



BIG WALNUT JOINT FIRE DISTRICT
FIRE PREVENTION, PERMIT, PLAN REVIEW
AND SERVICE FEE SCHEDULE
2026 EDITION

Fire Board Approval	September 10, 2026
Effective Date	September 10, 2026

Prepared for public use by the Big Walnut Joint Fire District Fire Prevention Bureau

The Fire Board of the BWJFD reserves the right to waive any fee. Appeals must be made in person to the Fire Board of the BWJFD at a monthly meeting.



1. Purpose and Authority

This fee schedule establishes fees for fire code permits, fire protection system review, project review, inspections, special services, and related Fire Prevention Bureau activities performed by the Big Walnut Joint Fire District. The schedule is intended to provide a clear and consistent method of cost recovery for services associated with private development, regulated activities, construction, special events, and requested services.

The schedule is administered in conjunction with the Ohio Fire Code, including OFC 105.1.1.1, 105.1.1.2, 105.5, 105.6, 105.7, 104.2.1, and 108.2, and with applicable provisions of the Ohio Revised Code. The Board of Fire District Trustees exercises the powers granted to joint fire districts under ORC 505.371 and related law.

The purpose of the BWJFD Fee Schedule is to ensure that the reasonable costs associated with reviewing, permitting, inspecting, and supporting private development projects are assigned to the projects generating those costs rather than being passed on to existing residents and property owners.

A reasonable cost-recovery fee structure allows BWJFD to provide developers, builders, engineers, architects, and property owners with the professional fire and life safety review necessary for their projects while protecting the interests of the taxpayers who already fund the Fire District.

The Fire District's objective is not to discourage development or create unnecessary barriers to investment. Rather, the objective is to establish a fair and transparent system in which the cost of project-specific services is borne, to a reasonable extent, by those receiving and generating those services. By recovering appropriate development-related costs, BWJFD can preserve existing tax revenues for emergency service delivery and reduce pressure to seek additional property tax revenue from residents through future fire levies.

Our guiding principle is straightforward: growth should contribute to the public safety costs it creates, rather than transferring those costs to the residents and property owners who already support the Fire District.

Important

This fee schedule does not replace any fee, permit, plan approval, license, or inspection required by the State Fire Marshal, a certified building department, zoning authority, county agency, or other authority having jurisdiction. Where a conflict exists, applicable law controls.

2. General Administrative Provisions

- Fees are due at the time of application or when invoiced by the Fire District, unless other arrangements are approved in writing.
- Invoices will be sent electronically via a third-party billing company. BWJFD will no longer accept payment directly.
- Permit and review fees are based on the scope of the work submitted. A change in scope, substantial revision, additional system, or additional phase may require an additional fee.
- The responsible owner, developer, contractor, applicant, or other requesting party is responsible for fees associated with the project or service.
- A permit or review by BWJFD does not constitute building code plan approval and does not relieve any person from compliance with the Ohio Fire Code, Ohio Building Code, other applicable codes, or approved construction documents.
- When a permit category is discretionary under OFC 105.1.1.2, BWJFD may require the permit as part of its locally adopted permit program.
- Routine scheduling, payment questions, document transmittal, and simple status inquiries are not charged as technical consultation time.
- Fees may be waived or adjusted only when authorized by the Board-adopted fee policy, the Fire Chief or designee acting within that authority, and applicable law.

3. Mandatory Permit Fees

The following activities are identified as mandatory permit activities by OFC 105.1.1.1. State Fire Marshal permits may also be required. Applicants are responsible for obtaining all required state and local permits.



Service / Permit	OFC Reference	Fee
Explosives and explosive material storage - local permit or inspection where applicable	105.1.1.1.1	\$250
Flammable and combustible liquid tanks - local permit where BWJFD is authorized to issue	105.1.1.1.2	\$250
Exhibition of fireworks - base fee, plus required staffing and overtime	105.1.1.1.3	\$1,500 +
Ammonium nitrate - local permit where applicable; State Fire Marshal permit may also be required	105.1.1.1.4	\$250

Fireworks exhibition staffing: minimum \$300 overtime charge based on four hours at \$75 per hour, plus additional personnel or apparatus charges when required.

