

CHAPTER 9 FIRE PREVENTION

Article I. In General.

- § 9-1. Intent of chapter; standards.
- § 9-2. "Approved" defined.
- § 9-3. Authority to enter premises.
- § 9-4. Inspection of premises.
- § 9-5. Power of inspector to order fire hazards removed or remedied.
- § 9-6. Compliance with order; appeal.
- § 9-7. Fire records.
- § 9-8. Taking fire apparatus beyond town limits.
- § 9-9. Speeding limitations - Suspension; appeal.
- § 9-10. Resisting or impeding firemen prohibited.

Article II. General precautions against fire.

- § 9-11. False alarms and false information.
- § 9-12. Tampering with fire hydrants.
- § 9-13. Burning combustible materials.
- § 9-14. Hot ashes.
- § 9-15. Stoves and heating devices; installation.
- § 9-16. Storage of oily waste and rags.
- § 9-17. Accumulation of rubbish.
- § 9-18. Obstruction of exits.
- § 9-19. Closing fire-doors and windows.
- § 9-20. Storage of matches.
- § 9-21. Bonfires.

Article III. Dry cleaning establishments.

- § 9-22. Requirements for operation and maintenance.

Article IV. Explosives, firearms, and similar devices.

- § 9-23. Definitions.
- § 9-24. Manufacturing prohibited.
- § 9-25. Discharge of fireworks, firearms, bows, and similar devices prohibited.
- § 9-26. Storage of explosives.
- § 9-27. Transportation of explosives - public conveyances.
- § 9-28. Same - Regulation of vehicles.
- § 9-29. Discharge of explosives.

Article V. Flammable liquids.

- § 9-30. Hazardous heating and lighting appliances.
- § 9-31. Restrictions on storage and use.
- § 9-32. Appeal.
- § 9-33. Extinguishers required.
- § 9-34. Smoking prohibited.

Article VI. Nitrocellulose motion picture film.

- § 9-35. Storage of film.
- § 9-36. Smoking prohibited.

Article VII. Oil burning equipment.

- § 9-37. Definitions.
- § 9-38. Permit required.
- § 9-39. Certificate of approval for oil burning equipment.
- § 9-40. Fuel oil.
- § 9-41. Use of non-automatic burner limited.
- § 9-42. Gravity feed to burner.
- § 9-43. Pressure tank feed.
- § 9-44. Installation of underground tanks.
- § 9-45. Installation of tanks inside buildings.
- § 9-46. Tank construction.
- § 9-47. Tank vents.
- § 9-48. Tank fill and overflow pipes.

- § 9-49. Oil gauging.
- § 9-50. Oil pumps.
- § 9-51. Piping.
- § 9-52. Valves.
- § 9-53. Preheating of oil.
- § 9-54. Oil burner controls.
- § 9-55. Electric wiring and equipment.
- § 9-56. Installation of burners.
- § 9-57. Modifications of requirements in unusual circumstances.
- § 9-58. Basement garage - Ventilation.
- § 9-59. Repair work.
- § 9-60. Cleaning with flammable liquids.
- § 9-61. Gasoline storage.
- § 9-62. Handling of gasoline and oil.
- § 9-63. Extinguishers required.
- § 9-64. Garage maintenance.

Article XIV – Shopping Centers

- § 9-65. Identification of Rear Entrances

Article VII – Security Key Lock Boxes

- § 9-22. Key Lock Box System

Article VIII – Maryland State Fire Prevention Code

- § 9-65. Maryland State Fire Prevention Code Applicable to Single Family and Two Family Dwellings
- § 9-66. New Construction
- § 9-67. Existing Dwellings
- § 9-68. Maintenance
- § 9-69. Enforcement

Article I. In general.

Sec. 9-1. Intent of chapter; standards.

The intent of this chapter is to safeguard and restrict the storage, handling and use of dangerous and hazardous materials to a reasonable degree with respect to injury to persons and destruction of property. Installation, construction and safeguards shall be provided in a standard modern and approved manner. Compliance with the Standards of the American Insurance Association (1956 Edition), shall be prima facie evidence of such approved manner. The town clerk shall maintain a public file of the Standards of the American Insurance Association (1956 Edition), which shall be deemed as requirements to this chapter only insofar as they can be applied to each particular installation for which a permit is required. (Ordinance 519 aka E-34, effective 5/7/1967)

Sec. 9-2. "Approved" defined.

