

EAST NORRITON

TOWNSHIP

1995 FIRE CODE

ADOPTED JULY 10, 1995

ORDINANCE NUMBER - 352

CODE NUMBER - 95

EAST NORRITON TOWNSHIP
ORDINANCE 352
CODIFICATION CODE NUMBER CHAPTER 95

FIRE PREVENTION CODE

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING MINIMUM REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE SAFEGUARDING OF LIFE AND PROPERTY FROM FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS ARISING FROM THE STORAGE, HANDLING AND USE OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES, MATERIALS AND DEVICES, AND FROM CONDITIONS HAZARDOUS TO LIFE OR PROPERTY IN THE OCCUPANCY OF BUILDINGS AND PREMISES, KNOWN AS THE FIRE PREVENTION CODE; AND REPEALING EXISTING ORDINANCE NUMBER 221 CODIFICATION CHAPTER 72 ARTICLE III OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST NORRITON STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Board of Supervisors of the Township of East Norriton an ordinance as follows:

95-1. SECTION 1. ADOPTION OF FIRE PREVENTION CODE:

That a certain document, three (3) copies of which are on file in the Office of the Secretary of the Township of East Norriton, being marked and designated as "The BOCA National Fire Prevention Code, Ninth Edition, 1993, as published by the Building Officials and Code Administrators, Inc. and NFPA Standard 101 ; Safety to Life from Fire in Buildings and Structures as published by the National Fire Protection Association be and hereby are adopted as the Fire Prevention Code of the Township of East Norriton in the State of Pennsylvania; for the control of buildings, structures and premises as herein provided; and each and all of the regulations, provisions, penalties, conditions and terms of said BOCA National Fire Prevention Code, and NFPA 101; are hereby referred to, adopted and made a part hereof as if fully set out in this ordinance, with the additions, insertions, deletions and changes, if any, prescribed in Section 95-3 of this code.

95-2 SECTION 2. INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES REPEALED.

That Ordinance Number 211 Codification Code Number Chapter 72 Article III of the Township of East Norriton entitled fire prevention code and all other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

95-3 SECTION 3. ADDITIONS, INSERTIONS AND CHANGES.

That the flowing sections are hereby revised as follows:

A. CHAPTER 1. ADMINISTRATION:

1. Section F-101.1 Insert: Township of East Norriton .

A. Section F-105.3 Amended to read: As authorized by the Board of Supervisors.
...

2. Section F-105.4 . DEPUTY: IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

A. Section F-105.4.1: The duly appointed Fire Official will be the Fire Marshal of East Norriton Township and/or the duly appointed Deputy Fire Marshal and/or , in absence of the Fire Marshal or Deputy Fire Marshal the Fire Chief of the Norriton Fire Engine Company or authorized representative so designated by the Fire Marshal.

3. Section F-107.4 Partial permits is deleted:

4. Section F-107.9 is added as follows:

a. Outside Plan Review: At the discretion of the Township, plans submitted for review may be reviewed by an outside inspection agency/firm to insure that they confirm to Township codes. The review agency/firm must be approved by the Township. The cost of this review is to be born by the applicant or owner.

b. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS: As a precondition to registration and licensing, all contractors must obtain a liability insurance policy in a minimum amount of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) in favor of East Norriton Township, as an additional insured, with a minimum of thirty (30) days notification prior to cancellation of such policy to guarantee compliance with the Township. Also required is proof that workmen's compensation coverage is carried for its employees.

5. Section F-112.2 Failure to correct violations: is amended as follows:

If the notice of violation is not complied with within the time specified by the code official. The code official shall issue a summary offence citation and/or request the legal counsel of the Township to institute the appropriate legal proceedings to restrain, correct or abate such violation or to require removal or termination of the unlawful occupancy of the structure in violation of the provisions of this code or of any comply order or direction made pursuant thereto. The police Department of East Norriton Township shall be requested by the code official to make arrests for any offense against this code or orders of the code official affecting the immediate safety of the public.

