

Chapter 6

**FIRE PROTECTION AND PREVENTION\***

- Art. I. In General, §§ 6-1—6-19**  
**Art. II. Fire Prevention Code, §§ 6-20—6-29**

**ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL**

**Sec. 6-1. Rules on storage and display of firearms and ammunition.**

(a) Every person engaged in the business of selling firearms or ammunition or both shall comply with the following rules:

- (1) No ammunition shall be displayed on an open counter or in any other place readily accessible to the public.
- (2) No ammunition or firearms shall be displayed in windows or display areas when the business is not regularly open.
- (3) During any period in which firearms or ammunition or both are unattended, they shall be stored in a place meeting the requirement of regulations promulgated by the chief of police under authority of this section, or, if no such regulations have been promulgated, in a place difficult of access to unauthorized persons.

(b) The chief of police is authorized to promulgate regulations governing the construction, location, and accessibility of storage places for firearms and ammunition required to be used by this section. The chief of police may adopt any regulations under this authority that in such chief's judgment will reasonably and effectively serve to prevent unauthorized persons from obtaining the stored firearms and ammunition. The chief of police shall take reasonable steps to notify all persons that such chief can reasonably identify as being affected by the regulations of their requirements. The notification shall sufficiently precede the effective date of the regulations to permit compliance with them. The chief of police shall maintain on file an official copy of the regulations.

(Code 1976, 10.131, 10.132; Ord. No. O-04-03, 3-6-03)

**Sec. 6-2. Blasting—Precautions to prevent damage; who may blast.**

Every person engaged in blasting shall take all necessary precautions to make such blasting harmless to both person and property. Only experienced blasters, authorized thereto by a permit issued pursuant to the provisions of section 6-3, shall superintend or carry on as a laborer any blasting operation.

(Code 1976, 4.39; Ord. No. O-04-03, 3-6-03)

**\*Editor's note**—Ord. No. O-04-03, adopted March 6, 2003, amended Ch. 6 in its entirety to read as herein set out.

**Cross references**—Fire limits, § 4-5; accumulation of rubbish, § 7-21.

**Sec. 6-3. Same—Permit for blasting.**

**Editor’s note**—Ord. No. O-04-03, adopted March 6, 2003, omitted this section, which had previously derived from § 4.40 of the 1976 Code.

**Secs. 6-4—6-19. Reserved.**

**ARTICLE II. FIRE PREVENTION CODE**

**Sec. 6-20. Code adopted.**

The city does hereby establish rules and regulations to improve public safety by promoting the control of fire hazards; regulating the installation, use, and maintenance of equipment; regulating the use of structures, premises, and open areas; providing for the abatement of fire hazards; establishing the responsibilities and procedures for code enforcement; and setting forth the standards for compliance and achievement of these objectives. This code was adopted in accordance with the 2000 International Fire Code with North Carolina Amendments. The code shall be called the North Carolina Fire Prevention Code adopted January 1, 2002.

**SECTION 106  
INSPECTION SCHEDULES**

In order to preserve and to protect public health and safety, and to satisfy the requirements of G.S. 153A-364 and 160A-424, political subdivisions assuming inspection duties, as set in G.S. 153A-351 and 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. Such inspection schedule shall be approved by the local governing body and shall be submitted to the Division of Engineering of the Department of Insurance by January 1, 1993. In no case may inspections be conducted less frequently than described in the schedule below:

Once every year	Hazardous, institutional, high-rise, assembly and residential, except one-family and two-family dwellings, and only interior common areas of dwelling units of multifamily occupancies.
Once every two years	Industrial and educational, except public schools.
Once every three years	Business, mercantile, storage, churches and synagogues.

Frequency rates for inspections of occupancies as mandated by the NC General Statutes shall supersede this schedule. Nothing in this section is intended to prevent a jurisdiction from conducting more frequent inspections than the schedule listed above or the schedule filed with the engineering division of the state department of insurance.

On unattended or abandoned structures, the fire official shall affix a letter on the premises in a conspicuous place at or near the entrance to such premises requesting an inspection in accordance with Section 106 of this Code [fire prevention code]. This order of notice shall be mailed by registered or certified mail, with return receipt requested, to the last known address

of the owner, occupant, or both. If the owner, occupant or both shall fail to respond to said within ten (10) calendar days, these actions by the fire official shall be deemed to constitute an inspection in accordance with this section.

(Ord. No. O-04-03, 3-6-03)

**Sec. 6-21. Violations of code.**

**Editor's note**—Ord. No. O-04-03, adopted March 6, 2003, omitted this section, which had previously derived from §§ 2 and 15 of an ordinance adopted Jan. 1, 1986.

**Sec. 6-22. Enforcement officer; inspectors.**

The fire chief shall be responsible for the enforcement of the fire prevention code. The fire chief may detail qualified members of the fire department as inspectors as shall from time to time be necessary.

(Ord. of 1-1-86, § 3; Ord. No. O-04-03, 3-6-03)

**Sec. 6-23. Applicability to property and occupancies.**

The provisions of the fire prevention code shall apply equally to both public and private property, and it shall apply to all structures and their occupancies, except as otherwise specified.

(Ord. of 1-1-86, § 13; Ord. No. O-04-03, 3-6-03)

**Sec. 6-24. Recommending amendments.**

The fire chief shall recommend any amendments to the fire prevention code which shall be desirable.

(Ord. of 1-1-86, § 12; Ord. No. O-04-03, 3-6-03)

**Sec. 6-25. Specific amendments.**

**Editor's note**—Ord. No. O-04-03, adopted March 6, 2003, omitted this section, which had previously derived from §§ 16—18 of an ordinance adopted Jan. 1, 1986.

**Sec. 6-26. No fees.**

**Editor's note**—Ord. No. O-04-03, adopted March 6, 2003, omitted this section, which had previously derived from § 19 of an ordinance adopted Jan. 1, 1986.

**Sec. 6-27. Liberal construction.**

**Editor's note**—Ord. No. O-04-03, adopted March 6, 2003, omitted this section, which had previously derived from § 14 of an ordinance adopted Jan. 1, 1986.

**Sec. 6-28. Inspections prior to issuance of permits.**

Before permits may be issued as required by the fire prevention code, the fire inspector shall inspect and approve the receptacles, processes, vehicles, buildings, or storage places to be used for any such purposes.

(Ord. of 1-1-86, § 7; Ord. No. O-04-03, 3-6-03)

**[Sec. 6-29.] Fire limits.**

The following fire limits are established and defined:

Beginning at a point at intersection of Sycamore and Poplar Streets on north side of Sycamore Street, and runs north along east side of North Poplar Street one hundred feet to a point on east side of North Poplar Street; thence West, one hundred feet north of and parallel with, Sycamore Street, across North Poplar Street, North Academy Street and North Aspen Street to a point in North Government Street one hundred feet north of Sycamore Street; thence south along Government Street across Sycamore Street, West Main Street and West Water Street to a point in Government Street one hundred feet south of West Water Street; thence east, one hundred feet south of and parallel with Water Street, across South Aspen Street, South Academy Street and C. & N.W. railway tracks to a point on east side of South Poplar Street, one hundred feet south of Water Street; thence along east side of Poplar Street across East Water Street, East Main Street and East Sycamore Street to the beginning.

(Ord. No. O-04-03, 3-6-03)

**State law reference**—Establishment of fire limits, G.S. 160A-435.436.