"Approved" when applied to materials, types of construction and appliances, means acceptable to the building inspector by reason of having been tested and examined by him or by some recognized testing laboratory and found to be properly safeguarded against fire hazard. (Ordinance 519 aka E-34, effective 5/7/1967)

Sec. 9-3. Authority to enter premises.

The chief of the fire department or any member of the fire department designated by him as an inspector may at all reasonable times enter any building or premises for the purpose of making any inspection which under the provisions of this chapter he or they may deem necessary to be made. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-4. Inspection of premises.

It shall be the duty of the chief of the fire department to inspect or cause to be inspected by fire department officers or members, as often as may be necessary, but not less than twice a year, all buildings, premises and thoroughfares, for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any conditions liable to cause fire, or any violations of the provisions or intent of any ordinance affecting the fire hazard. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-5. Power of inspector to order fire hazards removed or remedied.

Whenever any officer or member of the fire department shall find in any building or upon any premises or other place, combustible or explosive matter or dangerous accumulation of rubbish or unnecessary accumulation of waste paper, boxes, shavings or any highly flammable materials, which is so situated as to endanger lives or property, or whenever he shall find obstructions to or on fire escapes, stairs, passageways, doors or windows, liable to interfere with the operation of the fire department or egress of occupants in case of fire, he shall order the same to be removed or remedied. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-6. Compliance with order; appeal.

Such order as provided in section 9-5 shall forthwith be complied with the owner or occupant of such premises or buildings, subject to appeal within twenty-four hours to the fire board, whose decision shall be final. Any owner or occupant failing to comply with such order within ten days after said appeal shall have been determined, or if no appeal is taken, then within ten days after the service of the said order, shall be liable to a penalty provided in this Code. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-7. Fire records.

The chief of the fire department shall keep a record of all fires and of all facts concerning the same, including statistics as to the extent of such fires and damage caused thereby. Such record shall be made daily from the reports made by the inspectors under the provisions of this chapter. All such records shall be public. (Ordinance 519 aka E-34, effective 5/7/1967)

Sec. 9-8. Taking fire apparatus beyond town limits.

None of the fire fighting equipment belonging to the town shall be removed from within the legal boundaries of the town for any purpose other than for fires in places having a standard water system for fighting fires, without specific permission having been granted to the fire chief or to the first assistant chief by the mayor or the acting mayor, or by two members of the fire board; provided, however, that in every case there shall be left at all times within the corporate limits at least two motorized pumpers. (Ordinance 4 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-9. Speeding limitations - Suspension; appeal.

It shall be unlawful to drive any fire fighting equipment on any of the streets of the town in a reckless manner or at a rate of speed in excess of that rate prescribed by State law for emergency vehicles. Drivers operating fire fighting equipment belonging to the town are subject to suspension of the right of such operation, if after having been given the opportunity of a hearing before the fire board, said board shall decide by majority vote that the driver so heard is guilty of such violation. Any driver so suspended shall have the right of appeal to the council, whose decision shall be final. (Ordinance 4 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-10. Resisting or impeding firemen prohibited.

The fire department shall have the management of all fires and no person shall resist, impede, obstruct or interfere with the movement of the chief of the fire department or his assistants or any firemen in the execution of their duty, and no

person shall refuse to obey any order lawfully given by any officer of the fire department at any fire. (Ordinance 519 aka E-34, effective 5/7/1967)

Article II. General precautions against fire.

Sec. 9-11. False alarms and false information.

It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to give a false alarm of fire in the town, or knowingly to proclaim that any fire is extinguished or out when such is not the case. (Ordinance 519 aka E-34, effective 5/7/1967)

Sec. 9-12. Tampering with fire hydrants.

It shall be unlawful for any person other than a member of an organized fire department or any employee of the town or of the Easton Utilities Commission to open or operate any of the fire hydrants in the town, and such opening or operation shall be allowable only in line of official duty, and with standard wrench for such purpose. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-13. Burning combustible materials.

It shall be unlawful for any person to burn trash, leaves, lumber, straw, grass or other combustible material within the town limits except in a furnace, stove or built-in incinerator. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-14. Hot ashes.

It shall be unlawful for any person to place hot ashes in any wooden box, barrel or container or on any wooden floor within the corporate limits of the town. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-15. Stoves and heating devices; installation.

