



BLASTING REQUIREMENTS

Permit applications shall be made to the Code Enforcement Department and shall include all requirements as set forth in this chapter and applicable provisions of the International Fire Code 2009. (See Sections below)

All permit applications will be reviewed by the Fire Marshal and Code Enforcement Officer for compliance with all regulations. The permit application shall be rejected if it fails to provide all documentation.

Permit applications shall contain the following information:

- (1) Detailed plans and specifications shall be submitted of the blasting area and all blasting procedures to be utilized. The plans shall also show all natural and man-made features, buildings, roads, utilities and property owners within 1,000 feet of the blasting area property line. This shall include all areas outside of the Towamencin Township boundaries.
- (2) The following permits must be submitted by the contractor and all individuals involved with the blasting:
 - (a) PA blasting license.
 - (b) PA-DEP explosives purchase permit.
 - (c) PA-DEP magazine storage license.
 - (d) PA-DEP blasting activity permit.
 - (e) U.S. Department of Transportation hazardous materials certification of registration.
- (3) A notification list shall be submitted of all property owners and public utility companies within 1,000 feet of the blasting area property line as specified by § 46-4 of this chapter, including all property owners outside the boundaries of Towamencin Township.
- (4) A certificate of insurance, naming Towamencin Township as an additional insured party, shall be submitted, to compensate for damage to all public and private property. The insurance certificate shall not be less than \$2,000,000. An insurance certificate shall also be submitted for an amount not less than \$2,000,000 to cover bodily injury damage. The Township Fire Marshal or Code Officer may request an increase with the amount of insurance it is deemed necessary to adequately protect the safety and property of all persons and property.

(5) The permit application shall also include a list of all contact personnel. The individuals must be available on a twenty-four-hour basis.

(6) A report prepared by a professional geologist or engineer licensed to practice in the State of Pennsylvania must be submitted, containing specific recommendations for blasting and certifying that the blast plan will not produce a peak particle velocity greater than allowed by federal, state or local regulations. The report shall also include the effects the blasting operation will have on adjacent structures or utilities within 500 feet and the details of the field-monitoring system to be used during the blasting. If the report should show potential damage to existing structures or improvements, the Township may deny the permit request.

(7) A permit fee of \$170.00 for each 5 days of blasting must be paid at time of application as set forth in the Towamencin Township fee schedule, as adopted by resolution of the Board of Supervisors.

§ 46-4. Notification to public and inspections of adjacent property.

A. All property owners and public utility companies within 1,000 feet of all sides of the blasting area property line must be notified a minimum of two weeks prior to the start of blasting operations. All property owners within 500 feet of all sides of the blasting area must also be notified of an offer to inspect the property and all structures free of charge. The owners must be given ample time to review the results and contest the findings. The results of each survey and owners' response must be submitted with the permit application.

B. All notifications must at a minimum include the area of blasting, day and times of the blast, and overall anticipated duration.

C. The pre-blast survey shall make accommodations for the pre and post testing of all private water supplies if requested by the individual property owner.

D. The provisions of this section shall in no way supersede any other state or federal requirements concerning public notification or pre-blast inspections.

§ 46-5. General rules and regulations.

A. In addition to the requirements of this chapter, applicants must adhere to all other applicable federal, state or local regulations.

B. The blasting shall be limited to between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays. No blasting is permitted on Sundays or holidays.

C. The blasting operation may not interfere or impede normal school bus routes or pickup or dropoff areas. The contractor shall be responsible to maintain safe traffic control during the blasting.

D. Overnight storage of explosives on the construction site is prohibited.

E. Proper notification to individuals in the immediate vicinity of the blasting area shall be provided by way of horns, whistles or other approved devices. All sides of the blasting area shall be clearly posted at appropriate distances.

§ 46-6. Violations and penalties.

Any person or persons, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and the costs of prosecution, through the issuance of a summary citation. In default of the payment of any fine or penalty imposed by any District Justice under the provisions of this chapter, the person, persons, firm or corporation so violating may be committed to the Montgomery County Prison for a period to be determined by the District Justice, not to exceed 30 days.