6. Section F-112.3 Penalty for violations: is amended to read as follows:

Any person who shall violate any provision of this Code or shall fail to comply with any other requirement hereof, or who shall install, repair, alter any fire protection or fire suppression equipment. Or create an unsafe condition which could affect the public safety health and welfare of the residents of the Township of East Norriton or occupants of any building or structure within East Norriton Township, shall be guilty of a summary offense, punishable by fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per offense, or by imprisonment not to exceeding thirty (30) days, or both. Each day that a violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.

7. Section F-112.4 Abatement of violation: The imposition of the penalties herein described shall not prevent the code official or Township Solicitor from instituting appropriate action to prevent unlawful construction or to restrain, correct or abate a violation; or to prevent illegal

occupancy of a structure or premises; or to stop an illegal act, conduct of business or occupancy of a structure on or about any premises.

8. Section F-113.0 MEANS OF APPEAL: Section F-113.0 through F-113.7 inclusive, are hereby delated and the following is added in their place:

A. Section F-113.0 APPEALS: An appeal from any decision of the Fire Marshal of East Norriton Township may be taken before the East Norriton Township Board of Supervisors. Such appeals shall be made in writing within ten (10) days after the Fire Marshal's decision has been made, shall be verified by affidavit and filled with the Township Secretary. The Appellant or his representatives shall have the right to appeal and be heard, if such a right is requested in the written appeal. A decision of such appeal shall be made in of writing within fifteen (15) days after the hearing with the Board of Supervisors. In making it's decision, the board of Supervisors may vary or modify any provision of this ordinance where there are practical difficulties in the way of executing the strict letter of the law, so that the spirit of the law shall be observed, public safety secured and substantial justice done. Every action of the Board of Supervisors on such appeals shall be by resolution, copies of which shall be certified to the Fire Marshal and the Appellant.

9. Section F-114.0 through F-114.10 shall provide as follows:

A. Section F-114.0 Prohibited Acts. It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- 1. Section F-114.1** Draw water from a hydrant for any purpose without permission from the PA American Water Company and the Fire Marshal.
- 2. Section F-114.2** Willfully permit water from a fire hydrant to be wasted.
- 3. Section F-114.3** Damage, Deface, Obscure from view, obstruct or restrict access to any fire hydrant or any fire department connection for the pressurization of fire suppression systems.
- 4. Section F-114.4** Hinder or obstruct any fire fighter or any vehicle of the Fire Department from passing along the streets to or from a fire or from conducting lifesaving/firefighting operations at a fire or other indecent which threatens the health, safety, or welfare of the community.
- 5. Section F-114.5** Erect any sign containing the words "Fire Marshal" without the authorization of the Fire Marshal.
- 6. Section F-114.6** Hinder or prevent any firefighter from performing his functions, powers or duties as a firefighter.
- 7. Section F-114.7** Leave any part of the piping, or oil tank or oil fill when removing an oil burner or taking the burner out of service in any structure in the Township of East Norriton.
- 8. Section F-114.8** A vehicle shall not be driven or propelled over any unprotected fire hose of the fire department when laid down on any street, alley, private drive or any other vehicular roadway without the consent of the fire official in command of said operation or Fire Marshal.

9. **Section F-114.9** A person shall not, without proper authorization from the Fire Chief or Fire Marshal, cling to, attach himself to, climb upon or into, board or swing upon any fire department emergency vehicle, when the same is in motion or at rest, or to sound the siren, horn, bell, or other sound producing device thereon, or to manipulate or tamper with, or attempt to manipulate or tamper with any levers, switches, starting devices, brakes, pumps, or any equipment or protective clothing on, or part of, any fire department emergency vehicle.

10. **Section F-114.10** It shall be an unlawful for any person to damage or deface or attempt to conspire to damage or deface any fire department emergency vehicle at any time or to injure or attempt to conspire to injure fire department personnel while performing departmental duties.

