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There is hereby adopted by the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg for the purpose of prescribing regulations governing conditions hazardous to life and property, that certain code known as the Fire Prevention Code, Abbreviated Edition, recommended by the American Insurance Association, being particularly the 1970 Edition thereof and the whole thereof, save and except such portions as are hereinafter deleted, modified or amended, of which code not less than three copies have been and now are filed in the Office of the Secretary of Council and the same are hereby adopted and incorporated as fully as if set out at length herein, and from the date on which this Part shall take effect, the provisions thereof shall be controlling within the limits of the Borough of Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania. (Ord. 510, 4/10/1972, §1)

§102. Amendments to Code.

The Fire Prevention Code shall be amended as follows:

1. Throughout the Fire Prevention Code, 1970 Edition Abbreviated, recommended by the American Insurance Association, and the amendments made thereto by the Borough, the “Fire Marshal” and the “Chief of the Fire Department” are interchangeable and shall for all purposes, unless clearly indicated otherwise, be one and the same person and office.

2. Section 8 (Penalties) of the said Fire Prevention Code, Ordinance No. 528, enacted on September 9, 1974 is herewith amended so that the maximum fine allowable for a violation is increased from $100 to $300. [Ord. 577]

3. Section 60 (Survey of Premises and Specification of Equipment) [Ord. 600]
   A. The Chief of the Fire Department shall survey each assembly, educational, industrial, institutional, mercantile, storage, and residential occupancy, including dwelling units of multi-family buildings and dwellings, and shall specify suitable fire extinguishing appliances and fire-detecting devices as may be necessary to provide reasonable safety to persons and property. This provision is applicable only to new construction.
   B. All specifications recommended by the Chief of the Fire Department shall be in accordance with existing National Fire Protection Association Code Standards and the existing National Fire Protection Association Life Safety Code Handbook. The recommendations shall include but not be limited to automatic detection systems, automatic extinguishing systems, hydrant loca-
tions, alarm systems and mechanical safety devices that provide life safety features.

4. Section 160(A), Article 16 of the said fire prevention code, shall be amended to read as follows:

A. No person shall cause, suffer or permit the open burning of any material except that this provision shall not apply to:

1. Any fire set to prevent or abate a fire hazard;

2. Any fire when set by or under the supervision of a public officer;

3. Any fire set for the purpose of instructing personnel in fire fighting;

4. Any fire set for the prevention and control of disease or pests;

5. Any fire set for the purpose of burning domestic refuse, when the fire is on the premises of any structure occupied solely as a dwelling by two families or less and when such refuse results from the normal occupancy of said structure;

6. Any fire set solely for recreational or ceremonial;

7. Any fire set solely for cooking food;

8. Any fire set for the burning of nonrecyclable paper, corrugated paper, nonrecyclable cardboard (cereal boxes) and nonrecyclable yard waste, brush and other nonrecyclable wood products must be at least 15 feet from any building or structure, and when any said such material is burned, the same shall be placed in a container or be under the immediate control of some person so that there shall not be any scattering of the burning material. Said burning is permitted only on Saturday mornings between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

(Ord. 510, 4/10/1972, §2; as amended by Ord. 539, 10/14/1975, by Ord. 577, 6/11/1979; by Ord. 600, 10/12/1982; and by Ord. 812, 9/15/2005, §102)

§103. Enforcement.

The Code hereby adopted shall be enforced by an Officer to be known as the Fire Marshal, who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of Council.

1. The Fire Marshal shall be under the jurisdiction and supervision of the Mayor.

2. The Fire Marshal shall receive compensation as determined from time to time by resolution of the Council.
3. The Fire Marshal shall have power to arrest and file information against violators of the Fire Prevention Code adopted by the Borough.

4. The Fire Marshal shall have such additional powers and duties as may hereafter be prescribed from time to time by resolution of the Council.

(Ord. 528, 9/9/1974, §4; as amended by Ord. 577, 6/11/1979, §1)

§104. Definition.

Wherever the word “Municipality” is used in the Code hereby adopted, it shall be held to mean the Borough of Hollidaysburg. (Ord. 528, 9/9/1974, §5)

§105. Modifications.

