

CALN TOWNSHIP

CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CALN, CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 85 OF THE CALN CODE TITLED, "FIRE PROTECTION EQUIPMENT" TO RENAME THE CHAPTER "FIRE PROTECTION AND LIFE SAFETY EQUIPMENT" AND TO UPDATE THE STANDARDS.

BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Caln Township as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 85 of the Caln Code, titled, "Fire Protection Equipment", shall be renamed "Fire Protection and Life Safety Equipment" and shall be amended in whole to read as follows:

**Chapter 85
FIRE PROTECTION AND LIFE SAFETY EQUIPMENT**

§ 85-1. Administration.

This chapter shall be administered by the Fire Code Official and/or such other persons as may be designated from time to time by the Board of Commissioners of Caln Township.

§ 85-2. Purpose.

It is the intention of this chapter to apply to all fire protection and life safety equipment now or hereafter installed within Caln Township, including fire hoses, couplings, standpipes, sprinkler system connections, hydrants, emergency exit doors, exit signage, emergency lighting and similar facilities, whether public or private, and the provisions in this chapter, unless otherwise exempted herein, shall apply to all residential, commercial, industrial, private, public, governmental and other facilities within the Township, including all municipal corporations, water companies, whether public or private, and other facilities now or hereafter serving Caln Township.

§ 85-3. Compliance with standards.

All equipment for fire and life safety protection purposes shall comply with the standards adopted by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, UL Solutions, the National Fire Protection Association and designated as standard equipment for use within Caln Township. Where applicable, such equipment shall be installed with the standard threads for fire hose couplings and hydrant fittings designated by said agencies.

§ 85-4. Existing noncomplying equipment: time for compliance.

Notwithstanding the provisions of §§ 85-2 and 85-3 of this chapter, existing equipment for fire protection purposes which is not equipped with the national standard fire hose screw threads may, for a period of two years after the effective date of this chapter, be used by authorities having charge of public property and may be used by fire protection agencies. After the expiration of that period, all equipment used must conform to the requirements of § 85-3 of this chapter. All other existing equipment and similar facilities which are noncomplying shall be brought up to the standards in the Township adopted construction and/or fire codes.

§ 85-5. Combustible truss construction buildings.

A. Definitions. The following definitions shall apply to this section:

COMBUSTIBLE TRUSS CONSTRUCTION — A combination of combustible members, such as wood-framed and engineered lumber products, usually arranged in triangular units or "I" beam units to form a rigid framework for supporting floor and roof loads over a span of structural members that connect together to span the space between the walls of the building to support a vertical load.

TRUSS EMBLEM — A sign consisting of an isosceles triangle not less than 12 inches horizontally by six inches vertically made of reflective material with white as the background and red lettering, containing the following: "F" to signify a building or structure having a floor with truss construction; "R" to signify a building or structure having a roof with truss construction; or "FR" to signify a building or structure having both a floor and roof with truss construction. An example of the truss emblem is attached hereto as a reference.¹

B. Identification of truss construction.

(1) Except as provided in Subsection C below, the owner of any structure or building containing combustible truss construction in any form or manner shall install and maintain a visible truss emblem to the left of the main entrance and at a height of not less than five feet above the finish grade or at such other place as the Fire Marshal or his/her designee may determine.

(2) The owner, developer and/or homeowners' association of a residential subdivision, residential condominium, or apartment complex where combustible truss construction was used in the dwellings or buildings within said subdivision, condominium or complex shall install and maintain a truss emblem within the public right-of-way or upon the common element/area (in the case of a private street or condominium) at each entrance to such subdivision, condominium or apartment complex, or at such other location as the Fire Marshal or his/her designee may determine.

C. Exemption. The owner of any single-family dwelling unit or semidetached dwelling containing not more than two dwelling units shall be exempt from installing and maintaining a truss emblem.

D. Fire Marshal approval. The owner and/or developer of any building or structure required to have a truss emblem under this section shall include in their land development

plan which is submitted pursuant to Chapter 137 of the Caln Code the design and location for the truss emblem, which must be approved in writing by the Township Fire Marshal or his/her designee.

E. Retroactive compliance required. The provisions of this section shall apply to the owners of existing buildings or structures having combustible truss construction, provided that the owners of existing buildings or structures have knowledge that combustible truss construction was used when building such building or structure. Such owners shall have six months from the effective date of this section to comply with the provisions of this section.1.

F. Maintenance of sign. The owner of any structure or building containing combustible truss construction or the owner, developer and/or homeowners' association of a residential subdivision, residential condominium, or apartment complex where combustible truss construction was used in the dwellings or buildings within said subdivision, condominium or complex shall be responsible for maintenance of the emblem which must be installed pursuant to this section. The emblem shall be permanently affixed to the structure or building, and if the reflective material or lettering becomes worn out over time, such emblem shall be replaced.

§ 85-6. Application for fire protection and life safety equipment inspection.

