



# Lancaster Fire Department

## Fire Code Regulations

### Ohio Specific Provisions related to the 2017 Ohio Fire Code

These provisions state the requirements of the Lancaster Fire Department and its Fire Code Officials that are issued under the authority of the 2017 Ohio Fire Code ("OFC"), including but not limited to Section 104 General Authority and Responsibilities as contained in the Ohio Administrative Code Section 1301:7-7-01.

#### **A. Applications and Permits**

- a. Per the OFC, **Section 104.2 Applications and Permits**, the fire 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.
- b. Per the OFC, **Section 104.2.1.1** receive and review fire protection system and associated fire safety feature related construction documents when notice is provided to the building code official in accordance with Section 106.1.2 of the building code as listed in rule 1301:7-7-80 of the Administrative Code.

All plans for proposed new, modified, or enlarged structures or developments in the Lancaster Fire Department coverage area shall be submitted to the Fire Code Official for review of fire hydrants, fire alarms, fire apparatus access, fire suppression systems, underground fire lines, fire department connections, etc. prior to any construction.

#### **B. Types of Permits**

The following is the Permit/Fee Schedule adopted by the Lancaster Fire Department as set forth in the Ohio Fire Code **Sections 105.1.1**, and **105.1.1.2**, Ohio Administrative Code 1301:7-7-01. All fire protection systems and building plans shall be submitted to the Lancaster Fire Department Fire Code Official through the Lancaster Building Department for review and comment by both entities prior to initiation of any construction. All permits and fees shall be paid in full prior to any demolition or construction. This permit and fee schedule is in addition to those required by the respective Building Code Department.

- ✓ The Fire Code Official may waive the fee when the permit is obtained by a non-profit organization or is for a non-profit function.
- ✓ As built plans are required to be submitted by electronic media in PDF format upon completion of construction.
- ✓ All permit fees shall be made payable by check or money order to:

#### **Lancaster Fire Department**

Payment may be mailed to:  
Lancaster Fire Department  
1596 E. Main St.  
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

*Please reference the business name and address on the check or money order.*

- a. **105.1.1 Permits required.** A property owner or owner's authorized agent who intends to conduct and operation or business or install or modify systems and equipment that are regulated by this code, or to cause any such work to be performed, shall first make application to the building code official and obtain the required permit.
- b. The Fire Code Official may issue permits which include but are not limited to, Fire Protection System permits, Temporary Membrane Structure, Tents/Canopy permit, installation or alteration of above and underground storage tanks, and Exhibition of Fireworks permits. The Fire Code Official may also issue Discretionary Permits and including Hazardous Activities permits.



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### C. Witnessing of Acceptance Testing / Retest

- a. The responsible person shall schedule the attendance and witnessing of an acceptance test or retest with the Fire Code Official at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the desired test date and time. Scheduling shall be done through the City of Lancaster Building Department.
- b. Inspections will begin promptly at the scheduled time. Should the inspection not be ready to take place at the scheduled time, the inspection may be deemed incomplete, a re-inspection will need to be scheduled and a fee may be assessed by the Fire Code Official.

### D. Final Inspection

The responsible person shall schedule a final inspection with the Fire Code Official at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the desired date and time for the inspection. All fees shall be paid in full prior to scheduling the final inspection. Scheduling shall be done through the City of Lancaster Building Department.

### E. Construction Documents

- a. Submittals shall be per the OFC **Sections 105.4.1 Submittals and 105.4.2 Information on Construction Documents**, with one (1) copy of each submittal being tendered to the Fire Code Official.
- b. Submittals shall be per the OFC **Section 105.4.1 Submittals and permits**.
- c. Plans submitted shall include the following information at a minimum:
  1. Building layout on property showing parking lot entrances, fire hydrant locations, building entrances, FDC location, PIV locations, emergency generator location, and vehicle hazards indicating North.
  2. Complete floor plan for each level with exits noted, standpipe locations, fire doors, special hazards and loading docks.
  3. Sprinkler zones for all floors
  4. Fire wall locations for each floor
  5. Locations of all utility shut offs.
  6. Hazardous Materials – including quantity's, storage locations and SDS Information
  7. Knox Box key locations(s)
  8. Details for high-pile/combustible storage

### F. Premises Identification

- a. In the OFC **Section 505.1 Address identification**. New and existing buildings shall be provided with approved address identification. The address identification shall be legible and placed in a position that is visible from the street or road fronting the property. Where required by the fire code official, address identification shall be provided in additional approved locations to facilitate emergency response. Where access is by means of a private road and the building cannot be viewed from the public way, a monument, pole, or other sign or means shall be used to identify the structure. Address identification shall be maintained. The Lancaster Fire Department specifications call for a minimum size in height of 4" with a minimum stroke width of ½ " letters/numbers of contrasting color. The fire department only requires the actual digits of the address not the street name, unless specified specifically by the fire code official.