Stoves, ranges, furnaces and other heating devices and their connecting pipes shall be so installed as to comply with usually accepted rules of safety as interpreted by the building inspector or by the chief of the fire department; provided, however, that no such heating device, connecting flue, or smoke pipe shall be installed or erected in violation of any requirement or rule contained in the building code of the town. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-16. Storage of oily waste and rags.

It shall be unlawful for any person to keep or permit to be kept any oil waste or oily rags unless such waste or rags shall be kept in a metal can with a self-closing cover which can is standing on metal legs. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-17. Accumulation of rubbish.

It shall be unlawful for any person to permit on his premises any dangerous accumulation of rubbish, waste paper, boxes, shavings or other flammable or combustible material which is so situated as to endanger person and property. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-18. Obstruction of exits.

It shall be unlawful for any person to permit on his premises any condition which shall obstruct or restrict the free use of fire escapes, stairs, passageways, doors or windows for egress of occupants in case of fire. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-19. Closing fire-doors and windows.

Fire doors, fire shutters and fire windows on exterior openings, when not required to be open, shall be closed by the occupant or occupants of the building having the use or control of them. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-20. Storage of matches.

Matches stored in mercantile establishments shall be in covered, metal-lined bins. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-21. Bonfires.

No person shall make or assist in making any bonfire in or upon any public street or place within the town without the written permission of the fire chief. (1967 Code by Ordinance 519 aka E-34 effective 5/7/1967)

Article III. Dry Cleaning Establishments.

Sec. 9-22. Requirements for operation and maintenance.

The operation and maintenance of dry cleaning establishments shall conform to the published requirements of the American Insurance Association (1956 Edition). A copy of these requirements shall be on public file in the town clerk's office. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Article IV. Explosives, Firearms and Similar Devices.

Sec. 9-23. Definitions.

"Explosive" or "explosives", whenever used in this chapter, shall mean any chemical compound, mixture, or device, the primary or common purpose of which is to function by explosion. The term "explosive" includes all materials classified as Class A, Class B or Class C explosives by Interstate Commerce Commission Regulations, and includes, but is not limited to, dynamite, blackpowder, pellet powders, initiating explosives, blasting caps, electric blasting caps, safety fuse, fuse igniters, fuse lighters, squibs, cordeau detonant fuse, instantaneous fuse, igniter cord and igniters, small arms ammunition, small arms ammunition primers, smokeless propellant, cartridges for propellant-actuated power devices and cartridges for industrial guns, and pyrotechnics.

"Fireworks", wherever used in this chapter shall mean and include any combustible or explosive composition, or any substance or combination of substances, or article prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation, and shall include blank cartridges, toy pistols, toy cannons, toy canes or toy guns in which explosives are used, they type of balloons which require fire underneath to propel the same, firecrackers, torpedoes, skyrockets, Roman candles, Daygo bombs, sparklers, or other devices of like construction and any devices containing any explosive or flammable compound or any tablets or other devices containing any explosive substance, except that the term "fireworks" shall not include auto flares, paper caps containing not in excess of an average of twenty-five hundredths of a grain of explosive content per cap manufactured in accordance with the Interstate Commerce Commission Regulations for packing and shipping as provided therein, and toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns, or other devices for use of such caps, the sale and use of which shall be permitted at all times.

"Magazine" shall mean any building or structure approved for the storage of explosives. (1967 Code by Ordinance 519 aka E-34 effective 5/7/1967)

Sec. 9-24. Manufacturing prohibited.

The manufacture of explosives and fireworks is prohibited. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-25. Discharge of fireworks, firearms, bows, and similar devices prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any unauthorized person to shoot or discharge any gun, pistol, sling shot, squib, rocket, firecracker or mixture of gunpowder or other fireworks, or to use any bow, crossbow, or similar device within the corporate limits of the town. (Ordinance 129 effective 3/23/1987, historical reference 5)

Sec. 9-26. Storage of explosives.

(a) Magazines containing explosives shall be located at distances from neighboring buildings, highways and railroad in conformity with the American Quantity and Distance Table.

(b) Blasting caps or detonators of any kind shall not be placed or kept in the same magazine with other explosives.

(c) Magazines shall be kept locked except when being inspected or when explosives are being placed therein or removed there from.