An application for a fire protection and life safety inspection shall be made in writing, by the owner(s), agent or tenant on forms furnished by the Township with the applicable fee.

§ 85-7 Fees.

Every person applying for a fire protection and life safety inspection under this chapter shall supply such information as the Township requires and shall pay a fee in accordance with the fee schedule approved and adopted by the Board of Commissioners by resolution, which schedule shall be available for public inspection at the Township.

§ 85-8. Inspections.

Those persons designated as administrators of this chapter shall make inspections of property and facilities within Caln Township for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the terms of this chapter, in accordance with the commercial fire safety inspection program, and when necessary to investigate complaints of violations. Said administrators shall advise property owners and other persons or agencies concerned of the changes necessary to bring their equipment into conformance with this chapter and shall render such assistance as may be appropriate to ensure prompt and reasonable compliance.

§ 85-9. New installations; notification of Township.

Any construction or installation of equipment within the Township related to fire and life safety protection shall be subject to inspection by those designated to do so. The burden of notifying the Township of construction and installation of such equipment is upon the landowner of the property involved.

§ 85-10. Saving clause.

The Fire Prevention Code heretofore ordained and adopted by Caln Township remains in full force and effect.

§ 85-11. Violations and penalties.

Any person who shall violate a provision of this Chapter or fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof shall be guilty of a summary offense, punishable by a fine of not less than \$300 nor more than \$1,000 per day, plus costs and attorney's fees and, upon default of the payment of the fine and costs, imprisonment not exceeding 30 days. Each day that a violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense."

SECTION 2. Severability. If any sentence, clause, section, or part of this Ordinance is for any reason found to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, such provisions, sentences, clauses, sections, or parts hereof. It is hereby declared as the intent of the Board of Commissioners that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such unconstitutional, illegal or invalid sentence, clause, section or part thereof not been included herein.

SECTION 3. Repealer. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances conflicting with any provision of this Ordinance are hereby repealed insofar as the same affects this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon enactment as by law provided.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED this _____ day of _____ 2023.

ATTEST:

**CALN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Kristen Denne, Secretary

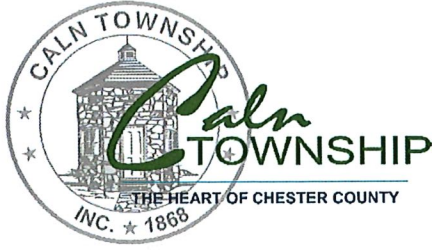
Paul Mullin, President

Jane Kennedy, Vice President

Lorraine Tindaro, Member

Joshua B. Young, Member

Mark Evans, Member



MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Commissioners

FROM: Raymond Stackhouse, Director

DATE: February 1, 2023

SUBJECT: Chapter 85, Fire Protection Equipment, Request for Ordinance Modification

Commissioners:

Since we have updated our commercial fire safety inspection program, which is based off the requirements of Chapter 85 of the Caln Ordinance, we have found that there are several wording changes, updates and clarifications that need made.

The primary changes proposed are as follows:

- Administration of this ordinance is proposed to be the Director of Building and Life Safety, as opposed to current ordinance which is the Chief of the Thorndale Fire Company.
- Organizations that dictate National Standards have had name changes, we updated those.
- We added "Life Safety Equipment" in the ordinance to clarify that items such as Exit signage, Emergency Lighting and this type of equipment are part of the inspection. This was in response to the business owners being confused on what to expect due to lack of clarity.
- Added wording on application for inspection process and fee associated with the inspection, which are already in use and established by the fee resolution.

We have been having good success with cooperation from the businesses, as well as identifying fire and life safety issues in the commercial buildings are residents and visitors enter. This will certainly assist with solidifying the requirements, the terminology and process in which to continue improving the program.

*Township of Caln, PA
Wednesday, February 1, 2023*

Chapter 85. Fire Protection Equipment

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Caln 10-8-1974 by Ord. No. 1974-8. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Fire prevention standards — See Ch. 59, Art. II.

§ 85-1. Administration.

This chapter shall be administered by the Chief of the Thorndale Fire Company and/or such other persons as may be designated from time to time by the Board of Commissioners of Caln Township.

§ 85-2. Purpose.

[Amended 9-29-2005 by Ord. No. 2005-13]

It is the intention of this chapter to apply to all fire protection equipment now or hereafter installed within Caln Township, including fire hoses, couplings, standpipes, sprinkler system connections, hydrants and similar facilities, whether public or private, and the provisions in this chapter, unless otherwise exempted herein, shall apply to all residential, commercial, industrial, private, public, governmental and other facilities within the Township, including all municipal corporations, water companies, whether public or private, and other facilities now or hereafter serving Caln Township.

§ 85-3. Compliance with standards.

All equipment for fire protection purposes shall comply with the standards adopted by the National Board of Fire Underwriters and the National Fire Protection Association and designated as standard equipment for use within Caln Township, and, where applicable, such equipment shall be installed with the standard threads for fire hose couplings and hydrant fittings designated by said agencies.

