



**Fire Prevention Office**  
 Allentown Fire Department  
 Office 610.437.7758  
 Fax 610.437.8781

**FLAME EFFECT  
 APPLICATION FOR PERMIT AS REQUIRED BY THE FIRE PREVENTION CODE**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Make check or money order payable to the City of Allentown. **DO NOT SEND CASH.** Send the permit/inspection fee along with the completed application to **Allentown Fire Prevention, 435 Hamilton Street, Room 425, Allentown PA 18101.**  
**PERMITS ARE NOT TRANSFERABLE.** \*\*\* Permit and inspection must be paid prior to the event\*\*\*

Name of Property Owner	
Venue Name	
Address	
Date of Event	
Time of Event	
Show Technician(s) Contact Info	
Description of Effect	
Area(s) affected by the flame effect	
Location of Audience	
Ceiling Height	
Clearance between flame and ceiling	
Fuel used and amounts	
Storage method and holding area of fuel	
Method to control any combustible materials	
Fire protection features	
Name and age of performer	
Number of times each flame effect will be used	
Experience of person operating flame effect	

Flame Effect permit cost	\$30.00
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Permit contingent upon compliance with all Flame Effect Regulations

**Allentown Fire Department  
Flame Effect Operational Requirements**

A fire permit is required to have an open flame for an open flame performance in a place of assembly or other commercial use. This includes shows, acts, candles, torches, bank special effects or any other use of open flame. Minor hazards have lesser conditions, contact the Fire Prevention Office. Pyrotechnics requires a special permit and are not covered here.

In order to obtain a permit, complete all required forms and strictly follow all listed safety procedures in this document.

- Step 1:** Complete application and pay the permit fee of \$30.00
- Step 2:** Obtain and submit the information to meet the 10 (10) items below.
- Step 3:** Contact the Fire Prevention office to demonstrate the flame-effect prior to the show.
- Step 4:** Confirm that an approved fire watch will be on-site.

**Flame effect certifications and drawings required (include with application)**

- 1 Stage curtain flame-resistance documentation as applicable (treated fabrics must have a detailed treatment report attached and a field test will be required).
- 2 Approved certification data on any devices. Provide MSDS, manufacturer data, or design data for each effect, material, substance, or device.
- 3 Training Certificates for the fire extinguisher operators as applicable.
- 4 Drawings of the show area to scale. The affected areas must be sketched in detail. Provide drawings to show all required safety clearances and room sizes.
- 5 Approvals and details on flammable/hazardous storage containers or cabinets.
- 6 Fire extinguisher approvals (submit copies of the inspection tags).
- 7 Copy of your emergency plans and procedures.
- 8 Contact information and the experience/training of the flame effect operator and assistants.
- 9 Documents to answer all requirements listed elsewhere in this document.
- 10 Any other information that will assist in granting approval and for the safety of the public.

**Permit is contingent upon the compliance of the following conditions.**

**The following is required per NFPA 160:**

- 1 All flame effect materials not in use or connected for use must be stored in absolute minimum quantities in approved safety containers or cabinets.
- 2 All flame effect materials and devices removed from safe storage immediately prior to use shall be stored in an approved holding area.
- 3 Flame effect devices must be approved by a listed agency, registered engineer, or the fire department.
- 4 Flame effect operators must be a minimum of 21 years old.
- 5 Flame effect devices must be fail-safe and non-combustible or flame retardant.
- 6 All performers and support personnel should be advised of the potentially hazardous operation.
- 7 Performers and operators shall wear flame resistant clothing if exposed to the flame effect.

**Manually controlled flame effects must have one or more of the following emergency procedures in place:**

- 1 A manual, approved fuel shut-off device.
- 2 A manual power shut-off.
- 3 An approved fire containment device that can be securely closed.
- 4 Other approved method.

**Automatic controlled flame effects and Class II through Class VII flame effects must follow this document as applicable and the requirements of NFPA 160, current edition. If you are not familiar with NFPA 160, you have no authorization to use higher-classed flame effects.**

**Minimum Fire Protection Required:**

- 1 Any existing fire protection must be maintained and ready for use.
- 2 Provide at least one 2-A rated water unit and one 10-BC extinguisher on each side of the stage.  
Stand-by personnel, strictly dedicated to emergency service must stand by the fire extinguishers during the flame effect.
- 3 effect.
- 4 Stand-by fire personnel may be trained employees, if acceptable to the Fire Prevention Office.

**Fire Watch required. Do not start the act without a permit and approved fire watcher from the Allentown Fire Department, unless a waiver to use private fire watchers has been granted.**

Fire Prevention Office (610) 437-7758  
Fire Marshal's Office (610) 437-7788

Lehigh County Communications (610) 437-4451  
Fire Emergency 911