The Fire Marshal shall have power to modify any of the provisions of the Code hereby adopted upon application in writing by the owner or lessee, or his duly authorized agent, when there are practical difficulties in the way of carrying out the strict letter of the Code, provided that the spirit of the Code shall be observed, public safety secured, and substantial justice done. The particulars of such modification when granted or allowed and the decision of the Fire Marshal thereon shall be entered upon his records and a signed copy shall be furnished the applicant. (Ord. 528, 9/9/1974, §6)

§106. Appeals.

Whenever the Fire Marshal shall disapprove an application or refuse to grant a permit applied for, or when it is claimed that the provisions of the Code do not apply or that the true intent and meaning of the Code have been misconstrued or wrongly interpreted, the applicant may appeal from the decision of the Fire Marshall to the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg, within 30 days from the date of the decision appealed. (Ord. 528, 9/9/1974, §7)

§107. Penalties.

1. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of the Code hereby adopted or fail to comply therewith, or who shall violate or fail to comply with any order made thereunder, or who shall build in violation of any detailed statement of specifications or plan submitted and approved thereunder, or any certificate or permit issued thereunder, and from which no appeal has been taken, or who shall fail to comply with such an order as affirmed or modified by the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg or by a court of competent jurisdiction, within the time fixed herein, shall severally for each and every such violation and noncompliance respectively, pay a fine of not more than $1,000 or to imprisonment for not more
than 30 days or by both such fine and imprisonment. The imposition of one penalty for any violation shall not excuse the violation or permit it to continue; and all such persons shall be required to correct or remedy such violations or defects within a reasonable time; and when not otherwise specified, each 10 days that prohibited conditions are maintained shall constitute a separate offense.

2. The application of the above penalty shall not be held to prevent the enforced removal of prohibited conditions.

(Ord. 528, 9/9/1974, §8; as amended by Ord. 626, 4/13/1987; and by Ord. 640, 4/10/1989, §11)

* Ord. 640, §11, incorrectly referenced Chapter 6, Part 7.
Part 2
Smoke Detectors

§201. Purpose.

The Borough of Hollidaysburg deems it to be in the best interest for the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of Hollidaysburg that a smoke detector ordinance be adopted. (Ord. 587, 4/14/1980, §1)


For the purposes of this Part, a “dwelling unit” shall include a husband and wife and their children living together; a husband and wife living together; a person living in a separate quarter as a bachelor; two or more persons living together in the same living quarters. (Ord. 587, 4/14/1980, §2)

§203. Smoke Detectors Required.

All residential buildings, including but not limited to, hotels, motels, nursing homes, lodging houses, boarding houses and dormitory buildings, except those where a maximum of one or two dwelling units occupy the same building, shall be required to install smoke detectors as prescribed by this Part. (Ord. 587, 4/14/1980, §3)

§204. Detectors Required for Separate Sleeping Areas.

Where required, at least one smoke detector shall be installed to protect each sleeping area. A “sleeping area” is defined as the area of the family living quarters in which the bedrooms (or sleeping areas) are located. In the case where only sleeping areas are provided or used or rented out, or where the premises are occupied for sleeping purposes only, one smoke detector shall be provided in each sleeping room. (Ord. 587, 4/14/1980, §4)

§205. Placement of Detectors.

The Borough Fire Marshal shall promulgate rules concerning the placement of smoke detectors in dwellings, apartment houses, hotels, motels, lodging houses, dormitories, condominiums, town houses, and other residential dwellings where smoke detectors are required under this Part. The rules shall take into account the designs of sleeping areas and dwelling units. (Ord. 587, 4/14/1980, §5)
§206. Power Source and Detection Types.

All smoke detectors shall be powered from an AC primary source of electric power; no battery-powered detectors shall be installed. The power source for the detectors shall be on the power side, ahead of any switches. All detectors shall be provided with a visible “Power On” indicator. Smoke detectors shall be a smoke-detecting alarm device, single station. They shall contain an assembly comprised of a photoelectric or ionization type, which is capable of sensing visible or invisible particles of combustion which activates the alarm upon detection. The detector device shall meet the requirements of Underwriters, Inc. or Factory Mutual Testing Systems, or be approved by the International Conference of Building Officials, and shall be installed in accordance with the provisions of the latest edition of the National Electrical Code, as published by the National Fire Protection Association. (Ord. 587, 4/14/1980, §6)

§207. Owner’s Responsibilities.

