building may be issued an operational permit for the above situations, the permit will be included in the fee for the inspection of an existing building in accordance with section 106.

*The code official is authorized to issue operational permits for the operations set forth in sections 105.6.1 through 105.6.46.*

(North Carolina State Building Code Volume V, Fire Prevention, Section 105.6)

## **Collection of Fees**

**Plan Review Fees** – Plan review fees shall be collected or arrangements made for collection prior to issuance of any building or fire permits.

**Inspection Fees (New Construction)** – In the event additional fees are required to be assessed during a construction project, any and all fees must be paid in full prior to the issuance of the buildings Certificate of Occupancy. Occupying a building that has not been issued a Certificate of Occupancy will constitute a civil penalty for each days continued offense.

**Inspection Fees (Existing Buildings)** – The fee for an inspection of an existing building shall be assessed and an invoice will be supplied to the owner, occupant, or designee. Subjects will have thirty (30) days to remit payment. After 30 days the bill will be placed in a past due status and a second invoice will be sent to the subject. After a period of sixty (60) days of non-payment, the account will be subject to a 10% late fee and the account will be placed on hold and no additional inspections or permits will be issued, civil action will be taken through the court system after a period of 90 days.

## **Civil Penalties**

Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of the N.C. Fire Prevention Code, or fail to comply therewith, or who shall violate or fail to comply with any order made there under, or who shall build in violation of any detailed statement of specifications or plans submitted and approved there under or any certificate or permit issued there under, shall be subject to penalties as specified below as approved by the City of Southport Board of Alderman. These penalties shall be recovered by the City in a Civil Action in the nature of debt if the offender does not pay the penalties within a period of 30 days after the issuance of the notice of violation. The notice of violation shall be in writing, signed by the Fire Marshal and/or the Fire Official charged with the enforcement of the N.C. Fire Prevention Code and shall be delivered or mailed to the offender either at his/her residence or place of business or at the location where the violation occurred. Each day's continuing violation shall be a separate and distinct offense. Any action to recover such penalties may be joined in an action for appropriate equitable remedy, including injunctions and orders of abatement and including an action to recover damages by the City in abating, correcting, limiting, and otherwise dealing with the harmful effects of the offending action. Civil penalties are assessed in accordance with North Carolina G.S. 153A and G.S. 160A.

<b>Civil Penalty Schedule</b>	
First Offense	100.00
Second Offense	300.00
Third and Subsequent Offenses	500.00

Violation(s) consisting of locked and/or blocked exits, impedance of the occupants to quickly evacuate a structure or premise, or conditions posing imminent danger to the occupants on or about the premise or Violation(s) of Occupancy Limits established pursuant to the North Carolina State Building and/or Fire Code must be corrected during the time of the inspection if at all possible.