(d) Magazines shall be kept clean and free from grit, rubbish and empty packages.
(Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

(e) Magazines shall be made of fireproof material or wood covered with sheet iron and shall be conspicuously marked "Magazine - Explosives." (Ordinance 519 aka E-34 effective 5/7/1967)

Sec. 9-27. Transportation of explosives - public conveyances.

Explosives shall not be transported or carried on and in any conveyance carrying passengers for hire. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-28. Same - Regulation of vehicles.

Every vehicle, while carrying explosives, shall display the word "EXPLOSIVES" painted on or attached to the rear and sides of such vehicle in letters at least four (4) inches in height.

(a) No person in charge of a vehicle containing such explosive shall smoke in, near, or upon such vehicle; drive, load or unload the vehicle while intoxicated; drive load or unload such vehicle in careless or reckless manner.

(b) No person shall place or carry, or cause to be placed or carried, in the bed or body of any vehicle containing such explosives, any metal tool or other piece of metal or any matches.

(c) No person shall place or carry or cause to be placed or carried, in any vehicle containing explosives, any exploders, detonators, blasting caps or other similar explosive material.
(Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-29. Discharge of explosives.

No person shall discharge any explosives, except construction devices such as explosive rivets and explosive-driven pins or studs. (Ordinance 519 aka E-34 effective 5/7/1967)

Article V. Flammable liquids.

Sec. 9-30. Hazardous heating and lighting appliances.

The chief of the fire department may prohibit the sale or use of any heating or lighting appliance using flammable liquids, which has not been tested by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., or some other competent authority, and found to be properly safeguarded against fire hazard. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-31. Restrictions on storage and use.

The chief of the fire department shall prohibit, except as may otherwise specifically be provided herein, the storage or use of any flammable and/or explosive liquid, material or substance whenever, in his opinion, the storage or use of same shall constitute or create a menace, actual or potential, to the safety of the lives or property of the citizens of the town. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-32. Appeal.

Appeal from any decision of the chief of the fire department in connection with this article may be made to the fire board. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-33. Extinguishers required.

Where flammable liquids are kept, used or handled, a quantity of loose non-combustible absorbents, such as dry sand or ashes, together with pails or scoops, and chemical extinguishers or other extinguishing devices or material shall be provided in such kind or quantities as may be directed by the chief of the fire department. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-34. Smoking prohibited.

Smoking or the carrying of matches or other smoking material in rooms where flammable liquids are handled is prohibited. Suitable "NO SMOKING" signs shall be displayed. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941).

Article VI. Nitrocellulose motion picture film.

Sec. 9-35. Storage of film.

The storage or keeping on hand of nitrocellulose motion picture film, and the enclosures or booths for the operation of projectors for such film, shall be based upon compliance with the regulations of the American Insurance Association (1956 Edition). (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-36. Smoking prohibited.

Smoking or the carrying of a lighted pipe, cigar, cigarette or other form of smoking material in rooms where film is stored or handled is prohibited. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Article VII. Oil burning equipment.

Sec. 9-37. Definitions.

For the purpose of this article:

"Oil burners" shall mean any device designed to burn fuel oil having a flash point of 100 Deg. F. or higher, as determined by the Tag Closed Tester in accordance with the method of test adopted by the American Society for Testing Materials (A.S.T.M. Designation D56-21), and having a fuel tank or container with a capacity of more than five gallons connected thereto.

"Oil burning equipment" shall include oil burners and all tanks, piping, pumps, control devices and accessories connected to the burners.

(Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-38. Permit required.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to install any oil burning equipment unless they shall have been issued on oil burner installation permit for each separate installation. (Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-39. Certificate of approval for oil burning equipment.

(a) Application for certificates of approval shall be made in writing to the town in such form and detail as it shall prescribe.

(b) No certificate of approval shall be issued for any kind of oil burning equipment which has not been tested and examined by the Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., and bears their label of approval.

(c) Certificates of approval may be revoked by the town, after a hearing, for wilful violation of the provisions of this article over which the holder of the certificate of approval has direct control.

(Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-40. Fuel oil.

The grade of fuel oil used with any burner shall be one which tests and experience have shown to be suitable for use with that burner. The oil shall have a flash point not less than 100 Def. F. determined as specified in section 9-37 and shall be free from acid, grit, and fibrous or other foreign matter likely to clog or injure the burners or valves. (Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-41. Use on non-automatic burner limited.

