



BUILDING DIVISION BOILERS AND UNFIRED PRESSURE VESSELS (COMPRESSORS)

According to the Florida Building Code Sixth Edition (2017) Mechanical Section (*FBC, M*), boilers are defined as “a closed heating appliance intended to supply hot water or steam for space heating, processing or power purposes,” often used for dry cleaning and other industrial purposes. Unlike boilers, unfired pressure vessels (also known as air compressors) do not employ fuel to create pressure inside the vessel. Instead, the compressor takes in air at atmospheric pressure and delivers it at higher pressure, typically used for air-powered tools and spray painting. Because of the complexity of these equipments and the potential hazards due to improper installation, maintenance and operation, boilers and unfired pressure vessels must be registered and inspected on a yearly basis. Steam boilers must be registered and inspected on a semi-annual basis. (Miami-Dade County Code, Section 8-11(c) and Florida Statute 554.)

Permitting of Boilers and Unfired Pressure Vessels

There are many different types of boilers and unfired pressure vessels. Prior to the installation of any vessel, a permit must be obtained from the City of North Miami Beach, Building Division. Requirements for permit submittal include the following: a permit application (accessible via our website at www.citynmb.com); 2 sets of drawings signed and sealed by an engineer that specify the type and size of vessel as well as the location of installation; and any other documents necessary during the review process. In addition, the plans must show the type of piping being used, including size and material. In most cases, plans submitted to the Building Division must also be reviewed by the Miami-Dade County Fire Department and the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM).

Unfired pressure vessels (air compressors) with a minimum of 5 cubic feet (37.5 gallons of capacity) must be registered and permitted with the City of North Miami Beach, Building Division. Permanently hardwired air compressors also require an electrical permit for installation. Keep in mind that if pipes instead of hoses are used for the conveyance of pressurized air, a permit must be obtained for the installation of the pipes. To verify whether a permit is required, please contact the Building Division at (305) 948-2965.



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Registration and Recertification of Boilers and Unfired Pressure Vessels

Once the installation process is complete and the permit is finalized, the boiler or unfired pressure vessel must be registered. A Boiler Registration form (available via our website at www.citynmb.com) must be completed and submitted to the Building Division along with the corresponding fee (available with the form). Inspectors will then visit the site to perform an inspection of the equipment. If the inspection is approved, a certificate will be affixed to the

vessel. If the equipment is found to need repairs, a permit and subsequent inspections will be required prior to certification being issued. If the equipment has been removed or demolished, the owner and/or user must provide evidence of removal or demolition, including demolition permit and post-demolition inspection result.

Boilers and unfired pressure vessels must be recertified every year (steam boilers must be recertified semi-annually). The Building Division sends out courtesy notifications when the equipment is due for recertification. It is the responsibility of the owner and/or user to ensure the equipment is properly installed, operated and maintained. If you have an unregistered boiler or unfired pressure vessel or have not received a renewal notification within the past year, please contact the Building Division immediately at (305) 948-2965.

**BOILERS AND UNFIRED PRESSURE VESSELS (COMPRESSORS)
INSPECTION FEES**

- a) Steam Boilers (semi-annual)..... \$ 75.00 / each
- b) Hot Water Boilers (annual)..... \$ 75.00 / each
- c) Unfired Pressure Vessels (Compressors) (annual)..... \$ 39.00 / each
- d) Miniature Boilers (annual)..... \$ 50.00 / each

For more information about boilers and/or unfired pressure vessels, please contact the City of North Miami Beach, Building Division at (305) 948-2965.