Q: When is a construction permit required under the County’s Fire Code in Chapter 30.53A SCC?

A: A construction permit is required by the County’s Fire Code in Chapter 30.53A of the Snohomish County Code (SCC) for the following:

- **Automatic fire-extinguishing systems:** installation of or modification to an automatic fire-extinguishing system. Maintenance performed in accordance with the fire code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.

- **Battery systems:** installation of stationary storage battery systems having a liquid capacity of more than 50 gallons (189 L).

- **Compressed gases:** to install, repair damage, abandon, remove, place temporarily out of service, or modify a compressed gas system.
  - Exceptions:
    1. Routine maintenance.
    2. For emergency repair work performed on an emergency basis, the fire marshal shall be contacted within two working days of commencement of work to determine if an operational permit is required.

- **Cryogenic fluids:** installation of or an alteration to outdoor stationary cryogenic fluid storage systems. Maintenance performed in accordance with the fire code is not considered a modification and does not require a construction permit.

- **Fire alarms and detection systems:** installation of or modification to fire alarm and detection systems and related equipment. Maintenance performed in accordance with the fire code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.

- **Fire pumps and related equipment:** installation of or modification to fire pumps and related fuel tanks, jockey pumps, controllers, and generators. Maintenance performed in accordance with the fire code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.

- **Flammable and combustible liquids:** (1) To install, repair, or modify a pipeline for the transportation of flammable or combustible liquids. (2) To install, construct, or alter tank vehicles, equipment, tanks, plants, terminals, wells, fuel-dispensing stations, refineries, distilleries and similar facilities where flammable and combustible liquids are produced, processed, transported, stored, dispensed or used. (3) To install, alter, remove, abandon or otherwise dispose of a flammable or combustible liquid tank.

- **Gates and barricades across fire access roads:** installation and maintenance of gates or other approved barricades across fire apparatus access roads, trails or other access ways, not including public streets, alleys, or highways.
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- **Hazardous materials**: to install, repair damage to, abandon, remove, place temporarily out of service, or close or substantially modify a storage facility or other area regulated by chapter 50 of the IFC.
  
  Exceptions:
  
  (1) Routine maintenance.
  
  (2) Emergency repair work for which an application for permit is made within two working days of commencement of work.

- **Industrial ovens**: installation of industrial ovens covered by chapter 30 of the IFC.
  
  Exceptions:
  
  (1) Routine maintenance.
  
  (2) For repair work for which an application for permit is made within two working days of commencement of work.

- **Liquid petroleum gas systems**: installation of or modification to a liquid petroleum gas system.

- **Spraying or dipping**: to install or modify a spray room, dip tank or booth.

- **Standpipe systems**: installation, modification, or removal from service of a standpipe system. Maintenance performed in accordance with the fire code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.

- **Marijuana extraction systems**: to install a marijuana/cannabis extraction system regulated under WAC 314-55-104.

- **Underground supply piping for automatic sprinkler system**: for the installation of the portion of the underground water supply piping, public or private, supplying a water-based protection system. The permit shall apply to all underground piping and appurtenances downstream of the first control valve on the lateral piping or service line from the distribution main to one foot above finished floor of the facility with the fire protection system. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered to be a modification and does not require a permit.
  
  Exceptions:
  
  (1) When the underground piping is installed by the aboveground piping contractor.
  
  (2) Underground piping serves a fire protection system installed in accordance with NFPA 13D.

**Q: What fees are associated with a construction permit for the Fire Code?**

**A: **The fees associated with a construction permit can be found in Chapter 30.86 SCC. Most of the Fire Code related fees can be found in Table 30.86.430 of the Snohomish County Code, and others dealing with mechanical structures can be found in Table 30.86.400(10) or in Table 30.86.410.

**Q: What other permits are required by the Fire Code?**

**A: **Other permits required by the Fire Code include operational, (examples: aviation facilities, cutting and welding, emergency responder radio coverage systems, and private fire hydrant), fireworks, special events (examples: exhibits, trade shows, and amusement buildings) and open burn. For a complete list of the permits required under the County’s Fire Code please see Chapter 30.53A SCC.

For more information regarding a burn permit, please read Assistance Bulletin #68 “Burn Permit Ordinance”.