10. SECTION F-115.0 IS ADDED AS FOLLOWS: REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF CONTRACTORS ENGAGED IN THE INSTALLATION/REPAIR OF FIRE SUPPRESSION, DETECTION AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS.

A. Section F-115.1 REGISTRATION AND LICENSING:

Installations, alterations or repairs of fire suppression, detection, and notification systems shall be made only by a contractor registered to perform such work within the Township of East Norriton.

B. Section F-115.2 ANNUAL FEE

The annual fee for contractors authorized to perform such work shall be provided by separate resolution by the Township of East Norriton.

C. Section F-115.3 EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1996.

11. SECTION F-116.0 RAPID ENTRY LOCKBOXES; IS ADDED AS FOLLOWS: Installation:
When a property is protected by an automatic alarm system or any other type of fire protection system, or access to or within a structure or an area on that property is unduly difficult because of secured openings, or there is the storage of hazardous materials and where immediate access is necessary for life saving or firefighting purposes, the Fire Marshal may require a keybox to be installed in an approved location. The key box shall be a type approved by the Fire Marshal. Placement shall be determined by the Fire Marshal.

B. CHAPTER 3: PRECAUTIONS AGAINST FIRE:

1. SECTION F-311.4: IS ADDED AS FOLLOWS: Temporary parking regulations:

The Fire Marshal is hereby given the authority to adopt and enforce temporary parking regulations to cover emergencies or special conditions on any public highway or private street, lane, alley or driveway or in any shopping center, commercial, industrial, educational, institutional, apartment complex, or similar occupancy that the fire department or hamper the egress of occupants from the building in case of fire. In exercising the authority provided by this subsection, the Fire Marshal shall require posting of signs reading:

NO PARKING, TEMPORARY REGULATION

2. SECTION F-311.5 Markings

- a. **Signs:** shall be posted at the direction of the Fire Marshal. Signs are to be white reflective with red lettering reading:

NO PARKING
BY ORDER OF
THE FIRE MARSHAL

- b. **Curbs and roadways:** curbs are to be painted OSHA yellow and roadways are to be painted FIRE LANE in 6" inch letters, OSHA yellow. The cost of painting roadways and installations of signs shall be borne by the property owner or his agent.

3. SECTION F-311.6 Violation/Penalties: is added as follows:

- b. **PENALTIES:** In all cases involving the illegal parking of motor vehicles under the provisions of the code, where the proper officer shall first give notice of the offense by either handing to the offending driver or other person responsible for parking the motor vehicle or affixing to the vehicle in question a ticket on which the officer has noted the time and place and nature of the offense and charges, no prosecution shall be instituted for forty-eight (48) hours thereafter. During such forty-eight (48) hours period, such violator may, within the forty-eight (48) hour period, pay at the Township Office or send by mail postmarked within the forty-eight (48) hours of the violation, as a penalty and in full satisfaction of such violation, the sum of ten dollars (\$10.). Failure of the violator to make payment as aforesaid shall render such violator subject to penalties generally for all violations of this code.

4. **SECTION F-315.8 shall provide as follows: RUBBISH, TRASH AND DEBRIS REMOVAL:**
At the end of each working day all trash, rubbish and debris must be removed from the job site and placed in proper receptacles.

5. SECTION F-316.0 Shall provide as follows: Outside Cooking: shall provide as follows:

- a. **Section F-316.1** No charcoal or propane fired, or other type of cooking equipment shall be used on the patio or patio balcony in any individual unit covered common area or under any overhanging partition of a multi-family dwelling unit in the Township of East Norriton.
- b. **Section F-316.2** Charcoal, charcoal lighter fluid and/or propane of any amount shall not be stored in any multi-family dwelling unit in the Township of East Norriton.
- c. **Section F-316.3** Charcoal or propane fired cooking units may be used in multi-family dwellings if they are on the ground and fifteen feet (15') from any building and stored fifteen (15') feet away from the building.

