

FIRE PREVENTION ORDINANCE

Be it ordained by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Half Moon Bay Fire District.

Provisions for establishment of a Bureau of Fire Prevention providing Officers therefore, and **DEFINING THEIR POWERS AND DUTIES.**

SECTION I

A bureau of Fire Prevention in the Fire Department of the Half Moon Bay Fire District is hereby established which shall be operated under the supervision of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

The objects and purposes of the Bureau of Fire Prevention are to provide an organization for investigation of the cause, origin and circumstances of fires, to devise ways and means for fire prevention and to enforce regulations for reducing the fire hazard and safe guarding life and property.

The Board of Fire Commissioners shall designate the Chief of the Fire Department as Chief of the Bureau of Fire Prevention, who shall hold this office at the pleasure of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

The Chief of the Bureau of Fire Prevention may detail such other members of the Fire Department as inspectors as shall from time to time be necessary.

SECTION II

It shall be the duty of the officers of the Bureau of Fire Prevention to enforce all laws and ordinances covering the following:

- 1- The Prevention of fires
- 2- The storage and use of explosives and flammables.
- 3- The installation and maintenance of the fire extinguishing equipment.
- 4- The means and adequacy of exit in case of fires from factories, schools, hotels, lodging houses, churches, halls, theatres and all other places in which numbers of persons work, live or congregate from time to time for any purpose.
- 5- The investigation of the cause, origin, and circumstances of fire.

They shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as are set forth in other sections of this ordinance and as may be conferred and imposed from time to time by law.

SECTION III

The Bureau of Fire Prevention, Chief of the Fire Department or any Inspector may, at all reasonable hours enter any building or premises within his jurisdiction for the purpose of making any inspection or investigation which, under the provisions of this ordinance he or they may deem necessary to be made.

SECTION IV

The Bureau of Fire Prevention, Chief of the Fire Department or an Inspector specially designated thereto shall inspect, as often as may be necessary, all especially hazardous manufacturing processes, storages or installations of gases, chemicals, oils, explosives and flammable materials, all interior fire alarm and fire extinguishing equipment and such other hazards or appliance as the Chief of the Fire Department shall designate, and shall make such orders as may be necessary for the enforcement of the laws and ordinances governing the same and for safe guarding of life and property from fire.

SECTION V

It shall be the duty of the Chief of the Fire Department to inspect, or cause to be inspected by the Bureau of Fire Prevention, or by the Fire Department, Officers and members, as often as may be necessary, all buildings and premises except the interior of private dwellings for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any condition liable to cause fire, or any violation of the provisions or intent of any ordinance of the Fire District affecting the fire hazard.

Whenever any Inspector, as defined above, shall find in any building or upon any premises, combustible or explosive matter or dangerous accumulations of rubbish or unnecessary accumulation of waste paper, boxes, shavings, or any kind of highly flammable materials, and which is so situated as to endanger property; or shall find obstructions to or on fire escapes, stairs, passage ways, doors, or windows liable to interfere with the operations of the Fire Department or egress of occupants in case of fire he shall order same to be removed or remedied.

SECTION VI

The Bureau of Fire Prevention shall investigate the cause, origin and circumstances of every fire occurring in the Fire District by which property has been destroyed or damaged and, so far as possible shall determine whether the fire is the result of carelessness or design, such investigations shall be begun immediately upon the occurrence of such a fire by the Inspector, and if it appears to the Officer making such an investigation that such fire is of suspicious origin, the Chief of the Fire Department shall be immediately notified of the facts; he shall take charge immediately of the physical evidence, shall notify the proper authorities designated by law to pursue the investigation of such matter and shall further co-operate with the authorities in the collection of evidence and in the prosecution of the case.

Every fire shall be reported to the Bureau of Fire Prevention within one day after its occurrence. Such report shall contain a statement of all facts relating to the cause, origin and circumstances of such fire, and extent of the damage thereof, and the insurance upon such property, and such other information as may be required.