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### G. Multi- Tenant Commercial or Industrial Occupancies

- a. In relation to the OFC Section 403.11.1.5 Tenant identification shall be provided for secondary exits from occupied tenant spaces that lead to an exit corridor or directly to the exterior of the building. Tenant identification shall be posted on the exterior side of the exit or exit access door. Letters and numbers shall be posted on the corridor side of the door, be plainly legible and shall contrast with their background. The letters/numbers shall be 4" in height and have a minimum stroke width of ½".
- b. Per the OFC Section 509.1.1 Utility identification. Where required by the fire code official, gas shutoff valves, electric meters, service switches and other utility equipment shall be clearly and legibly marked to identify the unit or space that it serves. Identification shall be made in an approved manner, readily visible and shall be maintained. All doorways both inside and outside of a structure that access any utilities or suppression system ie: sprinkler riser, fire pump etc., shall also be identified with letters/numbers 4" in height and have a minimum stroke width of 1/2". This rule shall include roof access identification.
- c. Protective Bollards shall be required anywhere specified by the fire code official for protection of utilities, building safety systems or as required by the fire code official. Bollards shall be installed per OFC section 312.2.

### H. Hazard Communication

- a. In relation to the OFC **Section 407 Hazard Communication**; Material Safety Data Sheets shall be provided as a paper copy onsite. The location shall be approved by the Fire Code Official.

### I. Key Boxes (KnoxBox)

- a. Per the OFC **Section 506.1 Where required**. Where access to or within a structure with an alarm system and/or sprinkler system is restricted because of secured openings the Fire Code Official is authorized to require a key box to be installed in an approved location. The key box shall be of an approved type and shall contain keys to gain necessary access as required by the Fire Code Official.
- b. Placement of the Knox Box shall also be confirmed with the Fire Code Official prior to installation. The height of the Knox box shall be between 42 and 60 inches above the finished grade and when possible, situated to right side of entry.
- c. Lancaster Fire Department requires master keys to access all exterior and interior doors of the building. Additional keys may be required for large buildings or buildings containing multiple floors.

### J. Emergency Responder Radio Coverage

- a. Per the OFC **Section 510.1 Emergency responder radio coverage in new buildings**. All new buildings shall have approved radio coverage for emergency responders within the building based upon the existing coverage levels of the public safety communication systems of the jurisdiction at the exterior of the building. This paragraph shall not require improvement of the existing public safety communication systems.
- b. Per the OFC **Section 510.4.1 Radio signal strength**. The building shall be considered to have acceptable emergency responder radio coverage when signal strength measurements in 95 per cent of all areas on each floor of the building meet the signal strength requirements in paragraphs (J)(4)(a)(i)(510.4.1.1) and (J)(4)(a)(ii)(510.4.1.2) of this rule.
- c. Per the OFC **Section 510.4.1.1 Minimum signal strength into the building**. A minimum signal strength of -95 dBm shall be receivable within the building.
- d. Per the OFC **Section 510.4.1.2 Minimum signal strength out of the building**. A minimum signal strength of -95 dBm shall be received by the agency's radio system when transmitted from within the building.



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- e. Per the OFC **Section 510.6.1 Testing and proof of compliance**. The emergency responder radio coverage system shall be inspected and tested annually or where structural changes occur including additions or remodels that could materially change the original field performance tests. Testing shall meet this OFC section. Third party certification of compliance with this code requirement will be required prior to final occupancy approval by the Lancaster Fire Department. Pre and post ERRS test reports shall be emailed to the Fire Code Official.

### K. Fire Apparatus Access Roads

Definition: FAAR – A road that provides fire apparatus access from a fire station to a facility, building or portion thereof. This is a general term inclusive of all other terms such as fire lane, public street, private street, parking lot lane, and access roadway.

- a. In relation to the OFC **Section 501.3 Construction Documents**. Construction documents for proposed fire apparatus access, location of fire lanes, security gates across fire apparatus access and construction documents and hydraulic calculations for fire hydrant systems shall be submitted to the fire department for review and approval prior to construction. Prior to any above ground construction, a professional engineer shall complete and submit to the Fire Code Official for approval.
- b. In relation to the OFC **Section 503.1.1 Buildings and facilities**. Approved fire apparatus access roads shall be provided for every facility, building or portion of a building hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction which are not readily accessible from a public and/or private street. The fire apparatus access road shall comply with the requirements of this paragraph and shall extend to within 150' (45,720 mm) of all portions of the facility and all portions of the exterior walls of the first story of the building as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the building or facility. The fire apparatus access road shall provide access to a minimum of three sides of the building or facility.

