



**County of Goochland
Department of Fire-Rescue
Office of the Fire Marshal
Fire Lane Guidelines**

The establishment of fire lanes allows the Fire-Rescue department access to buildings. The need for such designation arises from building design, complex layout, and the possibility of vehicles parking in needed access areas in the event of an emergency. With this in mind, the projected need and final decision of the Fire Marshal (or his designee) may vary between occupancies and/or locations. These specifications are primarily for occupancies with curbs and sidewalks adjacent to the buildings. Other building arrangements may require different guidelines to establish and maintain fire lanes.

Legislative Authorization:

In accordance with §503.3 of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code, fire lanes shall be established and maintained.

Guidelines for Fire Lane Designation:

The Fire-Rescue Chief (or his duly authorized designee) may require the owner(s), lessee(s), or occupant(s) to provide and maintain regulatory signs and/or pavement markings of an approved type notifying operators of motor vehicles of the boundaries of fire lanes and the restrictions related thereto on any private or public traffic-way normally open to the public. These fire lanes shall be at least twenty (20) feet in width, and the route of these fire lanes shall be marked with posted signs. A combination of curb markings and/or pavement markings may be used with the approval of the fire official.

Specifications:

Signage shall be a single sign mounted on a single post, though at times the fire official may require two signs on a post (see attachment). These signs shall be posted no more than fifty (50) feet from the beginning or end of a fire lane and at intervals of one hundred (100) feet or less. All signs are to be mounted seven (7) feet from the bottom of the sign to top of the grade. All signs are to be installed on a forty-five (45) degree angle to the movement of traffic, regardless of one-way lanes.

Where signs are not practical, The Fire Marshal may approve "No Parking" and "Fire Lane" (see attachment) to be painted on the pavement at intervals of one hundred (100) feet or less using yellow reflective paint.

When dictated by the Fire Marshal, the one hundred (100) feet sign spacing interval may be increased or decreased due to site characteristics.

The Fire Marshal may also require that yellow reflective paint four (4) inches wide be placed along either the edge of the gutter pan, the edge of the pavement, or on the curbs, thereby designating the boundaries of the fire lane.

Maintenance:

In accordance with §503.3 of the Fire Prevention Code, "signs or notices shall be maintained in a clean and legible condition at all times and replaced or repaired when necessary to provide adequate visibility." Posted signs without directional arrows shall include yellow reflective gutter pan or pavement markings to indicate the fire lanes.

NOTE: County traffic standards require a 24-foot wide roadway for two-way traffic in commercial areas. The full 24-foot width shall be considered a fire lane and will be designated as such. On any roads less than 24 feet wide, the entire width of the road shall be considered a fire lane.

Approval/Enforcement:

Before enforcement can begin, the Goochland Fire Marshal must certify the fire lanes are installed in compliance with the Fire Prevention Code. The Goochland Fire Marshal and Sheriff's Office are in charge of enforcing fire lane enforcing fire parking regulations.

Signs should have a white background with a red border around the sign, red letters, and a red stripe above the words "Fire Lane." The corners of the sign are to be rounded.

Size

12"X 18"