4. Operational Permit Fees

Unless a different fee is listed below, the standard operational permit fee is \$250. Operational permits are issued under OFC 105.5 when required by the BWJFD local permit program.

Service / Permit	OFC Reference	Fee
Additive manufacturing	105.5.1	\$250
Aerosol products	105.5.2	\$250
Amusement buildings	105.5.3	\$250
Aviation facilities	105.5.4	\$250
Carnivals and fairs	105.5.5	\$250 + FF hourly
Cellulose nitrate film	105.5.6	\$250
Combustible dust-producing operations	105.5.7	\$250
Combustible fibers	105.5.8	\$250
Compressed gases	105.5.9	\$250
Covered and open mall buildings	105.5.10	\$250
Cryogenic fluids	105.5.11	\$250
Cutting and welding	105.5.12	\$250
Dry cleaning	105.5.13	\$250
Energy storage systems	105.5.14	\$500 per system
Exhibits and trade shows	105.5.15	\$250
Explosives	105.5.16	\$250
Fire hydrants and valves	105.5.17	\$250
Flammable and combustible liquids	105.5.18	\$250
Floor finishing using flammable materials	105.5.19	\$250
Fruit and crop ripening	105.5.20	\$250
Fumigation and insecticidal fogging	105.5.21	\$250
Hazardous materials	105.5.22	\$250
Hazardous production material facilities	105.5.23	\$5,000
High-piled storage	105.5.24	\$250
Hot work operations	105.5.25	\$250



Service / Permit	OFC Reference	Fee
Industrial ovens	105.5.26	\$250
Lumber yards and woodworking plants	105.5.27	\$250
Liquid- or gas-fueled vehicles or equipment in assembly buildings	105.5.28	\$250
LP-gas	105.5.29	\$250
Magnesium	105.5.30	\$250
Miscellaneous combustible storage	105.5.31	\$250
Mobile food preparation vehicles	105.5.32	\$200
Motor fuel-dispensing facilities	105.5.33	\$250
Open burning, except exempt recreational fires	105.5.34	\$250
Open flames and torches	105.5.35	\$250
Open flames and candles	105.5.36	\$250
Organic coatings	105.5.37	\$250
Outdoor assembly event	105.5.38	\$250
Places of assembly	105.5.39	\$250
Plant extraction systems	105.5.40	\$250
Private fire hydrants	105.5.41	\$25 per hydrant
Pyrotechnic special effects material	105.5.42	\$1,500 +
Pyroxylin plastics	105.5.43	\$250
Refrigeration equipment	105.5.44	\$250
Repair garages	105.5.45	\$250
Rooftop heliports	105.5.46	\$300
Spraying or dipping	105.5.47	\$250
Storage of scrap tires and tire byproducts	105.5.48	\$300
Temporary membrane structures and tents	105.5.49	See Section 8
Tire-rebuilding plants	105.5.50	\$300
Waste handling	105.5.51	\$250
Wood products	105.5.52	\$250
Lithium-ion and lithium metal battery storage over 15 cubic feet	105.5.53	\$500

Carnivals and fairs: additional overtime may be billed at \$72 per hour when Fire District staffing is required. Pyrotechnic special effects: base fee plus \$75 per required inspector, four-hour minimum, and \$55 per required firefighter, four-hour minimum.

5. Construction Permit and Fire Protection System Fees

Construction permits are administered under OFC 105.6. The following local fees apply when BWJFD issues or administers the applicable construction permit. Where a specialized system fee is listed, that fee controls in place of the standard construction permit fee.