Oil burners which are not equipped with automatic means for preventing abnormal discharge of oil at the burner, shall not be installed or operated in any location where a competent attendant will not be constantly on duty in the room where the burner is located while the burner is in operation. (Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-42. Gravity feed to burner.

(a) When to be used: Gravity feed shall be used only with burners arranged to prevent abnormal discharge of oil at the burner by automatic means specifically approved for the burner with which it is used.

(b) Supply tanks: Gravity supply tanks shall not exceed 275 gallons individual capacity. Where more than one gravity supply tank is used, such tanks shall be connected to the feed pipe leading to the burner in such a way that only one tank can discharge its contents at a time.

(c) Level valve: Where oil is supplied to the burner by gravity and a constant level device is not incorporated in the burner assembly or in an auxiliary tank used in connection with an automatic pump, an approved constant level device shall be installed in the oil feed line at the gravity tank or as close thereto as practicable. The vent opening of such constant level device shall be connected by piping or tubing to the gravity tank vent pipe.
(Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-43. Pressure tank feed.

Pressure tank feed shall be used only with burners arranged to prevent abnormal discharge of oil at the burner by automatic means specifically approved for the burner with which it is used. Pressure tanks shall not exceed a capacity of sixty gallons and shall not be operated at pressures exceeding fifty pounds per square inch. They shall be equipped with a reliable pressure gauge, and with an automatic relief valve piped to discharge outside of buildings. (Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-44. Installation of underground tanks.

(a) Underground tanks shall be so buried as to have a cover of earth not less than 2 feet thick or shall be covered with not less than 1 foot of earth on top of which shall be placed a slab of reinforced concrete not less than 4 inches thick. The slab shall be set on a firm, well tamped earth foundation and shall extend at least 1 foot beyond the tank in all directions. Where tanks are buried underneath buildings such a concrete slab shall be provided in every instance.

(b) Underground tanks shall be set on a firm foundation and surrounded with soft earth or sand well tamped in place. Where necessary to prevent floating, they shall be securely anchored or weighted.
(Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-45. Installation of tanks inside buildings.

(a) Oil supply tanks larger than 60 gallons capacity shall not be located in buildings above the lowest story, cellar or basement.

(b) Unenclosed inside storage tanks and auxiliary tanks shall not be located within 4 feet, horizontally, of any fire or flame.

(c) Inside storage and auxiliary tanks shall be securely supported by substantial incombustible supports to prevent settling, sliding or lifting.

(d) Oil supply tanks located inside buildings shall not exceed 275 gallons individual capacity or 550 gallons aggregate capacity (in one building) unless installed in an enclosure or casing constructed as follows: The walls of the enclosure shall be constructed of reinforced concrete at least 6 inches thick or of brick at least 8 inches thick, and shall be bonded to the floor. The space between the tank and the enclosure shall be completely filled with sand or well tamped earth. Where the floor or other construction immediately above the tank is of fire-resistive construction capable of safely sustaining a load of 150 pounds per square foot, the walls of the enclosure shall be carried to a height not less than 1 foot above the tank and the space filled with sand or well tamped earth to the top; otherwise the enclosure shall have a top of reinforced concrete at least five inches thick or of equivalent construction.

Instead of an enclosure as above described the tank may be encased in reinforced concrete not less than 6 inches in thickness, applied directly to the tank so as to completely eliminate any air space.

(e) In ordinary buildings the nominal gross capacity of tanks shall not exceed 5,000 gallons.

(f) In fire-resistive buildings the nominal gross capacity of tanks shall not exceed 15,000 gallons.
(Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-47. Tank vents.

(a) Storage tanks shall (except for hydraulic or inert gas systems) be equipped with an open vent or an approved automatically operated vent, arranged to discharge to the open air. Vent openings and vent pipes shall be of ample size to prevent abnormal pressure in the tank during filling but no smaller than 1 inch pipe size.

(b) Vent pipes shall be arranged to drain to the tank. The lower end of the vent pipe shall not extend through the top into the tank for a distance of more than one inch.

(c) Vent pipes shall terminate outside of buildings at a point not less than 2 feet measured vertically or horizontally from any window or other building opening. Outer ends of vent pipes shall be provided with a weather-proof hood. Vent pipes of tanks containing heaters shall be extended to such a height that oil vapors discharging from the vent will be readily diffused without danger of ignition.

