

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER #2019-1

Guidelines for the Design & Use of Theatrical Fog Equipment

1) Purpose:

The purpose of this Administrative Order is to provide for consistency in administering and enforcing Fire Permit requirements associated with the use of theatrical fog equipment.

- The use of theatrical fog shall not compromise the health of workers and spectators.
- The use of theatrical fog shall not visually obstruct any portion of the means of egress.
- The use of theatrical fog shall be done only when affected portions of the fire protection systems (smoke detection systems, duct detectors, etc.) are placed on test with a corresponding fire watch per [Administrative Order #2018-1](#)

2) Justification:

The information outlined and specified in this document is intended to provide compliant and standardized guidelines to building owners, tenants and operators as to the measures that are to be taken when theatrical fog effects are planned.

3) Permit Requirements:

A [Fire Permit](#) is to be obtained from the Manheim Township Code Compliance Department for each proposed event or series of consecutive events that will involve the use of theatrical fog. Fire permit applications and supporting documentation are to be submitted at least 30 days in advance of the planned event(s). Submit the following information for review and approval:

- Completed [Fire Permit](#) Application.
- A written description of the planned events/performances that will utilize theatrical fog including the name or group sponsoring the performance, date and time of event(s), exact location of the event(s), name of the effects operator(s), qualifications of the effect operator(s), number and type of effect devices, a schematic of the facility including location of fog effect machines and locations of means of egress / exiting, written fire safety and evacuation plan for the proposed event.
- Listing of fog equipment and effect(s) including SDS (Safety Data Sheets) for fog effect materials.
- Measures to be taken to monitor/control the exposure of workers and the public to the fog effects.
- A written narrative as to how the fire alarm system will be maintained during the theatrical event. Will portions of the fire alarm system(s) be interrupted? Submit a detailed fire watch description for review and approval.
- Will the operation of heating, air conditioning and ventilation systems move theatrical fog into other areas of the building(s) causing activation of other fire protection features? Will duct detectors or smoke alarms in other areas of the building(s) cause an alarm condition?

4) Inspection Requirements:

A preliminary inspection of the venue is required. Testing of the theatrical fog effects are to be done in the presence of a Code Official and the Manheim Township Fire Rescue (MTFR) Fire Chief. The testing shall be done with conditions that approximate the conditions of the event.



Issued By:

Andrew S. Bowman, Director of Code Compliance

Effective Date: March 28, 2019