SECTION VII

It shall be the duty of the Fire Chief as head of the Bureau to require teachers of public schools and educational institutions to have one fire drill each month and to keep all doors and exits unlocked during school hours.

Regulations providing for fire prevention and protection in connection with hazardous materials and processes.

Part I - GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION VIII

Nothing contained in this ordinance shall be construed as applying to the transportation of any article or thing shipped in conformity with the regulations prescribed by the Interstate Commerce Commission, nor as applying to the military or naval forces of the United States.

A-

The word "person" whenever used in this ordinance shall be construed to include person, persons, firm or corporation.

B-

"Approved" when applied to materials, type of construction and appliances refers to approval by the Bureau of Fire Prevention as a result of investigations and tests conducted, or by reason of accepted principles or tests by the National Board of Fire Underwriters or the Underwriters Laboratories, Inc; or National Bureau of Standards.

C-

A permit is the written authority of the Bureau of Fire Prevention issued pursuant to this ordinance, to have, keep, store, use, manufacture, sell, handle and transport explosives, flammable materials and rubbish, as hereafter defined.

D-

Combustible Capable of being burnt.

E-

Flammable Easy to catch fire.

F-

Flash Point The lowest temperature to which an oil must be heated to give off vapor which when mixed with air, produces an explosive mixture.

In determining the flash point of flammable liquids, either the Elliott, Abel-Pensky or Tag Closed Testers shall be used, but the Tag Closed Testers (standardized by the National Bureau of Standards) shall be authoritative in case of dispute. All tests shall be made in accordance with the methods of tests as adopted by the American Society for Testing Materials.

SECTION IX DEFECTIVE OR UNSAFE CONDITIONS

Whenever in the opinion of the Fire Chief, any building or structure or portion thereof, or any appurtenance or fixture thereto, or any chimney, smoke stack, stove, oven, incinerator, furnace or anything connected with, or upon, or in any premises or building, not specifically mentioned in this Code which is deemed defective or unsafe so as to constitute a fire menace, the Fire Chief shall give the owner or person having control of the property a notice, of the requested alterations or repairs necessary to render the same safe from fire and the said owner or person having control of the property must comply therewith immediately.

SECTION X OBSTRUCTIONS IN AISLES, EXITS OR PASSAGEWAYS

All Aisles, passageways, corridors, and exits of all places of public assemblage shall be kept free from camp stools, chairs, sofas, draperies and other obstructions and no person shall be allowed to stand in or occupy any such aisles, passageways, corridors, or exits during any performance. No obstruction of any kind that will hinder or block access or egress of occupants or persons, or would interfere with the operation of the Fire Department, shall be permitted on any fire escape or in any hallway, passageway, stairway, window, doorway, ally or driveway in or on any premises in the Fire District.

SECTION XI FIRE EXTINGUISHING EQUIPMENT

The Chief of the Bureau of Fire Prevention shall survey each mercantile and manufacturing establishment, each school, church, theatre, or other place of a semi-public character, each place of detention and each apartment house or tenement building and shall designate suitable fire appliances in or near boiler rooms, kitchens, of restaurants, clubs, and like establishments, storage rooms involving combustible material, rooms in which hazardous manufacturing processes are involved, garage sections, and other places of a generally hazardous nature. Such appliances shall consist of stand pipe and hose, wheeled or portable chemical extinguishers of a type suitable for the class of fire. In specially hazardous processes or excessive storages appliances of more than one type may be required or special systems installed.

All extinguishers must be of a type approved by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, and must be kept in a serviceable condition at all times. Soda and Acid or Foam type of extinguishers shall be re-charged at least once each year, and the date of such re-charge placed on an attached tag.

All fire fighting equipment shall be located in an accessible and conspicuous place approved by the Chief of the Bureau of Fire Prevention.