(d) Vent pipes shall not be cross-connected with fill pipes or return lines from burners.
(Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-48. Tank fill and overflow pipes.

(a) Underground tanks and storage tanks inside buildings shall be filled only through fill pipes terminating outside of buildings at a point at least 5 feet from any building opening at the same or lower level. Fill terminals shall be closed tight, when not in use, by a metal cover designed to prevent tampering.

(b) Auxiliary tanks shall be filled by pumping from storage tanks.

(c) Auxiliary tanks other than vacuum tanks shall be equipped with an overflow pipe draining to the storage tank, at least one size larger than the supply pipe.

(d) Overflow pipes of auxiliary gravity tanks shall have no valves or obstructions. Overflow pipes of auxiliary pressure tanks shall be provided with interconnected valves or other means for automatically venting the tank during filling.
(Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-49. Oil gauging.

(a) All tanks in which a constant oil level is not maintained by an automatic pump shall be equipped with an approved method of determining the oil level.

(b) Test wells shall not be installed inside buildings and where permitted for outside services shall be closed tight, when not in use, by a metal cover designed to prevent tampering.

(c) Gauging devices such as liquid level indicators or signals shall be installed so that oil or vapor will not be discharged into the building from the fuel supply system.
(Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-50. Oil pumps.

(a) Oil pumps shall be of a type approved by Underwriters' Laboratory, Inc., secure against leaks, and shall be rigidly fastened in place.

(b) Automatic pumps not an integral part of the burner shall be arranged to stop automatically in case of total breakage of the supply line to the burner.

(Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-51. Piping.

(a) All piping shall be standard full weight wrought iron, steel or brass pipe with standard fittings or approved brass or copper tubing with approved fittings, except that approved flexible metal hose may be used for reducing the effects of jarring and vibration or where rigid connections are impracticable.

(b) Pipe used in the installation of domestic and industrial type burners shall not be smaller than 1/2 inch iron pipe size. Copper or brass tubing shall not be smaller in size than 1/2 inch O.D. for outside tank installations, nor less than 3/8 inch O.D. for inside tank installation. Flexible metal hose shall be installed strictly in accordance with the limitations of its approval.

(c) Piping shall be rigidly secured in place and protected from injury in a workmanlike manner, and where necessary, shall be protected against corrosion. Where practicable, oil piping shall be buried underground or in a concrete floor or placed in a metal-covered pipe trench.

(d) Pipe joints and connections shall be made tight in a workmanlike manner. Unions and tubing fittings shall be approved type. Unions requiring gaskets or packing, and right and left couplings shall not be used in oil lines.

(e) Proper allowance shall be made for expansion, contraction, jarring and vibration. Pipe lines, other than tubing, connected to underground tanks, except fill lines and test wells, shall be provided with double swing joints arranged to permit the tank to settle without impairing the efficiency of the pipe connections.

(f) Openings for pipes through outside walls below the ground level shall be made water tight.

(g) Oil supply lines to burners shall be provided with approved strainers.

(Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-52. Valves.

(a) Readily accessible shut-off valves of approved type shall be installed in oil supply lines close to gravity and pressure supply tanks. Shut-off valves of approved type shall be installed on each side of oil strainers which are not a part of the oil burner unit and on the discharge and suction side of oil pumps which pump directly to the burner but which are not a part of the burner unit.

(b) Where a shut-off valve is installed in the discharge line of an oil pump, an approved pressure relief valve shall be connected into the discharge line between the pump and the shut-off valve and arranged to return surplus oil to the storage tank or to by-pass it around the pump.

(c) Control valves shall be provided with stuffing box of liberal size, containing a removable cupped bland designed to compress the packing against the valve stem and arranged so as to facilitate removal. Valves shall be designed to close against the supply, and to prevent withdrawal of stem by continued operation of the handwheel. Packing affected by the oil or by heat shall not be used.

(Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-53. Preheating of oil.

Preheating of oil, where necessary, shall be done by steam, hot water or approved electric heaters. Heaters shall be substantially constructed with all joints made oil tight. Thermometers shall be installed at suitable locations to indicate the temperature of the heated oil. Heaters shall be by-passed or provided with suitable means to prevent abnormal pressure. (Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-54. Oil burner controls.