*\* The Fire Code Official is authorized to increase the dimension of 150' (45,720 mm) and every FAAR shall be maintained throughout construction.*

- c. In relation to the OFC **Section 503.1.2 Additional Access**. The fire code official is authorized to require more than one fire apparatus access road based on the potential for impairment of a single road by vehicle congestion, condition of the terrain, climatic conditions or other factors that could limit access.
- d. Per the OFC **Section 503.2.1 Dimensions**. Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 20' (6096 mm), exclusive of shoulders, except for approved security gates in accordance with paragraph (C)(6)(503.6) of this rule, and an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 13' 6" (4115 mm).
- e. The Fire Code Official shall have the authority to require an increase in the minimum access width where they are inadequate for fire and rescue operations.
  - 1. Fire apparatus access roads shall be designed and maintained to support the imposed loads of fire apparatus weighing at least 75,000 pounds and shall be surfaced to provide all-weather driving capabilities.
  - 2. The required turning radius of a fire apparatus road shall be determined by the Fire Code Official.
  - 3. Dead-end fire apparatus access roads more than 150' in length shall be provided with an approved area for turning around fire apparatus.
  - 4. Per the OFC **Section (3) 503.3 Marking**. Where required by the fire code official, approved signs or other approved notices or markings that include the words **"NO PARKING-FIRE LANE"** shall be provided for fire apparatus access roads to identify such roads or prohibit the obstruction thereof. The means by which fire lanes are designated shall be always maintained in a clean and legible condition and be replaced or repaired when necessary to provide adequate visibility.



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- f. Vehicle access for firefighting shall be provided to all construction and demolition sites. Vehicle access shall be provided to within 100' of temporary or permanent fire department connections. Vehicle access shall be provided by either temporary or permanent roads, capable of supporting the imposed load of fire apparatus weighing at least 75,000 pounds under all weather conditions.
- g. All residential subdivisions or complexes with 30 or more dwellings and multi-family with more than 100 dwelling units require 2 accesses minimum.

### L. Fire Hydrants

***The Lancaster Fire Department Fire Code Official shall have final approval on all locations of fire hydrants prior to any construction.***

- a. Per the OFC **Section 507.1 Required water supply**. An approved water-supply capable of supplying the required fire flow for fire protection shall be provided to premises upon which facilities, buildings or portions of buildings are hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction.
- b. The Lancaster Fire Department requires a permit inspection for each private hydrant. The cost of the permit is \$50 and must be paid to Lancaster Fire Department prior to acceptance testing. Testing includes 2hr hydrostatic test, flushing of the hydrant and underground fire line, and verification all drains and valves operate normally. *The Lancaster Water Department may require additional testing at their discretion.*
- c. Annual hydrant testing, as recommended per NFPA 25, shall be conducted at the expense of the owner. Fire flow testing may be required by the Fire Code Official every five (5) years, as recommended by NFPA 291 and shall be conducted at the expense of the owner.
- d. Fire hydrant and water line plans shall be submitted to the Lancaster Fire Department and Lancaster Water Department.
- e. The minimum water line size for a fire hydrant shall be 6".
- f. Fire hydrants shall be to the City of Lancaster Water Department Specifications.
- g. Additional fire hydrant requirements:
  - The steamer connection shall be facing the road.
  - The hydrant must be self-draining.
- h. All fire hydrants on a private system shall be painted red or yellow. A private system is defined as ANY hydrant not maintained or are the responsibility of the Lancaster Water Dept.

### M. Fire Department Connections

- a. Fire Department Connections
  - As defined in the Ohio Fire Code and the Ohio Building Code, the fire department connections shall be compatible with the connections of the AHJ. All threads provided for the fire department connections to the sprinkler system(s) or any other fire system supplying shall be a 5" Storz connection with a 30-degree angle towards the ground. It shall also be 18" to 48" off the finish grade.
  - All fire department connections for the sprinkler system and standpipe systems shall be installed in a location approved by the Fire Code Official and be within 50' of the nearest approved fire hydrant on the lead-in fire line to the building or a hydrant on the municipal water distribution system. FDC placement in a remote location not attached to the building is preferred. The FDC final location to be approved by the Fire Code Official. At the discretion of the Fire Code Official, the fire department connection may also require a precast concrete pit and/or signage attached to the FDC containing the building address and zone(s) served.
  - The underground FDC line shall be a minimum of 6" diameter from the 5" Storz fitting to the sprinkler riser. The fire department connection line may be a 4" line if the sprinkler water line into the building is a 4" or smaller line. The FDC line must also be self-draining.



