

**CHAPTER 17
FUMIGATION AND INSECTICIDAL FOGGING**

**SECTION FC 1701
GENERAL**

1701.1 Scope. This chapter shall govern fumigation and insecticidal fogging operations within buildings and structures.

1701.2 Permits. Permits shall be required as set forth in FC105.6.

1701.3 General. Fumigation and insecticidal fogging operations within buildings and structures shall be conducted in accordance with this chapter.

1701.4 Supervision. Fumigation and insecticidal fogging operations shall be supervised in accordance with FC 1701.4.1 and 1701.4.2.

1701.4.1 Fumigation and insecticidal fogging operation company certificate. Persons engaged in the business of fumigation and insecticidal fogging operations shall obtain a fumigation and insecticidal fogging operation company certificate.

1701.4.2 Fumigation and insecticidal fogging operations. Fumigation and insecticidal fogging operations requiring a permit or a company certificate shall be conducted by or under the personal supervision of a person holding a certificate of fitness.

1701.5 Compliance with other provisions of law. Fumigation and insecticidal fogging operations shall comply with all applicable federal, state and city laws, rules and regulations.

1701.6 Prohibitions. It shall be unlawful to:

1. Use insecticidal fogging liquids with a flash point below 100°F (38°C).
2. Use carbon disulfide and hydrogen cyanide for fumigation unless conducted on a premises used solely for agriculture.

**SECTION FC 1702
DEFINITIONS**

1702.1 Definitions. The following terms shall, for the purposes of this chapter and as used elsewhere in this code, have the meanings shown herein.

FUMIGANT. A substance which by itself or in combination with any other substance emits or liberates a gas, fume or vapor utilized for the destruction or control of insects, rats or other vermin or fungi, germs or similar conditions, as distinguished from insecticides and disinfectants which are essentially effective in the solid or liquid phases. Examples are methyl bromide, ethylene dibromide, hydrogen cyanide, carbon disulfide and sulfuryl fluoride.

FUMIGATION. The utilization within an enclosed space of a fumigant in concentrations that are hazardous or acutely toxic to humans.

FUMIGATION AND INSECTICIDAL FOGGING OPERATION COMPANY CERTIFICATE. A certificate issued by the commissioner to a person engaged in the business of fumigation and insecticidal fogging operations, which authorizes an owner or principal of such business to conduct such fumigation and insecticidal fogging operations, for which such certificate is required by this code or the rules.

INSECTICIDAL FOGGING. The utilization of insecticidal liquids passed through fog-generating units where, by pressure and turbulence, and with or without addition of heat, such liquids are transformed and discharged in the form of fog or mist blown into an area to be treated.

SECTION FC 1703 FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

1703.1 General. Fumigation and insecticidal fogging operations in buildings and structures shall be conducted in compliance with the fire protection and safety requirements of FC 1703.2 through 1703.5.

1703.2 Sources of ignition. Open flames and similar sources of ignition shall be removed from the space in which fumigation or insecticidal fogging operations are being conducted. Heating, where needed, shall be of an approved type.

1703.2.1 Electricity. Electricity in any part of the building or structure where operation of switches or electrical devices, equipment and systems could serve as a source of ignition during and for a reasonable time after any fumigation or insecticidal fogging operation shall be shut off.

Exception: Circulating fans that have been specifically designed for utilization in hazardous atmospheres and installed in accordance with the Electrical Code.

1703.2.2 Electronic devices. Electronic devices, including portable equipment and cellular phones, shall be shut off. Telephone lines shall be disconnected from telephones.

1703.3 Notification. The department shall be notified in writing at least 48 hours before the building or structure is to be closed in connection with the utilization of any toxic or flammable fumigant. Notification shall give the location of the enclosed space to be fumigated or fogged, the occupancy, the fumigants or insecticides to be utilized, the person or persons responsible for the operation, and the date and time at which the operation will begin. Written notice of any fumigation or insecticidal fogging operation shall be given to all affected occupants of the building, structure or portion thereof in which such operations are to be conducted, with sufficient advance notice to allow all such spaces to be vacated in an orderly manner. Such notice shall inform the occupants as to the purposes and anticipated duration of the fumigation operations.

1703.3.1 Warning signs. Approved warning signs indicating the danger, type of chemical involved and necessary precautions shall be posted on all doors and entrances to the premises and upon all gangplanks and ladders from the deck, pier or land to the marine vessel or watercraft. Such notices shall be printed in red ink on a white background. Letters in the headlines shall be at least 2 inches (51 mm) in height and shall state the date and time of the operation, the name and address of the person conducting the fumigation or insecticidal fogging, the name of the operator in charge, and a warning stating that the occupied premises shall be vacated at least 1 hour before the operation begins and shall not be reentered until the danger signs have been removed by the proper authorities. Advance notice shall be given to all occupants of the building or structure where fumigation and insecticidal fogging operations are to be conducted to warn of the hazards of such operation.

1703.3.2 Reserved.

1703.3.3 Watchperson. During the period fumigation is in progress, except when fumigation is conducted in a gas-tight vault or tank, one or more watchpersons shall be provided at each entrance to the space being fumigated to prevent entry into such space until the fumigation is completed and the premises is properly ventilated and safe for occupancy.

1703.4 Wrapping of buildings. Paper and other similar combustible materials that do not meet the flame propagation performance criteria of NFPA 701 shall not be used to wrap or cover a building in excess of that required for the sealing of cracks, casements and similar openings.

1703.5 Ventilation and cleanup. At the end of the exposure period, fumigators shall safely and properly ventilate the premises and contents; properly dispose of fumigant containers, residues, debris and other waste materials; and clear obstructions from gas-fired appliance vents.