

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER
TITLE 10
FIRE AND RESCUE

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CHAPTER 1
Prohibited Acts

§ 10-1. Authority. This title is enacted under the authority of § 15.1-839 of the Code of Virginia. Sections of this title may have additional authority as well.

§ 10-2. Accumulation of Combustible Materials. No person shall permit any waste, paper, straw, litter, weeds, or any other combustible material to accumulate on property owned or occupied by him in such a manner as to create an unreasonable risk of fire.

§ 10-3. Defective Chimneys, Etc. No person shall permit a chimney, roof, or stove pipe to be in such condition as to create an unreasonable risk of fire.

§ 10-4. Carrying of Open Flames. No person shall ignite any open flame in or carry open flame into a building where combustible materials are stored openly.

§ 10-5. Open Fires. No open fires shall be kindled or maintained before 4:00 P.M. or within 50 feet of any building; nor shall any open fire be left unattended. This section shall not be construed as authorization for the starting of any fire.

§ 10-6. Fires in Containers. No fire in an approved container may be kindled or maintained within 25 feet of any structure or property line. This section shall not be construed as authorization for the starting of any fire.

§ 10-7. Deposit of Materials Likely to Cause Fires. No person shall deposit hot ashes, smoldering coals, any flammable petroleum based material, or any other material likely to create or support a spontaneous ignition near any combustible material so as to create an unreasonable risk of fire.

§ 10-8. Flammable Decorations. Cotton batting, straw, dry vines, leaves, trees, celluloid, paper, or other readily flammable materials shall not be used for decorative purposes in show windows, stores, or any place of assembly unless such materials shall have first been treated and rendered

flame-proof; provided, however, that nothing in this section shall be held to prohibit the display of saleable goods permitted and offered for sale in stores. Electric light bulbs in stores and in any place of assembly shall not be decorated with paper or other combustible materials unless such papers or materials shall first have been rendered flame-proof.

§ 10-9. Penalties. Any violation of this title shall constitute a class two misdemeanor and be punished in accordance with § 1-4 of this code.

CHAPTER 2 ***Designated Providers***

§ 10-10 Designation. The Bridgewater Volunteer Fire Company, Incorporated, is designated as the Fire Department of the Town of the Bridgewater. The Bridgewater Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc., is designated as the Emergency Medical Service provider of the Town of Bridgewater. These two entities (collectively “the Units”) shall be deemed “first responders” within the Town, and for purposes of Va. Code, § 2.2-1122(D), they are recognized as part of the Town’s safety program.

§ 10-11 Limitations.

- (a) The Town reserves such other powers as the Code of Virginia may grant it with respect to the Units.
- (b) Nothing in this chapter shall create a command structure allowing the Town to control the Units. Indeed, to the extent that any governmental control is appropriate, the Town recognizes Rockingham County’s unique responsibility to maintain a coordinated fire and rescue system throughout the entire county.
- (c) This chapter shall have no effect outside boundaries of the Town of Bridgewater.
- (d) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to create any duty for public support of the Units.

(Added November 8, 2011)