It shall be the duty and responsibility of the owners of the residential buildings covered by the terms of this Part to install the smoke detector devices required herein and to maintain the same in proper working order. (Ord. 587, 4/14/1980, §7)

§208. Time for Compliance.

The owners of those residential buildings where smoke detectors are herein required shall fully comply with the installation of smoke detectors under the terms and conditions of this Part within six months from the effective date of this Part [4/14/1980]. (Ord. 587, 4/14/1980, §8)

§209. Fire Sprinkler Systems.

An approved automatic fire sprinkler system may be installed in lieu of smoke detectors when approved by the Borough Fire Marshal. This option shall not nullify any other requirements of this Part, nor be construed as exempting any occupancy from the requirements of this Part where clearly applicable under the terms of this Part. (Ord. 587, 4/14/1980, §9)

§210. Borough to be Held Harmless.

Approval by the Fire Marshal of any smoke detector device or of the location or installation of any smoke detector, or of any action or requirement of this Part shall not make the Borough Fire Marshal or the Borough of Hollidaysburg liable for any malfunction of any such equipment, or for any other deficiency in the placement, operation, or location of the smoke detector, or for any damage of any kind or nature whatsoever. Neither the Borough Fire Marshal nor the Borough of Hollidaysburg guarantee the effectiveness of the equipment, smoke detector or any other manner or thing in and about the installa-
§211. Enforcement.

Enforcement of this Part shall be under the supervision of the Fire Marshal. (Ord. 587, 4/14/1980, §11)

§212. Penalties.

Any person, partnership, association, corporation, organization, or other entity, or any executive officer of any association, corporation, organization, or other entity, who or which shall violate or fail to perform any of the provisions of this Part is guilty of a summary offense and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than $1,000, payable to the Borough of Hollidaysburg, and costs of prosecution, or to imprisonment in the Blair County Jail for not more than 30 days, or both, and prosecution for every such violation shall be according to the practice in the case of summary convictions. Each day the violation continues shall be considered a separate offense. (Ord. 587, 4/14/1980, §12; as amended by Ord. 640, 4/10/1989, §12)

§213. Tampering With or Removal of Detectors.

In addition to any other penalty provided herein, any person who tampers with a smoke detector installed under the provisions of this Part, or who shall have removed the same from the premises or area from which the same had been installed, shall be prosecuted under the terms and conditions of all statutes of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and/or ordinances of the Borough of Hollidaysburg, including any such statute and/or ordinance relating to malicious mischief, and be subject to the full penalties provided by any such statute and/or ordinance. (Ord. 587, 4/14/1980, §13)
Part 3

Abandoned Underground Tanks

§301. Abandoned Tanks; Notice to Remove.

Whenever an underground tank containing petroleum products is abandoned, the Fire Marshal of the Borough of Hollidaysburg will be notified and he may require its removal. A tank not in use for three months shall be presumed to be abandoned. (Ord. 535, 5/12/1975, §1)


Upon the removal of an abandoned tank previously used for petroleum products, the following procedures shall be adhered to:

1. All liquid shall be removed from the tank and connecting lines.
2. The suction, inlet, gauge and vent lines shall be disconnected.
3. All connecting lines not to be used further shall be capped or plugged at the open ends.
4. All capped or plugged inlets and outlets shall remain so during the transportation of the tank.
5. After removal the tank shall be gas freed on the premises if it can be done safely at that location, or shall, be transported to an area not accessible to the public and the gas freeing completed at that location.
6. If a tank is disposed of as junk, it shall be retested for flammable vapors and rendered gas free.

(Ord. 535, 5/12/1975, §2)

§303. Procedures if Tank Abandoned in Place.