Service / Permit	OFC Reference	Fee
Automatic fire-extinguishing system - per system	105.6.1	\$500
Compressed gas system construction permit	105.6.2	\$250



Service / Permit	OFC Reference	Fee
Cryogenic fluid system construction permit	105.6.3	\$250
Emergency responder communication coverage system	105.6.4	\$300
Energy storage system construction permit	105.6.5	\$500 per system
Fire alarm and detection systems - see system fee below	105.6.6	Formula below
Fire pumps and related equipment	105.6.7	\$500
Flammable and combustible liquid system construction permit	105.6.8	\$250
Fuel cell power systems	105.6.9	\$250
Gas detection systems	105.6.10	\$250
Gates and barricades across fire apparatus access roads	105.6.11	\$250
Hazardous materials construction permit	105.6.12	\$250
High-piled combustible storage construction permit	105.6.13	\$250
Industrial ovens construction permit	105.6.14	\$250
LP-gas construction permit	105.6.15	\$250
Motor vehicle repair rooms and booths	105.6.16	\$250
Plant extraction systems construction permit	105.6.17	\$250
Private fire hydrants	105.6.18	\$25 per hydrant
Smoke control or smoke exhaust systems	105.6.19	\$250
Solar photovoltaic power systems	105.6.20	\$250
Special event structures	105.6.21	\$250
Spraying or dipping construction permit	105.6.22	\$250
Standpipe systems	105.6.23	\$75 per standpipe
Temporary membrane structures and tents	105.6.24	See Section 8

6. Fire Protection System Plan Review and Inspection Fees

Service	Fee
Automatic sprinkler system - new installation	\$100 base + \$0.03 per sq. ft. of building or modification area
Automatic sprinkler system - addition or alteration	\$250 base + \$0.03 per sq. ft. of building or modification area
Fire alarm system - new installation	\$100 base + \$0.03 per sq. ft. of building or modification area
Fire alarm shell building monitoring only system	\$500 maximum
Fire alarm system - addition or alteration	\$250 base + \$0.03 per sq. ft. of building or modification area
Kitchen hood suppression system	\$300 per hood
Fire pump	\$500 per pump



Service	Fee
Private fire hydrant	\$25 per hydrant
Private water line inspection, flush, hydrostatic test, and flow test	\$200 + \$10 per hydrant
Underground fire service line	\$400 + \$25 per hydrant
Standpipe system	\$75 per standpipe

Plan review time for fire protection systems is billed at \$150 per hour, one-hour minimum, unless the applicable base fee expressly includes that review time. Additional review caused by revised, incomplete, or resubmitted documents is billable at the same hourly rate.

Construction Inspection and Retest Fees

Service	Fee
Initial construction inspection - per system	\$300
First reinspection after deficiencies	\$100
Second reinspection	\$150
Third reinspection	\$200
Fourth reinspection	\$250
Fifth reinspection	\$300
Sixth reinspection	\$350
Each additional reinspection after the sixth	Add \$100 per occurrence
Phased inspection after the initial inspection	\$75 per hour, one-hour minimum
Failed system acceptance test or retest	\$150 per system
After 5:00 p.m. inspection or test	\$200 per hour, two-hour minimum, plus applicable fee

7. Project Review, Development Review, and Technical Consultation

These fees apply to project-specific review performed by the Fire Prevention Bureau. This includes fire protection systems and associated fire safety features, development site access, fire apparatus access roads, hydrant and water supply arrangements, fire lanes, gates, emergency access features, and other fire code matters within the Fire District's authority.

Service	Fee
Commercial fire code and fire protection plan review	\$350 base application fee + \$0.05 per sq. ft. of building or modification area
Development site, subdivision, or multi-unit project review	\$750 base application fee + \$15 per lot or unit
Group H occupancy review	\$100 base fee + \$0.05 per sq. ft. of building or modification area
Project review meeting, in-person or virtual	\$150 per hour, one-hour minimum



Service	Fee
Additional project review and technical consultation	\$150 per hour, billed in 15-minute increments
Construction trailer review or inspection	\$150 per trailer unit

Additional Project Review and Technical Consultation

Billable technical time includes project-specific email correspondence, telephone calls, virtual meetings, review of revised plans or drawings, review of calculations or narratives, research required to answer technical questions, coordination with developers, owners, architects, engineers, contractors, consultants, or public agencies, and preparation of written project comments or determinations. Routine scheduling, payment questions, document transmittal, and simple status inquiries are not billable technical time.