SECTION XII FIRE ESCAPE REQUIRED

Every building occupied by one (1) or more families of more than two (2) stories in height, not having proper and sufficient exits or facilities for escape in case of fire and every building used as a theatre, hospital, tenement house, lodging house, factory, mill, or for office, work shops or public entertainments or assemblages, above the second story, and every building of more than two (2) stories in height shall be equipped with fire escapes, combined with suitable balconies, platforms and railings, firmly secured to the outer walls and arranged to take as many windows of each story above the first as may be necessary to make them accessible, safe and adequate for the escape of inmates in case of fire.

SECTION XIII Explosives: MANUFACTURE, STORAGE AND USE

Explosives - Limitations in Manufacture.

No person, firm or corporation shall manufacture or cause to be manufactured within the limits of the Fire District any blasting powder, gun powder, hercules, or giant powder, nitro-glycerine dynamite, daulin, or other explosives, except as provided hereafter in this Code and except also that any explosives may be manufactured in the laboratories of colleges and similar institutions for the purpose of investigation and instructions.

SECTION XIV TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE AND SALE

Regulations for the transportation, storage and sale of explosives shall be in accordance with the provisions of Division X. I of the Health and Safety Code of the State.

SECTION XV PERMIT REQUIRED FOR STORAGE

No explosives as defined herein; shall be stored in a place and manner to there satisfaction.

SECTION XVI USE PERMIT

No person, firm or corporation shall use or cause to be used any blasting powder, gun powder, hercules, or giant powder, dynamite, daulin or other explosives, in the Fire District without first obtaining a permit from the Bureau of Fire Prevention.

SECTION XVII

Nothing in this part shall be held to mean and include any small arms ammunition.

SECTION XVIII PYROTECHNICS AND SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION

Pyrotechnics whenever used in this ordinance shall be held to mean any sparkler, squib, rocket, fire cracker, roman candle, fire ballon, signal lights, railroad track torpedo, flash light, composition, fire works or other devices, or composition used to obtain visible or audible pyrotechnics display.

SECTION XIX

No person shall have, keep, store, use, manufacture, sell, handle, or transport any pyrotechnics, provided, however:

A- That the Bureau of Fire Prevention may, upon due application issue a permit to a properly qualified person for giving a pyrotechnic/display of fire works in the Public Parks or other open places. Such permits shall impose such restrictions as in the opinion of the Chief of Bureau of Fire Prevention may be necessary to properly safe guard life and property in each case.

B- That nothing in this ordinance shall be held to apply to the possession, sale or use of normal stocks of flashlight compositions, by photographers or dealers in photographic supplies, or small arms ammunitions.

SECTION XX

Small arms ammunition whenever used in this ordinance shall be held to mean any shot gun, rifle, pistol or revolver cartridges.

SECTION XXI

No person shall manufacture within the limits of the Fire District any small arms ammunitions.

SECTION XXII FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS

Application to new and existing installations etc,

This ordinance shall apply to all new plants, stores, equipments and installations, and except as otherwise specified, to existing plants, sbres, equipments and installations which constitute a distinct hazard to adjoining property, in so far as the intent of the sections can be reasonably fulfilled. All persons and businesses storing, handling or using flammable liquids shall be governed by this ordinance, whether or not specifically named in this ordinance.

SECTION XXIII CLASSIFICATION OF FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS

For the purpose of this ordinance, flammable liquids are divided into three classes, according to the flash point as follows:

Class -1- Liquids with a flash point below 25 degrees fahrenheit (-4 degrees centigrade) closed cup tester.

Class -2- Liquids with flash point above that for class (1) and below 70 degrees fahrenheit (21 degrees centigrade) closed cup tester.

Class -3- Liquids with flash point above that for class (2) and below 200 degrees fahrenheit (93.3 degrees centigrade) closed cup tester.