If a tank is permitted to be abandoned in place all liquid shall be removed and suction, inlet, gauge and vent lines disconnected. The tank and remaining stubs filled completely with non-shrinking inert solid material. (Ord. 535, 5/12/1975, §3)
§304. Penalties.

Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provision of this Part 3 shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than $1,000; and/or to imprisonment for a term not to exceed 30 days. Every day that a violation of this Part 3 continues shall constitute a separate offense. (Ord. 535, 5/12/1975, §4; as amended by Ord. 626, 4/13/1987; and by Ord. 640, 4/10/1989, §13)
Part 4

Open Burning

§401. Title.

This Part shall be known as the “Borough of Hollidaysburg Open Burning Ordinance.”
(Ord. 812, 9/15/2005, §401)

§402. Definitions.

1. For the purpose of interpreting the provisions of this Part, the following words and phrases shall have the meaning or meanings ascribed:

GARBAGE — all crockery, dishes, ashes, cinders, rubber, linoleum, asphalt or tarry products (e.g., roofing paper and shingles), grease and animal products, vegetable or food waste.

PERSON — any natural person or persons, corporation, partnership, association or any other entity.

2. All other terms and phrases shall have the meaning or meanings ascribed to them in the Air Pollution Control Act, 35 Pa.C.S.A. § 4000 et seq., the Solid Waste Management Act, 35 Pa.C.S.A. § 4000.101, and all ordinances of the Borough enacted pursuant to said Acts.

(Ord. 812, 9/15/2005, §402)

§403. Open Burning Permitted.

A person shall be permitted to conduct open burning, as follows:

A. On Saturdays from 7:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. for the purpose of burning only nonrecyclable paper, corrugated paper, nonrecyclable cardboard (cereal boxes) and nonrecyclable yard waste, brush and other nonrecyclable wood products when the fire is on the premises of any structure occupied solely as a dwelling by two families or less and only when such refuse results from the normal occupancy of said structure.

B. For the purpose of preventing or abating a fire hazard, when approved by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and when set by or under the supervision of a public officer designated by the Borough of Hollidaysburg.
C. For the purpose of instructing personnel in firefighting, when approved by DEP.

D. For the prevention and control of disease or pests, when approved by DEP.

E. For the disposal of debris resulting from a storm or natural disaster, when approved by DEP.

F. For recreational or ceremonial purposes, provided that the material to be burned is nonrecyclable material.

G. For cooking food, provided that the material to be burned is nonrecyclable material. For purposes of this Part, the cooking of food on a grill fueled by charcoal or propane gas shall not be considered open burning so long as said grills have a lid and meet Federal and State safety standards.

H. For the purpose of clearing and grubbing brush from undeveloped land, when approved by DEP and when set by or under the supervision of a public officer designated by the Borough of Hollidaysburg. Said burning shall require a special permit, pursuant to §404(6) of this Part.

I. All other open burning is prohibited.

(Ord. 812, 9/15/2005, §403)

§404. Regulations.

1. Any and all open burning of any material shall be done in an approved container such as a metal barrel or concrete enclosure for any material burned pursuant to §403(A), (F) and (G), which must conform to DEP standards and to the following:

A. Said container must have a screen of sufficient strength to prevent ash or unburned material from being released from said container during or after burning has occurred.

B. Said container shall be within reach of an operating water faucet and/or operating garden hose and shall be placed on privately owned property, but in no event shall said container be placed closer than 10 feet from the property line of the person so burning.

C. Said container shall be at least 15 feet from any dwelling or structure, whether inhabited by humans or not.

D. Said container shall not be placed on or near any combustible material nor on the surface of any public street.
E. Any fire set pursuant to §403(A) of this Part shall be completely extinguished by 11:00 a.m. on Saturday. Any other burning pursuant to any other part of §403 of this Part shall be attended to until the fire is completely extinguished.

2. Any and all open burning shall be done under the consent and direct supervision of an adult individual of 18 years of age or older and shall not be done when a strong breeze or wind is active.

3. All containers used for open burning must be emptied on a monthly basis with the refuse therefrom to be taken to a landfill or composted, and in no event shall such burned refuse be permitted to accumulate and/or cause unsightliness, odors and/or attract vermin.