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### N. Fire Alarm

- b. The Lancaster Fire Department shall approve the location(s) of all fire alarm panels and remote indicators. An identification map approved by the Fire Code Official shall be installed at the alarm panel indicating fire alarm devices such as smoke detectors, pull stations, sprinkler systems, duct smoke detectors and like items. Remote annunciators shall be required in all fire pump rooms, riser rooms, inside at least one (1) main entrance to the building and inside designated fire department entry doors as determined by the Fire Code Official.
- c. Per NFPA 72, the installing contractor shall complete and sign all appropriate fire alarm completion record and submit to the Fire Code Official.
- d. Duct detector locations shall be designated by a 1" wide red plastic sign with .75" white lettering permanently attached to the ceiling grid below the unit or in a location as approved by the fire code official and shall read Duct Detector # .

***THE ABOVE RULES AND REGULATIONS ARE IN ADDITION TO ALL FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, LOCAL AND NATIONAL CODES AND STANDARDS.***

#### Contact Us:

Lancaster Fire Department Code Official

1596 E. Main St. Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Office: (740)687-6640

Fax: (740)681-5008

[lfid@ci.lancaster.oh.us](mailto:lfid@ci.lancaster.oh.us)



# Lancaster Fire Department

## Fee Schedule

### Inspection Fee Schedule

#### **Part I: Plan Review**

*(Plan Review fee set and collected by Lancaster Building Code Department, No Fee to Lancaster Fire Department)*

<b><u>Residential Fire Impact Fee</u></b>	\$2,223 per residential unit
<b><u>Commercial Development Impact Fee</u></b>	\$0.95 per Sq. Ft. <i>may apply to Service-Safety Director to reduce/waive.</i>

#### **Part II: Construction Permits - Fire Protection Systems and AST/UST**

<b>Private Fire Hydrant</b>	\$100 per fire hydrant
<b>Above-Ground Storage Tank (AST) Installation</b>	\$250
<b>Above-Ground Storage Tank (AST) Alteration</b>	\$150
<b>Underground Storage Tank (UST) Installation</b>	\$500
<b>Underground Storage Tank (UST) Alteration</b>	\$500
<b>Underground Storage Tank (UST) Removal</b>	\$500
<b>Underground Storage Tank (UST) Temp. Closure</b>	\$100

#### **Part III: Operational (Annual) Permits**

<b>Motor Fuel Dispensing</b>	\$150
<b>Repair Garages</b>	\$150
<b>Dry Cleaning Plants</b>	\$100
<b>Compressed Gases</b>	\$100
<b>Cryogenic Gases</b>	\$100
<b>Cutting and Welding</b>	\$100
<b>Explosives and Fireworks</b>	\$500
<b>Flammable and Combustible Liquids</b>	\$150
<b>Hot work Operations</b>	\$100
<b>High Pile Storage</b>	\$100
<b>Liquid Propane Gas</b>	\$100
<b>Lumberyard and Woodworking Plant</b>	\$100
<b>Places of Assembly 1-99 Occupants</b>	\$100
<b>Places of Assembly 100-249 Occupants</b>	\$150
<b>Places of Assembly 250-499 Occupants</b>	\$200
<b>Places of Assembly 500 and Over Occupants</b>	\$250
<b>Pyrotechnic Special Effects</b>	\$250
<b>Rooftop Heliport</b>	\$200
<b>Spraying and Dipping</b>	\$100
<b>Storage of Tires and Tire Byproducts</b>	\$100



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### Part III: Operational (Annual) Permits - Continued

Temporary Membrane Structures, Tents, Canopies \$100

Waste Handling and Salvage Yard \$100

Permit Fees Must Be Paid Prior to Inspection \$50 late fee if not paid within 30 days of invoice

### Part IV: Annual Inspection and other fees

#### Annual Inspections

Adoption	\$25
Foster Care	\$50
Daycare	\$100
Business/Commercial Buildings	\$0 – No annual fee

#### Re-inspection Fees for Annual Inspections

A business may be granted one (1) re-inspection at no charge at the discretion of the Fire Inspector. Barring a waiver, a fee will be assessed for all re-inspections. The re-inspection fee will be \$100 for 1<sup>st</sup> occurrence, \$150 2<sup>nd</sup> occurrence, \$250 3<sup>rd</sup> occurrence and each subsequent occurrences. All re-inspection fees shall be paid prior to the start of the scheduled inspection. After three (3) re-inspections or when outstanding re-inspections are not paid, code violations may be referred to the City of Lancaster Law Director to file charges.

#### Miscellaneous Fees

**Special Duty:** Billed directly to event organizer following event, shall cover all personnel costs.  
***Must be preapproved by the Fire Chief and Service-Safety Director prior to every event***