C. CHAPTER 4: OPEN FLAMES OR BURNING:

- 1. SECTION F-403.3 ALLOWABLE BURNING:** Delete recreational fires.

- 2. SECTION F-403.4.2 AUTHORIZATION:** Delete this section and amended it as follows:

- A. No person shall cause, allow, permit or maintain any outdoor bonfire, rubbish/trash, fire or the open burning of leaves, tree branches or yard trimmings on a street or on private property.

- B. The Fire Marshal shall have the authority to grant a variance from the provisions of this code for the following reasons:
1. To prevent or abate a fire hazard.
 2. For the purpose of instructing personnel in firefighting (Must meet current NFPA standards for this type of activity.
 3. For the prevention and control of disease and pets.
 4. Any fire set for recreational or ceremonial purposes when approved by the Fire Marshal.
- C. A permit must be issued and all safety requirements must be met prior to the burn. Request for burn must be at least 48 hours in advance. Withdrawal of permit by the Fire Marshal at any time is permitted.

D. CHAPTER 5: FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS:

1. **SECTION F-501.2.1 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: ADDITION TO DESIGN CRITERIA:** All Alarm systems will have verification except manual pull stations and heat/rate of rise detectors.
2. **SECTION F-501.6 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: ADDITION: THREADS:** The standardization of fire department standpipe and fire department sprinkler connection hose thread shall be uniform three (3) inch National Standard Thread on the fire department connection and two and one half (2 1/2) inch National Standard Thread standpipe connections in all existing and proposed buildings. All intake connections are to be female swivel connections with caps
3. **SECTION F-503.4.1 INSTALLATION:** is amended as follows: all new units are to be interconnected.; when one alarms they all sound.
4. **SECTION F-503.4.2.: Power Source:** is amended as follows: The power source for smoke detectors shall be AC primary power source with a battery back-up.
5. **SECTION F-503.7: NEW SECTION IS ADDED AS FOLLOWS: Change in occupancy:** After January 1, 1985, at every change of occupancy of dwelling unit occasion by or incidental to a sale, lease or sublease of said unit, it shall be the duty of the grantor thereof, (ie. the seller, leaser or sublessor as the case may be), to provide before occupancy all smoke detectors as required by this section (or other applicable laws) in proper working condition. Failure to comply with this subsection shall be punishable as set forth herein. However, that this sub-section shall not be construed to violate or render void any contract, lease or sublease subject hereto.
6. **SECTION F-518.6 SIGNINAGE: SHALL PROVIDE AS FOLLOWS**
Portable fire extinguishes that are required by this and other sections of this code are required to have signs posted over each unit indicating its location. Location and type of sign is to be approved by the Fire Marshal.
7. **SECTION F-519.0: SPRINKLER SYSTEM RETROFIT FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS:** In addition to those requirements set forth in this section, existing high-rise buildings and low-rise buildings shall be required to retro-fit according to the following standards:
 - A. All existing high-rise buildings (any building with four or more occupied floors will retro-fit with automatic sprinkler systems according to the following standards;
 1. All existing residential high-rise buildings will retro-fit with a partial sprinkler system.
A partial sprinkler system consists of full coverage in basements, cellars, hallways,

corridors, commercial areas, storage areas, lobbies, lounges, laundry rooms trash rooms, compactor areas, meeting rooms and sitting rooms. The installation of one sprinkler head opposite the center, and inside any living unit door opening to the corridor.

EXCEPTION: The sprinkler head inside the living unit is not required if the door and assembly have a one (1) hour fire rating and the door is furnished with an automatic door closure.