4. All open burning must be carried out in a manner to prevent the emission of noxious or offensive smoke and/or odors.

5. No open burning shall cause emissions which interfere with the reasonable enjoyment of life or property.

6. Prior to any open burning for the purposes of clearing and/or grubbing undeveloped land, and upon receipt of approval from DEP, the property owner shall obtain a burning permit from the Borough for a fee to be determined by the Hollidaysburg Borough Council.

(Ord. 812, 9/15/2005, §404)


It shall be unlawful for any person to burn those materials which are prohibited under any and all local, State and Federal laws, including but not limited to the following materials:

A. Leaves, leaf waste and grass clippings (dried or otherwise).

B. Clear glass, colored glass, aluminum, steel and bimetallic cans, high-grade office paper, newsprint (newspaper), plastic and any and all other source-separated recyclable material.

C. Garbage.

D. Hazardous waste.

E. Any substance which interferes with the reasonable enjoyment of life or property or is deleterious to human or animal health.

(Ord. 812, 9/15/2005, §405)
§406. Remedies and Penalties.

1. Removal by Borough. The Borough of Hollidaysburg, through its authorized agents or employees, may give written or verbal notice to the person, whether owner or occupant, to abate or eliminate or correct any violations of this Part, and upon failure of the person, whether owner or occupant, to do so within the time specified by said notice, the Borough of Hollidaysburg may abate or eliminate or correct the violation and collect the cost and expenses thereof, together with a penalty of not less than $25 or more than $1,000, from the owner or occupant by court proceedings or in the manner provided for the collection of municipal claims or by an action of assumpsit without the filing of a claim.

2. Equitable Proceedings. The Borough of Hollidaysburg may institute proceedings in the civil division of the Court of Common Pleas of Blair County for equitable relief in enforcing the provisions of this Part.

3. Criminal Offense. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Part shall be guilty of a criminal offense and, upon conviction thereof by proceedings brought in the name of the Borough of Hollidaysburg before any district magisterial judge, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than $25 nor more than $1,000, together with the costs of prosecution, and in default of payment to undergo imprisonment for a period of not more than 90 days. Each day such violation is committed or permitted to continue shall constitute a separate offense and shall be punishable as such.

(Ord.812, 9/15/2005, §406)

§407. Amendment to Local, State or Federal Law.

In the event that any local, State or Federal law relating to open burning is amended or supplemented or any of the regulations promulgated under said laws are amended or supplemented, then in such event, said laws and/or regulations shall be incorporated into this Part, and this Part, as amended, shall be enforceable. (Ord. 812, 9/15/2005, §407)
Part 5

Recovery of Costs


The Borough of Hollidaysburg hereby authorizes the Phoenix Volunteer Fire Company to collect from persons who use their services as a result of a call from that person using the said services a sum sufficient to reimburse the said fire company in full for the time and effort spent by the said volunteer agency. (Ord. 744, 7/17/1997, §501)

§502. Right of Borough.

The Borough shall have the right to ask for reimbursement where services are rendered by the said Borough under similar circumstances at the request of a party. (Ord. 744, 7/17/1997, §502)

§503. Remedies.

The Borough shall have the right, in the event that the said payment is not made, to pursue these remedies in the Court of Common Pleas of Blair County and to turn the successful completion of these processes over to the respective company which had rendered the services. (Ord. 744, 7/17/1997, §503)

§504. Charges.

For the purposes of this Part, the charges for use of Borough of Phoenix Volunteer Fire Company emergency services equipment, materials and personnel shall be established by resolution of the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg. (Ord. 744, 7/17/1997, §504)
Part 6

Fireworks

§601. General.

1. Scope. The manufacture of fireworks is prohibited within the Borough of Hollidaysburg. The display or discharge of fireworks shall comply with the requirements of this Part.

2. Permit Required. A permit shall be obtained from the Borough Manager or his designee for the display or discharge of fireworks.

3. Permit Applications. Application for permits shall be made in writing at least 15 days in advance of the date of the display or discharge of fireworks. The possession, use and distribution of fireworks for such display shall be lawful under the terms and conditions approved with the permit and for that purpose only. A permit granted hereunder shall not be transferable, nor shall any such permit be extended beyond the dates set out therein, except as provided in subsection (5) of this Section.

