

## FIRE HAZARDS REGULATIONS\*

**Citation.** 1. These Regulations may be cited as the Fire Hazards Regulations.\*

**Definitions.** 2.—(1) In these Regulations, unless the contrary appears—  
 “Fire District” means an area determined by the Administrator under these Regulations by a notice that is in force; and  
 “subject land” means land that is the subject of a notice given under regulation 5 of these Regulations.

(2.) In accordance with paragraph (b) of the definition of “inflammable matter” in section five of the *Fire Brigades Ordinance 1956*, grass, herbage and all other plants, whether growing or not, are prescribed to be inflammable matter.

**Delegation.**  
 Inserted by  
 1963, No. 18.

2A.—(1.) The Chief Fire Officer may by instrument in writing delegate to a station officer, or a person for the time being in charge of a fire brigade either generally or to the extent provided in the instrument of delegation all or any of his powers and functions under these Regulations (except this power of delegation) so that the delegated powers or functions may be exercised by the delegate with respect to the matter or class of matters specified in the instrument of delegation.

(2.) A power or function so delegated may be exercised or performed by the delegate in accordance with the instrument of delegation.

(3.) A delegation under this regulation is revocable at will and does not prevent the exercise of a power or the performance of a function by the Chief Fire Officer.

**Determination  
 of Fire  
 Districts.**

3. The Administrator may, by notice in the *Gazette*—  
 (a) constitute a Fire District;  
 (b) determine or alter the boundaries of a Fire District; and  
 (c) authorize a fire brigade to carry out its functions within a Fire District.

**Duties of  
 owners and  
 occupiers of  
 land.**

4.—(1.) The occupier, or where there is no occupier, the owner, of land—  
 (a) where the land is in a town; or  
 (b) where the land is outside a town, in circumstances where there is a possibility of danger by fire, to life or property,  
 shall ensure that inflammable matter does not accumulate on that land in such a way that it constitutes a danger by fire to life or property.

\* The Fire Hazards Regulations, in force under the *Fire Brigades Ordinance 1956-1963*, comprise the following Regulations:—

Year and Number	Date on which made	Date notified in <i>Northern Territory Government Gazette</i>	Date of Commencement
1962, No. 14	27th July, 1962	8th August, 1962	8th August, 1962
1963, No. 18	3rd October, 1963	30th October, 1963	30th October, 1963

(2.) The occupier, or where there is no occupier, the owner, of a building or of land on which a fence or structure of an inflammable nature has been erected, shall ensure that a space, of sufficient breadth to provide protection against danger by fire to life and property, is kept clear of inflammable matter around the building, fence or structure.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

5.—(1.) Where the Chief Fire Officer is of the opinion that a direct or indirect danger by fire to life or property arises from the arrangement or condition of inflammable matter lying or growing on land, he may send a notice in writing to the owner or occupier of the land requiring him to take the action specified in the notice within the time specified in the notice for eliminating or reducing the danger of fire.

Notice to remove fire danger.

(2.) Subject to the next succeeding sub-regulation a person served with a notice under this regulation shall comply with the requirements set out in the notice.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

(3.) A person served with a notice under this regulation may appeal to the Administrator for a review of the notice or of any of the requirements specified in the notice.

(4.) The appeal shall—

- (a) be in writing;
- (b) state the grounds of the appeal and the particulars which support those grounds; and
- (c) be lodged with the Administrator within three days after the person has been served with the notice.

(5.) Where a person has appealed under the last preceding sub-regulation, the Administrator shall, in writing addressed to the person—

- (a) cancel the notice; or
- (b) affirm or amend the notice and fix a further time within which the person shall comply with the notice or the notice as amended.

(6.) Where a notice has been amended under the last preceding sub-regulation the person on whom it was served shall comply with the requirements of the notice as amended.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

6. Where a person on whom a notice has been served under the last preceding regulation fails to comply with the requirements of the notice, the Chief Fire Officer may authorize a person, whether by himself or his employees, agents, licensees, servants or contractors, with or without horses, vehicles, machinery and assistants, to enter upon the subject land and do such things as are necessary to carry out the work specified in the notice and may recover as a debt due by the first mentioned person to the Commonwealth, the cost to the Commonwealth arising from the entry and the carrying out of the work.

Chief Fire Officer may eliminate fire danger.

7. A person shall not obstruct or hinder a person authorized under the last preceding regulation, or an employee, agent, licensee, servant or contractor of a person authorized, in the course of doing or preparing to do any of the things he is authorized to do.

Persons not to obstruct authorized person.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

Burning of  
inflammable  
matter.

Amended by  
1963, No. 18.