Technical consultation charges are intended to recover staff time consumed by a private project beyond routine administrative processing. Time should be documented to the project and invoiced in 15-minute increments.

8. Fire Safety, Licensing, and Requested Inspection Fees

Fees in this section apply when an inspection fee is authorized by applicable law and Board-adopted policy, including requested inspections, licensing-related inspections, permit-related inspections, and reinspections required because deficiencies remain uncorrected. Routine enforcement activity is administered in accordance with applicable law.

Fire Safety Inspection Size	Fee
Building less than 30,000 sq. ft.	\$100
Building 30,000 to 65,000 sq. ft.	\$150
Building over 65,000 to 250,000 sq. ft.	\$250
Building over 250,000 to 450,000 sq. ft.	\$375
Building over 450,000 sq. ft.	\$500

Reinspection policy: one reinspection may be granted at no charge at the discretion of the Fire Prevention Officer. If a fee is assessed, buildings under 30,000 sq. ft. begin at \$50 for the first billable reinspection and increase in \$50 increments for each additional reinspection. For buildings 30,000 sq. ft. and larger, the reinspection fee is the same as the applicable inspection fee listed above. Reinspection fees are due before the scheduled reinspection unless otherwise approved.

Licensing / Requested Inspection	Fee
Child day care, child foster home, or adoption home - 11 or fewer children	\$25
Child day care, child foster home, or adoption home - 12 or more children	\$100

9. Temporary Structures, Special Events, and Public Safety Details

Service	Fee
Temporary membrane structure or tent up to 5,000 sq. ft.	\$50
Temporary membrane structure or tent over 5,000 and up to 15,000 sq. ft.	\$100
Temporary membrane structure or tent over 15,000 sq. ft.	\$250
Special Service	Fee
Fire watch or special duty staffing	\$150 per hour, four-hour minimum
Ambulance unit	\$150 per hour, four-hour minimum



Service	Fee
Fire engine	\$300 per hour, four-hour minimum
Utility vehicle	\$100 per hour, four-hour minimum
Fire extinguisher training	\$150 per session

10. Administrative Fees and Payment Conditions

Service	Fee
Permit or application administration fee, where applicable	\$75
Returned payment or collection costs	Actual cost as permitted by law

- Permit, inspection, and review fees are separate from charges imposed by other agencies.
- The Fire Chief or designee may require a deposit for projects expected to require substantial technical review or repeated coordination. Any deposit will be credited against final invoiced review time.
- Work performed outside normal administrative hours may be subject to the applicable after-hours or overtime rate.
- Unpaid fees may delay further discretionary review, scheduling, or permit processing to the extent permitted by law.
- A fee does not purchase approval. Approval is based on compliance with applicable law and approved plans.

11. Storage Tank Permits

Flammable and combustible liquid tank permits are governed by OFC 105.1.1.1.2 and other applicable state requirements. BWJFD will process a local tank permit only when the Fire District is legally authorized and elects to issue that permit. When a permit or inspection is required from the State Fire Marshal, the applicant will be directed to the State Fire Marshal. Applicants remain responsible for obtaining all required approvals before work begins.

12. Code Reference Summary

Reference	Subject
OFC 104.2.1	Plan review for fire protection systems and associated fire safety features in structures regulated by the building code
OFC 105.1.1.1	Mandatory permits
OFC 105.1.1.2	Local discretionary permit program
OFC 105.5	Operational permits
OFC 105.6	Construction permits
OFC 105.7	Local permit fees
OFC 108.2	Inspection authority
ORC 505.371	Joint fire district powers and governance
ORC 505.37	Fire protection authority and rulemaking powers

Primary public source: Ohio Laws and Administrative Rules, codes.ohio.gov. The 2025 Ohio Fire Code became effective November 20, 2025. This schedule should be reviewed when state law or the Ohio Fire Code is amended.