2. A wet standpipe system meeting National Fire Protection Association Standard # 14.
3. Plans for compliance with this requirement must be approved and on file in the Fire Marshal's Office within one year after approval of this code.
4. Systems must be installed, accepted, approved and operating within five (5) years after adoption of this code with the following time requirements:
 - 1st. year.....20% of total installation
 - 2nd. year.....40% of total installation
 - 3rd. year.....60% of total installation
 - 4th. year.....80% of total installation
 - 5th. year.....100% of total installation

F. CHAPTER 6: MEANS OF EGRESS:

1. SECTION F-609.0 EMERGENCY ESCAPE WINDOWS: shall provide as follows:

EMERGENCY ESCAPE: Every room located in use group R or I-1 shall have at least one operable window or exterior door approved for emergency egress or rescue; or shall have access to not less than two approved independent exits.

2. SECTION F-610.6 IS ADDED AS FOLLOWS

- a. **Section F-610.6 EXIT SIGNS AND LIGHTING:** Exit signs shall be indicated by both illuminated signs near ceiling and at floor level. These signs must be visible in all directions and are to be located within one (1) foot of the fire exit door. Floor level and ceiling level lights shall be red in color. Green signs can be used if approved by the Fire Marshal when the red sign will blend in with the background. Hallway/corridor fire exit markings shall be located at floor level no greater than twenty five (25) feet apart indicating closest fire exit. Fire exit doors will be indicated on the door as FIRE EXIT. The lettering on the doors is to be a minimum of six (6) inched in height. Markings and signs shall be approved by the Fire Marshal.

G. CHAPTER 7: EMERGENCY PLANING AND PREPAREDNESS:

1. SECTION F-708.0 PREMISS IDENTIFICATION:

- a. **Section F-708.1 Premiss Identification:** Approved numbers or addresses shall be permanently placed on all new and existing buildings in such a position as to be plainly visible and legible from the street or road fronting the property. Said numbers shall contrast with their background. The owner or occupant of any commercial or other non-residential structure in addition to posting the street number assigned to be posted conspicuously on the street side of the structure, shall, in the event that there is a rear access door to such structure, post such number or facility name on such rear access door in a manner as to be clearly visible and legible.

H. CHAPTER 21: WASTE MATERIAL AND JUNK YARDS:

1. SECTION F-2104.0 Dumpsters: Addition

- a. **Section F- 2104.1 Dumpsters:** Commercial, industrial, institutional, educational and multi-family buildings using dumpsters to accumulate trash, combustible refuse and recyclables shall locate such dumpsters at least fifteen (15) feet from the nearest structure. Where it is impractical to comply with this requirement this requirement may be waived by the Fire Marshal if, in his opinion, the placement does not constitute a fire hazard, or the installation of automatic fire protection are provided.

I. CHAPTER 30: EXPLOSIVES, AMMUNITION AND BLASTING AGENTS:

1. **Section F-3003.2 Storage is amended to include:** The storage of explosive materials is prohibited within limitations established by law as the limitations of the township where such storage is prohibited. Storage when permitted must be within state and federal limits.

J. CHAPTER 31: FIREWORKS:

1. SECTION F- 3103.3.2 IS ADDED:

- a. **Section F-3103.3.2 Notification:** The operator of the fireworks display shall meet with the Fire Marshal and the Fire Chief, or their designers, to review the proposed display and establish pre-plans for the event, at least 10 days prior to the event.

2. SECTION F-3103.4 IS DELETED.

K. CHAPTER 32: FLAMMABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS:

1. SECTION F-3206.3.3: Shall provide as follows:

- A. **Section F-3206.3.3:** Dispensing of flammable or combustible liquids into motor vehicles at self service gasoline stations with ten or less positions available for the dispensing of flammable or combustible liquids is permitted when the following conditions are met:

1. There is at least one attendant on duty while the station is open to the public. This attendant shall be required to remain within fifteen feet (15') of the main power shut off switch at all times when flammable or combustible liquid is being dispensed.
2. Each pump island shall be equipped with a fire suppression system which has been approved by the Fire Marshal.
3. All pumps shall be made visible to the attendant on duty at all times by means of optical or electronic devices regardless of the nature of the vehicle parked there/at.
4. If the attendant on duty is stationed in a control room, no gasoline may be dispensed when the attendant is outside that booth or room.