**8. Where the owner or occupier of land—**

- (a) in a town; or
- (b) outside a town in circumstances where there is a possibility of danger by fire to life or property,

burns inflammable matter lying or growing on that land, he shall, unless he burns the inflammable matter in an incinerator or fire-place—

- (c) ensure that the ground is so cleared that there is no inflammable matter within twelve feet of the fire;
- (d) give notice in writing at least one week before the burning, to the Chief Fire Officer or a person to whom the Chief Fire Officer's powers under this regulation have been delegated of his intention to burn the inflammable matter; and
- (e) comply with any written requirements of the Chief Fire Officer in connexion with the burning.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

Fires in the  
open air.

**9. Subject to the last preceding regulation, a person who lights a fire in the open air shall—**

- (a) light it in an incinerator or fire-place or ensure that the ground is so cleared that there is no inflammable matter within twelve feet of the fire;
- (b) take all precautions necessary to prevent the fire from spreading; and
- (c) not leave the fire until he has extinguished it.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

Steam boilers.

**10. The occupier of a building in which a steam boiler is installed and in use shall ensure that—**

- (a) the room in which the steam boiler is installed is separated from the remainder of the building by stone or brick walls; and
- (b) no fuel for the steam boiler or other inflammable matter is stored in the room in which the boiler is installed.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

Spray painting  
plants.

**11. The occupier of a building in which a spray painting plant is used or demonstrated for sale shall ensure that—**

- (a) no other spray painting plant is used or demonstrated for sale in the same booth or room at the same time as that spray painting plant;
- (b) adequate ventilation to prevent a concentration of inflammable vapour is provided for the booth or room in which the spray painting plant is used or demonstrated for sale; and
- (c) a notice prohibiting smoking is prominently displayed in the room in which the spray painting plant is used or demonstrated for sale.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

Smoking  
prohibited near  
spray painting  
plants.

**12. A person shall not smoke in a booth or room in which a spray painting plant is used or demonstrated for sale.**

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

**13.** The occupier of a building in which fireworks are displayed for sale shall ensure that the fireworks are—

- (a) displayed under plate glass; and
- (b) protected against sunlight.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

**14.** The occupier of land on which empty cases, boxes, cartons or other containers of an inflammable nature are stacked in the open air shall ensure that each stack—

- (a) is not more than eight feet high;
- (b) is built on a base not more than six feet wide; and
- (c) is accessible on all sides by means of a passageway at least three feet six inches wide.

**15.** The occupier of land on which sawn timber or cordwood is stacked in the open air shall ensure that—

- (a) each stack is not more than ten feet high;
- (b) each stack is built on a base not more than eight feet wide;
- (c) each stack is accessible on all sides by means of a passageway at least three feet six inches wide; and
- (d) the ground is so cleared that there is no inflammable matter within twelve feet of the stacked timber.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

**16.** The occupier of a building in which bulk inflammable matter is stored, whether loose or packed in cases, bags, cartons or boxes, shall ensure that—

- (a) the inflammable matter is stored in bays;
- (b) the dimensions of each bay do not exceed ten feet in length or in width;
- (c) the top of each stack is at least eighteen inches below the ceiling of the room;
- (d) a passageway at least eighteen inches wide is left clear between each bay; and
- (e) if the inflammable matter includes kapok, hay, fibre, or cotton wadding, it is stored in a dry condition and kept free from damp.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

**17.—(1.)** The occupier of land or a building where bulk sulphur is stored shall ensure that—

- (a) notices prohibiting smoking and the use of naked lights are prominently displayed at all entrances to the land or building;
- (b) the entry of unauthorized persons onto the land or into the building is prevented; and
- (c) the ground is so cleared that there is no inflammable matter within twelve feet—
  - (i) where the sulphur is stored in the open air, of the sulphur; and
  - (ii) where the sulphur is stored in a building, of the building in which it is stored.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

Amended by  
1963, No. 18.

(2.) For the purposes of this regulation, "unauthorized person" means a person who has not been authorized, by the occupier of the land or building in which the sulphur is stored or by the Chief Officer, to enter that land or building.

Electrical  
advertising  
signs.

18. The occupier of a building or land on which an electrical advertising sign is erected shall ensure that an outside switch controlling that advertising sign is readily accessible to a fire officer.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

Flues.  
Substituted by  
1963, No. 18.

19. The occupier of a building in which a fume or exhaust flue has been constructed shall ensure that the flue is—

- (a) fitted with inspection ports;
- (b) inspected regularly; and
- (c) cleaned regularly.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

Electric  
welding sets.

20. The occupier of a building in which an electric welding set is in use shall ensure that while the set is being used—

- (a) a fire extinguisher of a type approved by the Chief Fire Officer is readily accessible to the person using the set; and
- (b) where there is a possibility of danger by fire to life or property, a protective screen surrounds the set.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

Oily waste,

21. The occupier of a building or land which is used as a factory, workshop, service station, engine room, power station or shipyard shall ensure that—

- (a) adequate steel containers are provided for all polishing cloths, oil-soaked rag or other oily waste; and
- (b) the containers so provided are not fitted with lids.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.