Representative examples of the classes of flammable liquids are:

<u>Class I</u>	<u>Class II</u>	<u>Class III</u>
Ether	Alcohol	Kerosene
Gasoline	Amyl-acetate	Amyl-alcohol
Naphtha	Toluol	Turpentine
Benzol	Ethyl-acetate	Fuel Oil
Collodion	Methyl-acetate	
Acetone		

SECTION XXIV MANUFACTURED LIQUIDS COMMODITIES INCLUDED

Any manufactured liquid or fluid commodity, such as paint, varnish, dryer, cleaning solution and polishing liquid which contains flammable liquids shall be considered a glammable liquid and shall be classified by Section 23 according to the flash point of the mixture.

SECTION XXV PERMITS REQUIRED

A- For the storage or handling of a total quantity of class (1) liquids in excess of (one) (1) gallon in any dwelling, apartment house or tenement, and in excess of six (6) gallons in any other building and in excess of ten (10) gallons outside of any building.

B- For the storage or handling of a total quantity of class (2) liquids in excess of five (5) gallons in any dwelling, apartment house or tenement, and in excess of ten (10) gallons in any other building, and in excess of twenty-five (25) gallons outside of any building.

C- For the storage or handling of a total quantity of class (3) liquids in excess of twenty-five (25) gallons inside any building, and in excess of fifty-five (55) gallons outside of any building.

All class (1) class (2) and class (3) liquids shall be stored in approved containers. No class (1) (2) or (3) liquids shall be kept or stored in any school house or building used for regilious, amusements or other public assemblages.

SECTION XXVI SIGNS ON LIQUID CONTAINERS

All containers for inflammable liquids shall be properly labeled, designating the liquid that is stored therein and such containers shall not be used for storing other liquids than those specified by such signs.

SECTION XXVII DELIVERY

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to deliver to any tank, drum, or other receptacle that shall be above ground any class (1) (2) or (3) liquids or other liquid products that will flash or emit inflammable vapors at a temperature of 100 degrees fahrenheit or below without first obtaining a permit therefor from the Bureau of Fire Prevention, except it be for the delivery from a tank wagon to storage tanks of distributing plants.

SECTION XXVIII GENERAL STORAGE

All class (1) (2) and (3) liquids shall be stored at least two (2) feet from any building except that where the top of the tank is above the lowest floor, basement, or cellar it shall be located in accordance with the following table.

<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Distance</u>
550 gallons or less	3 feet out
2000 gallons or less	10 feet out
5000 gallons or less	20 feet out

No one tank shall contain more than one thousand (1000) gallons except as hereinafter provided. Not more than five (5) tanks of class (1) (2) and (3) liquids aggregating five thousand (5000) gallons shall be stored for any one public garage, service station, dye works or clothes cleaning establishment. Not more than one tank of two hundred eighty (280) gallons capacity shall be allowed as storage for any private garage. Said tank shall be installed only with the consent of the Bureau of Fire Prevention, except that where any private garage is used by any person, firm or corporation engaged in a commercial enterprise where the use of gasoline is necessary, in such enterprise, storage tanks of more than two hundred eighty (280) gallons capacity shall be allowed but not exceeding five hundred fifty (550) gallons capacity.

Where two or more tanks are installed they shall be separated by three (3) feet of earth or twelve (12) inches of brick or concrete. No tank shall be connected to another so that gasoline can flow from one to the other.

One (1) storage tank only may, with the consent of the Bureau of Fire Prevention, be installed for a private garage on private property. Said tank shall be at least two (2) feet from any building or structure or part thereof and be covered with at least two (2) feet of earth.

SECTION XXIX STORAGE MUST BE OUTSIDE BUILDINGS

Except as otherwise permitted in this ordinance the storage of flammable liquids shall be outside buildings, in under ground tanks.

SECTION XXX UNDER GROUND STORAGE LIMITED

Tanks buried underground shall have the top of the tank not less than two (2) feet below the surface of the ground, and below the level of any piping to which the tanks may be connected, except that in lieu of the two (2) foot cover, tanks may be buried under twelve (12) inches of earth and a cover of reinforced concrete at least five (5) inches in thickness provided, which shall extend at least one (1) foot beyond the out line of the tank in all directions; concrete cover to be placed on a firm, well tamped earth foundation. When necessary to prevent floating, tanks shall be securely anchored or weighted.