2. **SECTION F-3206.3.4: Shall provide as follows:** Dispensing of flammable or combustible liquids to motor vehicles at self service gasoline stations with more than ten positions available for the dispensing of flammable or combustible liquids into motor vehicles is permitted when the conditions set forth in;

- A. Section F-3206.3.4.1:** In addition to the attendant requirement to be on duty at all times while the station is open to the public for each additional ten positions available for the dispensing of flammable or combustible liquids an additional attendant must be on duty..
- 3. SECTION F-3206.3.5:** Shall provide as follows: A self service gasoline station at which food is sold other than food sold in vending machines shall comply with the regulations set forth above and in addition to the attendant or attendants required to be on duty as set forth above shall employ an additional attendant between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- 4. SECTION F-3206.3.6:** Shall provide as follows: For the purpose of the regulations set forth above the number of positions shall be determined by the maximum number of motor vehicles into which flammable or combustible can be dispensed at any one time. The number of positions shall not be determined by the number of dispensing nozzles.
- 5. SECTION F-3206.3.7: Spill Control:** The facility must have on site and readily available to the attendant spill control devices.
- 6. SECTION F-3206.3.8: Emergency Procedures:** Attendant is to be trained in emergency procedures.
- 7. SECTION F-3210.3 shall provide as follows: TANK TRUCK PARKING:** The parking of any vehicle capable of containing more than 150 gallons of a class I or class II flammable or combustible material is not permitted to be left unattended, standing or parked within any residential section of the Township of East Norriton.

95-4 APPENDIX A : shall become part of the fire code. For purposes of this code the definition of Fire Prevention Code Official shall mean the Fire Marshal of the Township of East Norriton or the Fire Chief of the Norriton Fire Engine Company or their duly authorized representatives.

**Section 1. ADOPTION OF FIRE CONTROL MEASURES AND REGULATIONS
ADD EAST NORRITON TOWNSHIP**

**Section 6. Definition of authorized emergency vehicle.
Add Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**

Section 20. Effective date. Add date of approval July 10, 1995

95-5 SECTION IV. SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this ordinance are severable, and if any section, sentence, clause, part of provision hereof shall be held illegal, invalid, or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision of the court shall not affect or impair the remaining sections, sentences, clauses, part or provisions of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Board of Supervisors of East Norriton Township that this Ordinance would have been adopted if such illegal, invalid or unconstitutional section, sentence, clause, part or provisions has not been included herein.

95-6 SECTION V. REPEALER.

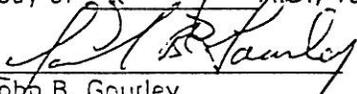
All other ordinances, rules, regulations, policies or procedures, or parts of any of them, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

95-7 SECTION VI. SAVINGS CLAUSE

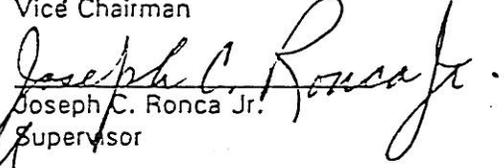
Should any part or parts of this ordinance be found to be void by a Court competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall remain in full effect.

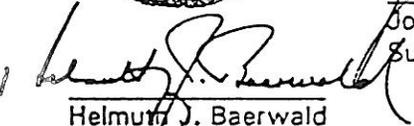
ORDAINED AND ENACTED by Board of Supervisors of East Norriton Township, this 10th day of July A.D., 1995.




John B. Gourley
Chairman


Lewis K. McQuirns
Vice Chairman


Joseph C. Ronca Jr.
Supervisor


Helmut J. Baerwald
Secretary

JNP:95fireco.fm