(a) Oil burning equipment shall be provided with some means for manually stopping the flow of oil to the burner, from a conveniently located point at a safe distance from the burner. With electrically driven equipment this may be accomplished by a switch in the motor supply circuit, placed near the entrance to the room where the burner is located. A quick-closing valve in the oil supply line may also be used.

(b) Automatically operated oil burners used in connection with hot water, steam or warm air heating systems shall be equipped with approved automatic devices to shut down the burner in the event of undue pressure in a steam boiler or overheating within a hot water boiler or warm air furnace.

(c) Automatically operated oil burners used in connection with steam heating systems shall be equipped with approved automatic devices to prevent the operation of the burner at all times when there is not sufficient water in the boiler.

(d) In systems where steam or air is used for atomizing the oil, the equipment shall be so arranged that in case of interruption of the atomizing supply, the oil supply will be immediately shut off.
(Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-55. Electric wiring and equipment.

Electric wiring and equipment used in connection with oil burning equipment shall be installed in accordance with the National Electric Code. (Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-56. Installation of burners.

(a) Oil burners shall be securely installed in a workmanlike manner, in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer, by qualified mechanics experienced in making such installations.

(b) All furnaces containing oil burner installation shall be set on a metal, concrete or other approved non-combustible and rigid foundation. Such foundation shall not rest on or be joined to any wood or other combustible material.

(c) Said furnaces shall be so installed as to be separated on all sides by not less than 12 inches of air space from all wood or other combustible material, and furnace and smoke pipe shall be so set as to be at least two feet from overhead joists, and to the under side of said joists shall be fastened a solid asbestos sheet of 1/8 inch thickness extending not less than 12 inches on either side of smoke pipe.

(d) Where oil burners are installed in furnaces or originally designed for solid fuel, the ash door of the furnace shall be removed or bottom ventilation otherwise provided to prevent the accumulation of vapors in the ash pit, unless the burner is of a type which mechanically purges the ash pit.

(e) Boilers and furnaces in which oil burners are installed shall be connected to flues having sufficient draft at all times to assure safe operation of the burner; a suitable draft regulating device shall be installed where necessary to prevent excessive draft. Smoke pipe dampers, if any, shall be such that they cannot close off more than 80 percent of the internal cross section area of the smoke pipe.

(f) Rooms in which oil burners are located shall be provided with adequate ventilation to assure continuous complete combustion of the oil.

(g) Contractors installing industrial oil burning systems shall furnish diagrams showing the main oil lines and controlling valves, one of which shall be posted near the oil burning equipment and another at some point which will be accessible in case of fire at the burners.
(Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-57. Modifications of requirements in unusual circumstances.

Where the circumstances or conditions of any particular installation are unusual and such as to render the strict application of this article impracticable, the town may permit such modifications as will provide a substantially equivalent degree of safety. (Ordinance 13 effective 1/1/1941)

Article VIII. Garages.

Sec. 9-58. Basement garages - Ventilation.

Basements used as public garages shall be continuously ventilated by mechanical ventilating systems so designed as to assure suitable dilution and removal of gasoline vapors and motor exhaust fumes. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-59. Repair work.

Carbon and lead burning, welding and other processes involving direct application of flame shall be carried on in the open air not less than ten (10) feet from any building or in a special room separated from the rest of the garage by two (2) hour partitions. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-60. Cleaning with flammable liquids.

Volatile flammable liquids shall not be used for cleaning purposes in a garage unless in a special closed machine of approved type or in a special room separated from the rest of the garage by two (2) hour partitions. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941.)

Sec. 9-61. Gasoline storage.

Exclusive of that in the tanks of vehicles, gasoline shall be kept at a public garage only in underground tanks, in approved safety cans, or in approved portable wheeled tanks not exceeding a capacity of sixty (60) gallons each. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-62. Handling of gasoline and oils.

The tanks of vehicles shall be filled directly through hose from pumps attached to portable tanks or to permanent filling stations connected to underground storage tanks. Gasoline shall not be handled in any open container.

Gasoline and other volatile flammable liquids shall not be allowed to run upon the floor or to fall or pass into the drainage system of the premises. Self-closing metal cans shall be used for all oily waste or wasted oils. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Contents of oil separators or traps or floor drainage systems shall be collected at frequent intervals and removed from the premises. (1967 Code by Ordinance 519 aka E-34 effective 5/7/1967)

Sec. 9-63. Extinguishers required.