Where a tank can not be entirely buried, it shall be covered over with earth to a depth of at least two (2) feet with a slope on all sides not steeper than one and one half (1½) feet horizontal to one (1) foot vertical.

The limits of storage permitted shall depend upon the location of tank with respect to the building to be supplied and adjacent buildings.

SECTION XXXI CAPACITY AND LOCATION OF ABOVE GROUND TANKS

Above ground storage for flammable liquids shall be permitted at the direction of the Bureau of Fire Prevention after consideration of the special features, such as topographical conditions, nature of occupancy and proximity to buildings or adjoining property, and height and character of construction of such buildings, capacity and con-

struction of proposed tanks and character of liquids to be stored, degree of private fire protection to be provided, and facilities of the Fire Department to cope with oil fires.

SECTION XXXII MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION OF STORAGE TANKS

The material, construction and installation of storage tanks shall be in accordance with the regulations of the National Board of Underwriters.

SECTION XXXIII PORTABLE TANKS OR BUGGIES

In public or private garages and manufacturing plants the Bureau of Fire Prevention may permit the storage of class one liquid (1) in approved portable tanks or buggies, where the nature of business requires such storage and the discharge therefrom.

SECTION XXXIV DRUMS AND BARRELS MUST BE KEPT CLOSED

Drums or barrels for flammable liquids shall have caps, plugs and bungs replaced immediately after the same are emptied.

SECTION XXXV STORAGE OF BARRELS AND DRUMS LIMITED

Barrels and drums, containing class I II or III liquids stored outside any building shall not be piled upon each other, nor stored in a passage way or beneath any window and no open lights shall be permitted in such storage yard.

SECTION XXXVI OIL BURNING SYSTEMS

No person, firm or corporation shall construct, erect or maintain any plant or use any device or apparatus for burning crude oil, petroleum, or fuel oil for generating a gas therefrom for heating without first obtaining a permit from the Bureau of Fire Prevention.

All pumping oil burning systems, installations and tank construction shall be in accordance with the regulations of the National Board of Underwriters. All tanks shall be placed in a location approved by the Bureau of Fire Prevention.

SECTION XXXVII GRAVITY OIL BURNING SYSTEMS

All gravity oil burning systems, installations and tanks shall be in accordance with the regulations of the National Board of Underwriters. All tanks shall be placed in a location approved by the Bureau of Fire Prevention.

SECTION XXXVIII COMPRESSED AND LIQUIFIED GAS OTHER THAN ACETYLENE

No person, firm or corporation shall engage in the business of installing, liquified petroleum or other type of compressed gas system or equipment used in connection with such system without first securing a permit from the Bureau of Fire Prevention.

The design, installation and construction of containers and tanks for the storage and handling of liquified petroleum gasses shall be in accordance with the regulations of the National Board of Underwriters.

All containers shall be placed in a location approved by the Bureau of Fire Prevention after consideration of the special features such as topographical conditions, nature of occupancy and proximity to buildings on adjoining property and height and character of construction of such buildings, capacity and construction of proposed storage containers.

SECTION XXXIX STORAGE OF COMBUSTIBLE CONTAINERS

No packing cases, boxes, barrels or similar combustible containers shall be piled or stored on or in any premises near any heating pipe, stoves, furnaces or similar appliances or in any place or manner that is not deemed safe to life or property, any such containers or materials stored or kept in the open outside of any building shall be piled not more than sixteen (16) feet high, and where possible at least five (5) feet from any building.

SECTION XXXX REMOVING COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL

No person shall permit to remain upon any roof or in any court, yard, vacant lot or open space any accumulation of waste paper, hay, glass, straw, weeds, litter or combustible or flammable waste or rubbish of any kind. All weeds, grass, vines, or other growth, when same endangers, property, or is liable to be fired, shall be cut down and removed by the owner or occupant of the property it is on.

