

## Fire Prevention Bylaws

- There is an onus on a person who is aware of a fire hazard to notify the municipality of same.
- Fire lanes are created by the Municipality, it is for the use of heavy duty vehicles in the case of an emergency. No obstruction must come to these lanes.
- An owner or an occupier may not alter the building so as to make it more conducive for fire to travel.
- No part of a fire escape route may be obstructed in any way.
- A locking device that is fitted for the purpose of an escape door, must be approved by the Municipality.
- Escape routes must be indicated by clear signage.
- Fire extinguishers must be fitted in areas as stipulated in the National Building Regulations.
- Fire extinguishers must be regularly checked by a certified permit holder.
- Fire protection system must be regularly checked and maintained and the owner or person in charge of the premises must have a record of this.
- It is an offence to tamper with a fire protection system or fire extinguisher.
- When the Municipality deems it necessary it may send representatives of the fire brigade to attend a public function and remain in attendance for the duration of the function.
- This shall be for the cost of the organiser.
- Owner or person in charge of a school, hospital, residential institution or hotel that has an occupancy of more than 25 people must have an emergency evacuation plan, which in intervals of 6 months must be tested.
- The escape route plan must be properly displayed in designated sleeping areas.
- Combustible waste and refuse must be stored or disposed of in order to prevent hazard.
- Chimneys, flues and ducts must not store combustible waste.
- Any sources of ignition, must be adequately taken care of, in some instances the Municipality may prohibit the use of certain electric equipment so as to mitigate risk of a fire.
- No smoking signs must be properly displayed as a mitigation of risk.
- A person may not use a flame emitting device such as a candle in such a way so as to create a hazard.
- Lighting of fires is prohibited except in circumstances wherein the Municipality has granted permission.
- A person/owner whose premises is carrying a flammable substance must apply to the Municipality for a permit.
- The Municipality may refuse permission, or issue conditions. The permit must be renewed annually. A flammable substance certificate is issued under strict provisions as per the bylaw.
- All flammable liquid tanks that are above ground must comply with the specifications of the bylaw and permission must be sought from the Municipal Manager in order to erect these structures.
- The bylaws further specify stipulations for underground storage tanks, bulk storage depot, liquefied petroleum gas, storage of refillable liquid petroleum.
- In the event that there is an accident due to liquid spillage the owner of the premises has an onus to immediately notify the Municipality.
- The Municipality is not liable for damage or loss as a result of offences committed as a result of fire.
- The bylaw imposes penalties for non-compliance.
- The bylaw is called Fire and Prevention Bylaws.