4. Permit Fee. A permit fee shall be paid to the Borough prior to the issuance of a permit under this Part. Council shall set this fee for this permit by resolution, with the initial permit fee being established $25 per event or $50 per year.

5. Permit Extension. If by reason of unfavorable weather the display for which a permit has been granted does not take place at the time so authorized, the person to whom such permit was issued may within 24 hours apply to the authority having granted the same, setting forth under oath the fact that such display was not made, giving the reason therefore, and requesting a continuance of such permit for a day designated therein, not later than one week after the day fixed originally in said permit. Upon receiving such application for a continuance the said authority, if it believes the facts stated therein are true, shall extend the provisions of said permit to the day fixed in said application, not later than one week after the original day designated in the permit, and such extension of time shall be granted without the payment of any additional fee and without requiring any bond other than the one given for the original permit, the provisions of which shall extend to and cover all damages which may be caused by reasons of the said display taking place at such extended date in the same manner and to the same extent as if such display had taken place at the date originally fixed in the permit.

6. Definition.

A. The term “fireworks” shall mean and include any combustible or explosive composition or any substance or combination of substances, or, except as hereinafter provided, any article prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation.
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section and shall include blank cartridges and toy cannons in which explosives are used, the type of balloons which require fire underneath to propel the same, firecrackers, torpedoes, skyrockets, roman candles, aerial fireworks or other fireworks of like construction and any fireworks containing any explosive or flammable compound or any tablets or other device containing an explosive substance.

B. The term “fireworks” shall not include sparklers, toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns other devices in which paper caps containing .025 grains or less of explosive compound are used, providing they are so constructed that the hand cannot come in contact with the cap when in place for the explosion, and toy pistol paper caps which contain less than .020 grains of explosive mixture, the sale and use of which shall be permitted at all times, nor shall the term “fireworks” include toy cannons which operate on the principle of mixing calcium carbide, weighing less than 1/10 of an ounce, and water in the reservoir of the cannon and in which ignition results upon the creation of a spark.

(Ord. 760, 7/1/1999, §1)

§602. Display and Discharge.

1. General.

A. It shall be a violation of this Part for any person to store, or use or explode any fireworks, except as provided in the rules and regulations issued by the fire official for the granting of permits for supervised public displays of fireworks by the Borough, fair associations, amusements parks and other organizations.

B. Every such display shall be handled by a competent operator approved by the Borough Council. The fireworks shall be arranged, located, discharged or fired in a manner that, in the opinion of the Fire Marshal, will not be a hazard to property or endanger any person.

2. Bond for Display. The permittee shall furnish a bond in an amount deemed adequate by the Borough Manager but not less than $500, conditioned for the payment of all damages which may be caused either to a person or persons or to property by reason of the permitted display, and arising from any acts of the permittee, the permittee’s agents, employees or subcontractors.

3. Insurance. The applicant shall procure and maintain a policy or policies of public liability and property damage insurance issued by a company or companies authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in the following minimum amounts: $500,000 for injuries to any one person in one accident or occurrence; $1,000,000 for injuries to two or more persons in any one accident or occurrence; $500,000 for damage to property in any one accident or occurrence;
$1,000,000 combined single limit for any one accident or occurrence. In addition, the Borough is to be an additional named insured, and the policy shall provide for the immediate notification of the Borough by the insurer of any cancellation of any policy.

4. Disposal of Unfired Fireworks. Unfired fireworks and trash that remain after the display is concluded shall be immediately disposed of in a safe manner approved by the Fire Marshal.

5. Seizure of Fireworks. The Fire Marshal shall seize, take, remove or cause to be removed at the expense of the owner, all stocks of fireworks offered or exposed for display, stored or held in violation of this Part.

6. Penalties. Any persons, firm or corporation who shall violate any provision of this Part shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than $1,000 and/or to imprisonment for a term not to exceed 90 days. Every day that a violation of this Part continues shall constitute a separate offense.

(Ord. 760, 7/1/1999, §2)