SECTION XXXXI DISPOSAL OF ASHES

No person shall deposit ashes, smouldering coal or embers, greasy or oily substances or other matters liable to create spontaneous ignition within ten (10) feet of any wooden or plastered wall, partition, fence, floor, sidewalk, lumber, hay, shavings, rubbish or other combustible receptacles, such receptacles, unless resting on a non-combustible floor or on the ground outside the building, must be placed on non-combustible stands, and in every case must be kept at least two (2) feet away from any combustible wall or partition.

SECTION XXXXII BURNING RUBBISH OUTSIDE

No person shall kindle or maintain any bonfire or shall knowingly furnish the materials for any such fire or authorize any such fire to be kindled or maintained on or in any street, alley, road, land or public grounds or upon any private lot, unless a written permit so to do shall first have been secured from the Bureau of Fire Prevention. No such fires shall be burned within twenty (20) feet of any building, and confined to an approved incinerator, all such burning to be extinguished by six (6) P.M. Permits will be granted for the burning of uncut vegetation and grass, where in the opinion of the Bureau of Fire Prevention such fires are safe to life and property.

SECTION XXXXIII DECORATIONS NEAR GLOBES

It shall be unlawful for any person to decorate any electric light globe or other lamp, or light in such manner as to come in direct contact with paper, cloth or combustible materials, such materials shall have at least six (6) inches clearance from the globe.

XXXXIV

SECTION REFRIGERATION APPARATUS

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to install, alter, or cause to be installed or altered, any non-portable systems of refrigeration, unless such system is an approved type and is installed in accordance with the provisions of the "Safety Code" for Mechanical Refrigeration."

SECTION XXXXV DANGEROUS HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES

The Bureau of Fire Prevention may prohibit the use of any type, kind or make of cooking or heating appliances using inflammable liquids which, after test by the Bureau of Fire Prevention or some competent authority, is considered a fire hazard.

SECTION XXXXVI FIRE ZONE

There is hereby established about the scene of every fire during its course a "Fire Zone" which will consist of all public streets within a radius of three hundred (300) feet or more from said fire, and in every case shall include the two (2) closest street intersections.

A- All traffic, vehicular and pedestrians, within a "Fire Zone" shall stop and it shall be unlawful for any person to move or operate any vehicle except upon orders of a Police Officer, Fire Chief, or his authorized agent.

B- It shall be unlawful to enter a "Fire Zone" or to stop, stand or park in such a manner as to hinder the apparatus of the fire department in entering or leaving any "Fire Zone."

C- Such "Fire Zone" shall remain in existence until such time as the Fire Chief or his authorized agent shall declare the emergency past.

SECTION XXXVII OBSTRUCTING FIRE HYDRANTS

It shall be unlawful for any person to obstruct any fire hydrant in the Fire District, or to place or deposit any lumber, rock, sand debris or other substance within fifteen (15) feet of any such fire hydrant.

SECTION XXXVIII HINDRANCE TO FIREMEN

It shall be unlawful for any person to wilfully offer any hindrance to any fireman in the performance of his duty at a fire.

SECTION XXXIX RUNNING VEHICLES OVER FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any vehicle on, over or across any hose, ladder, or other equipment of the Fire Department.

SECTION L DEFACING PROPERTY

It shall be unlawful for any person to injure, deface or destroy any property of the Fire Department.

SECTION Li PENALTY FOR VIOLATION

Any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this Code shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not more than Twenty-five (25.00) Dollars.

Passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Half Moon Bay Fire District, held on the 16-th day of September, By the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Frank Bernardo, Fred A. Simmons and Tony Joseph

Noes: None

Absent: None

Approved this 16th day of Sept. 1942

Fred A. Simmons
Clerk
Frank J. Bernardo
Commissioner
Anthony J. Joseph
Commissioner