§ 85-4. Existing noncomplying equipment: time for compliance.

Notwithstanding the provisions of §§ 85-2 and 85-3 of this chapter, existing equipment for fire protective purposes which is not equipped with the national standard fire hose screw threads may, for a period of two years after the effective date of this chapter, be used by authorities having charge of public property and may be used by fire protection agencies. After the expiration of that period all equipment used must conform to the requirements of § 85-3 of this chapter.

§ 85-4.1. Combustible truss construction buildings.

[Added 9-29-2005 by Ord. No. 2005-13]

Short title: Identification emblems on certain properties, buildings or structures containing combustible truss construction required for certain engineered combustible truss construction buildings.

- A. Definitions. The following definitions shall apply to this section:

COMBUSTIBLE TRUSS CONSTRUCTION

A combination of combustible members, such as wood-framed and engineered lumber products, usually arranged in triangular units or "I" beam units to form a rigid framework for supporting floor and roof loads over a span of structural members that connect together to span the space between the walls of the building to support a vertical load.

TRUSS EMBLEM

A sign consisting of an isosceles triangle not less than 12 inches horizontally by six inches vertically made of reflective material with white as the background and red lettering, containing the following: "F" to signify a building or structure having a floor with truss construction; "R" to signify a building or structure having a roof with truss construction; or "FR" to signify a building or structure having both a floor and roof with truss construction. An example of the truss emblem is attached hereto as a reference.^[1]

- [1] *Editor's Note: Examples of the emblem are on file in the Township offices. See also N.J.A.C. 5:70-2.20(a)1.*

- B. Identification of truss construction.

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection C below, the owner of any structure or building containing combustible truss construction in any form or manner shall install and maintain a visible truss emblem to the left of the main entrance and at a height of not less than five feet above the finish grade or at such other place as the Fire Marshal or his/her designee may determine.
- (2) The owner, developer and/or homeowners' association of a residential subdivision, residential condominium, or apartment complex where combustible truss construction was used in the dwellings or buildings within said subdivision, condominium or complex shall install and maintain a truss emblem within the public right-of-way or upon the common element/area (in the case of a private street or condominium) at each entrance to such subdivision, condominium or apartment complex, or at such other location as the Fire Marshal or his/her designee may determine.

- C. Exemption. The owner of any single-family dwelling unit or semidetached dwelling containing not more than two dwelling units shall be exempt from installing and maintaining a truss emblem.
- D. Fire Marshal approval. The owner and/or developer of any building or structure required to have a truss emblem under this section shall include in their land development plan which is submitted pursuant to Chapter 137 of the Caln Code the design and location for the truss emblem, which must be approved in writing by the Township Fire Marshal or his/her designee.
- E. Retroactive compliance required. The provisions of this section shall apply to the owners of existing buildings or structures having combustible truss construction, provided that the owners of existing buildings or structures have knowledge that combustible truss construction was used when building such building or structure. Such owners shall have six months from the effective date of this section to comply with the provisions of this section.
- F. Maintenance of sign. The owner of any structure or building containing combustible truss construction or the owner, developer and/or homeowners' association of a residential subdivision, residential condominium, or apartment complex where combustible truss construction was used in the dwellings or buildings within said subdivision, condominium or complex shall be responsible for maintenance of the emblem which must be installed pursuant to this section. The emblem shall be permanently affixed to the structure or building, and if the reflective material or lettering becomes worn out over time, such emblem shall be replaced.

§ 85-5. Inspections.

Those persons designated as administrators of this chapter shall from time to time make inspections of property and facilities within Caln Township for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the terms of this chapter, and said administrators shall advise property owners and other persons or agencies concerned of the changes necessary to bring their equipment into conformance with this chapter and shall render such assistance as may be appropriate to ensure prompt and reasonable compliance.

§ 85-6. New installations; notification of Township.

Any construction or installation of equipment within the Township related to fire protection shall be subject to inspection by those designated to do so, which inspections shall be followed by a report to the Board of Commissioners. The burden of notifying the Township of construction and installation of such equipment is upon the landowner of the property involved.

§ 85-7. Saving clause.

The Fire Prevention Code heretofore ordained and adopted by Caln Township remains in full force and effect.^[1]

[1] *Editor's Note: See Ch. 59, Building Construction, Art. II, Additional Building Regulations, for current fire prevention standards.*

§ 85-8. Violations and penalties.

Any person who violates this chapter by the sale, purchase, acceptance, construction or installation of any equipment in violation of the standards set forth herein will be charged before a District Justice of the Peace, and if found guilty thereof, may be punished by a fine not exceeding \$300, and in default of the payment of said fine, may be sentenced to the county prison for a period not exceeding 30 days. Any warrant alleging violations hereof and complaints issued by a District Justice of the Peace shall be served upon the defendant by a Constable or Deputy Constable of Caln Township.