In every public garage two or more approved chemical fire extinguishers and four or more pails of sand shall be kept convenient for quick use in case of fire. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Sec. 9-64. Garage maintenance.

Garages shall be swept frequently and kept clean. (Ordinance 5 effective 1/1/1941)

Article XIV. Shopping Centers.

9-65 Identification of Rear Entrances.

Any office, business or store located in a shopping center shall, in addition to identifying its front entrance, identify all of its rear entrances by posting a permanent sign on or near each rear entrance. Letters on such signs shall be not less than three (3) inches nor greater than four (4) inches in height. Any sign which may be used to comply with this ordinance shall comply with the requirements of Section 606 of the Easton Zoning Ordinance; provided, however, that such sign placed by the rear entrance of an office, business or store shall not be counted or applied towards the number of signs any such office, business or store may be entitled to have under the Easton Zoning Ordinance. (Ordinance 217 effective 2/10/1992, historical reference 215)

Article VII. Security Lock Boxes.

9-22 Key Lock Box System

- (a) The following structures shall be equipped with a key lock box at or near the main entrance or such other location required by the Chief of the Easton Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. or his or her designee:
 - (1) Commercial or industrial structures protected by an automatic alarm system or automatic suppression system, or such structures that are secured in a manner that restricts access during an emergency;
 - (2) Multi-family residential structures that have restricted access through locked doors and have common corridor for access to the living units;
 - (3) Governmental structures and nursing care facilities.
- (b) All newly constructed structures which are subject to this section shall have the key lock box installed and operational prior to the issuance of an occupancy permit. All structures in existence on the effective date of this section and subject to this section shall have one year from the effective date of this section to have a key lock box installed and operational.
- (c) The Fire Chief shall designate the type of key lock box system to be implemented within the Town and shall have the authority to require all structures to use the designated system.
- (d) The owner or operator of a structure required to have a key lock box shall, at all times, keep a key in the lock box that will allow for access to the structure.
- (e) The Fire Chief shall be authorized to implement rules and regulations for the use of the lock box system.
- (f) No Person other than the Fire Chief or his or her designee shall have access to the master key for the lock box system.
- (g) Any person who owns or operates a structure which is subject to this section who violates there terms hereof shall be guilty of a municipal infraction and shall be subject to the penalties set forth in section 1-8 of the Code for any violation of this section, provided that the minimum fine for a conviction for a violation of this section shall be \$100.00. Any person found guilty shall also be subject to an abatement order or similar remedial order for a court having jurisdiction over the enforcement proceeding. Each day of violation shall constitute a separate offence.

(Ordinance 477, effective 11/3/2004)

Article VIII. Maryland State Fire Prevention Code.

§ 9-65. Maryland State Fire Prevention Code Applicable To Single Family and Two Family Dwellings.

The provisions of the Maryland State Fire Prevention Code, authorized by Maryland Annotated Code Public Safety Article Section 6-206 and as published in the Code of Maryland Regulations Title 29.06.01 et seq., as the same may be from time to time amended, shall apply to all single family and two family dwellings within the Town. (Ordinance 517 effective 10/7/2007)

§ 9-66. New Construction

All single family and two family dwellings constructed pursuant to a building permit issued after the effective date of this ordinance (October 7, 2007) shall comply with the provisions of the Maryland State Fire Prevention Code, authorized by Maryland Annotated Code Public Safety Article Section 6-201 and as published in the Code of Maryland Regulations Title 29.06.01 et seq., as the same may be from time to time amended. (Ordinance 517 effective 10/7/2007)

§ 9-67. Existing Dwelling

Regardless of the time of construction, if an existing single family or two family dwelling is destroyed or demolished, any replacement dwelling(s) shall conform to the State Fire Prevention Code.” (Ordinance 519 effective 12/23/2007)

§ 9-68. Maintenance

Any interior automatic fire sprinkler system installed in a single or two family dwelling in the Town shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the most recent versions of Standard 13D, “ Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One and Two Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes”, as promulgated by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and as modified and adopted by the Maryland State Fire Prevention Code. (Ordinance 517 effective 10/7/2007)

§ 9-69. Enforcement

To the extent permitted by law, the provisions of this article may be enforced by either the Town Code Enforcement Official or the State Fire Marshal, or their respective designees. (Ordinance 517 effective 10/7/2007)