



Snohomish County
Planning and Development
Services

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ONLINE INFORMATION
www.snohomishcountywa.gov/1190



This Assistance Bulletin only applies to property within unincorporated Snohomish County and does not apply to property within incorporated city limits.

Fire Damage Repair

Revised July 2021

WWW.SNOCO.ORG

Keyword: Assistance Bulletins

Q: Do I need to get a building permit for repair work following a fire on my property?

A: Possibly. When a structure on your property has been damaged by fire, you will need a building permit for the repair work if it involves repair to the structural members, the emergency escape openings, or impacts compliance with the Washington State Energy Code.

Q: Do I need an inspection?

A: Possibly. An inspection is usually required before a repair permit is issued. The inspection will determine the damage and what repairs are needed to bring the building into conformity with building codes. If a structural engineer has been hired and provides documentation of damage and repair, an inspection report will not be required.

Q: How do I schedule an inspection?

A: After a fire, you may need to have an inspection to determine if permits will be required to repair the structure. To request an Inspection Report (IR):

- Go to mybuildingpermit.com
- Click on “Apply for Permit” and create a login/register (this login will be used each time you access this site).
- Choose Snohomish County as the jurisdiction and click on Start Application. The application pathway is Building > Single Family Residential > Inspection Only.
- Follow the prompts according to the specifics of your situation. **The fee is \$120.00** plus a 3% technology surcharge (\$3.60) for a total of **\$123.60**.

Q: Will I need building plans to get a damage repair permit?

A: Some minor repair permits do not require plans and are issued “subject to field inspection,” listing the conditions of the inspection report. A detailed site plan may be required. Inspections which reveal more extensive damage normally require plans for the repair permit.

Q: How much will the permit cost?

A: Building permit fees are based on the dollar value of the structural elements on the contract bid, which should be submitted when applying for the repair permit.

Q: What if the building is completely destroyed?

A: Buildings that are a total loss do not need an inspection report. The replacement residence will be processed as a “new residence.” NOTE: If the existing foundation is to be used for the replacement residence, a structural engineer’s report of adequacy may be required. Permit and plan check fees will be based on the square footage of the new structure.

Q: What do I need to include with my building permit application?

A: On **MyBuildingPermit.com** you will need to submit the following items:

- Completed residential application form (include the address and tax acct/parcel #);
- One set of plan drawings (if required by building inspector);
- One site plan to engineer scale;
- A copy of the Inspection Report (IR);
- Completed Health District Clearance form if the property is served by a septic system; and
- A narrative ~ brief, concise project description.

Q: What items will be required for the project review?

A: Your project review may include the following:

- Plans examination;
- Snohomish Health District review (if the property is served by a septic system);
- Flood Hazard review (if the property is in a flood hazard area); and/or
- A site review.

Q: What if my building has been damaged by flood, landslide, wind, or snow?

A: Contact PDS counter personnel for further information. Generally, repair or replacement of buildings in these situations will be similar to the process outlined above, but variations can occur. If you have any questions, please call (425) 388-3311 or email [Ask Permit Tech](#).