IFC 2009 Requirements

SECTION 3307

BLASTING

3307.1 General. Blasting operations shall be conducted only by *approved*, competent operators familiar with the required safety precautions and the hazards involved and in accordance with the provisions of NFPA 495.

3307.2 Manufacturer's instructions. Blasting operations shall be performed in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer of the *explosive materials* being used. **Provide detailed summary of materials being used and instructions from manufacturer.**

3307.3 Blasting in congested areas. When blasting is done in a congested area or in close proximity to a structure, railway or highway, or any other installation, precautions shall be taken to minimize earth vibrations and air blast effects. **Blasting mats or other protective means shall be used to prevent fragments from being thrown.**

3307.4 Restricted hours. See 46-5 B for hours

3307.5 Utility notification. Whenever blasting is being conducted in the vicinity of utility lines or rights-of-way, the blaster shall notify the appropriate representatives of the utilities at least 24 hours in advance of blasting, specifying the location and intended time of such blasting. Verbal notices shall be confirmed with written notice.

3307.6 Electric detonator precautions. Precautions shall be taken to prevent accidental discharge of electric detonators from currents induced by radar and radio transmitters, lightning, adjacent power lines, dust and snow storms, or other sources of extraneous electricity.

3307.7 Nonelectric detonator precautions. Precautions shall be taken to prevent accidental initiation of nonelectric detonators from stray currents induced by lightning or static electricity.

3307.8 Blasting area security. During the time that holes are being loaded or are loaded with *explosive materials*, blasting agents or detonators, only authorized *persons* engaged in drilling and loading operations or otherwise authorized to enter the site shall be allowed at the blast site. The blast site shall be

guarded or barricaded and posted. Blast site security shall be maintained until after the post-blast inspection has been completed.

3307.9 Drill holes. Holes drilled for the loading of *explosive* charges shall be made and loaded in accordance with NFPA 495.

3307.10 Removal of excess explosive materials. After loading for a blast is completed and before firing, excess *explosive materials* shall be removed from the area and returned to the proper storage facilities.

3307.11 Initiation means. The initiation of blasts shall be by means conforming to the provisions of NFPA 495.

3307.12 Connections. The blaster shall supervise the connecting of the blastholes and the connection of the loadline to the power source or initiation point. Connections shall be made progressively from the blasthole back to the initiation point. Blasting lead lines shall remain shunted (shorted) and shall not be connected to the blasting machine or other source of current until the blast is to be fired.

3307.13 Firing control. No blast shall be fired until the blaster has made certain that all surplus *explosive materials* are in a safe place in accordance with Section 3307.10, all *persons* and equipment are at a safe distance or under sufficient cover and that an adequate warning signal has been given.

3307.14 Post-blast procedures. After the blast, the following procedures shall be observed.

3. No *person* shall return to the blast area until allowed to do so by the blaster in charge.
2. The blaster shall allow sufficient time for smoke and fumes to dissipate and for dust to settle before returning to or approaching the blast area.
3. The blaster shall inspect the entire blast site for misfires before allowing other personnel to return to the blast area.

TOWAMENCIN TOWNSHIP

1090 Troxel Rd, Lansdale, PA 19446

Phone: 215-368-7602 Fax: 215-368-7650

questions only, permits@towamencin.org

APPLICATION FOR BLASTING PERMIT

Date: _____

Fee - \$ 170.00 each 5-day period

I (we) hereby make application for a permit for the purpose of Blasting at the following location:

Address of Work Site: _____ **City:** _____

Company Name: _____ **Blaster:** _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Phone No: _____

E-Mail: _____ **License No:** _____

Dates of Blasting: _____ **Times of Blasting:** _____

I/We the undersigned have read and understand the requirements of Towamencin Township and hereby state we will follow all regulations as outlined in the Township ordinances and the International Fire Code.

Applicant Signature: _____

Office Use Only:

Permit No: _____

Approved By: _____ **Date:** _____

Fee Paid: _____