OPEN FLAME/CANDLE REQUIREMENTS
IN ASSEMBLY OCCUPANCIES

2007-04-04

CANDLES
1) All candles in Assembly Occupancies must have the flame enclosed and protected.
2) Candles must be in a container with a substantial and wide base which will not allow for the candle to be easily tipped.
3) The containers must be tall enough so as not to permit combustible objects placed on top to easily ignite.
4) The containers must be located in a manner so as not to allow for the ignition of clothing, drapes or other combustibles.
5) Candles or other open flame devices can never be located in an aisle or exit or be passed from one person to another.

COOKING
6) Open flame cooking in Assembly Occupancies can only occur where there is approved Fire Suppression.
7) Where alcohol is used as part of the cooking/presentation of food, adequate precautions must be in place. The burning of alcohol or other fuels for display or entertainment is prohibited.
8) Chaffing dishes and food warmers can only be used with approved solid fuel in containers no larger than 8 ounces.
9) The use of all Class I and II liquids, charcoal and LP gas inside of an Assembly Occupancy is not permitted. LP gas may be approved by the Fire Official in some circumstances if the containers are the 1-2 pound size.

OPEN FLAME/SPECIAL EVENTS
10) For Special Events or Special Religious Ceremonies which may utilize an unprotected candle or open flame device, permission must be obtained from the Fire Prevention Bureau prior to the event or ceremony.
11) An Operational Permit, issued by the Fire Prevention Bureau, is required for all instances of open flame use in an Assembly Occupancy. The Fire Official will determine if the device, methods of use and precautions allow for the issuance of a permit.

THIS INFORMATIONAL HANDOUT IS A REFERENCE GUIDE FOR THE MOST COMMON ASPECTS OF OPEN FLAME DEVICE AND CANDLE USE. IT IS NOT INTENDED TO COVER ALL ASPECTS OF ALL SITUATIONS AND DEVICES. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO OBTAIN FIRE DEPARTMENT APPROVAL OR AN OPERATIONAL PERMIT PRIOR TO AN EVENT PLEASE CONTACT THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU, 38 LAGRAVE AVE SE, 616-456-3900.