TOWN OF CHILHOWIE

Office of the Building Official
223 East Lee Highway
Chilhowie, Virginia 24319

Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code

Section 107 Fees

USBC 107.1 Authority for Charging Fees. In accordance with Section 36-105 of the Code of Virginia, fees may be levied by the local governing body in order to defray the cost of enforcement of the USBC.

USBC 107.1.1 Fee Schedule. The local governing body shall establish a fee schedule incorporating unit rates, which may be based on square footage, cubic footage, estimated cost of construction or other appropriate criteria. A permit or any amendments to an existing permit shall not be issued until the designated fees have been paid, except that the building official may authorize the delayed payment of fees.

USBC 107.1.2 Refunds. When requested in writing by a permit holder, the locality shall provide a fee refund in the case of the revocation of a permit or the abandonment or discontinuation of a building project. The refund shall not be required to exceed an amount which correlates to work not completed.

USBC 107.1.3 Fees for Generators Used with Amusement Devices. Fees for generators and associated wiring used with amusement devices shall only be charged under the Virginia Amusement Device regulations (13VAC5-31).

USBC 107.2 Code Academy Fee Levy. In accordance with subdivision 7 of Section 36-137 of the Code of Virginia, the local building department shall collect a 2.00% levy of fees charged for building permits issued under this code and transmit it quarterly to DHCD to support training programs of the Virginia Building Code Academy. Localities that maintain individual or regional training academies accredited by DHCD shall retain such levy.

Local Building Permit Refund Policy

A building permit fee will be refunded at the request of the owner if the permit is not used. A refund must be requested within 12 months of the date the permit is issued, and $50.00 will be forfeited to defray administrative costs.

A refund may also be requested on a discontinued project, but the building inspections department reserves the right to withhold $35.00 for each inspection performed before discontinuation of the project and $50.00 for administrative fees.

Building Inspections Fee Schedule

The following fee schedule was adopted on March 12, 2026 by the Chilhowie Town Council and is effective immediately. Amended June 10, 2026.

Residential	**Fee**	**Minimum Fee**
New Construction	$0.20 psf + Trades	$175.00
Additions	$0.20 psf + Trades	$125.00
Remodeling Calculated at the gross square footage of the affected area.	$0.20 psf + Trades	$75.00
Residential Garage/Carport	$0.20 psf + Trades	$75.00
Manufactured Homes	$0.20 psf + Trades	

Commercial / Industrial	**Fee**	**Minimum Fee**
New Construction	$0.20 psf + Trades	$350.00
Additions	$0.20 psf + Trades	$200.00
Remodeling Calculated as the gross square footage of the affected area.	$0.20 psf + Trades	$150.00

Demolition	**Fee**
Residential (Including Mobile Homes)	$50.00
Commercial	$50.00
Industrial	$50.00

Demolition fees are not assessed for removing portions of structures for the purpose of renovations, alterations or additions. In all cases, the decision to levy demolition fees is at the discretion of the Building Official.

Amusement Device Inspections	**Fee**	**After Hours**
Small Mechanical Rides *or* Inflatables	$55.00	$82.50
Circular or Flat Rides (<20’ High)	$75.00	$112.50
Spectacular Rides	$100.00	$150.00
Coaster (>30’ High)	$200.00	$300.00
Coaster (>60’ High)	$400.00	$600.00
Generators (Not Serving Single Rides)	$50.00	$75.00
Event Fee (13VAC5-31-75 Subsection D)	$50.00	$75.00

After hours fees apply to Saturdays, Sundays, Commonwealth of Virginia recognized holidays and between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 08:00 a.m. on weekdays.

Trades – Residential	**Fee**
Electrical	$50.00
Photovoltaic Systems	$50.00
Photovoltaic with Battery Storage	$75.00
Mechanical/Fuel Gas	$50.00
Plumbing	$35.00 + $5.00 per Fixture*
Fire Protection Systems	No Fee

Trades – Commercial	**Fee**	**Minimum Fee**
Electrical	$100.00	
Photovoltaic Systems	$8 per panel	$250.00
Mechanical/Fuel Gas	$100.00	
Plumbing	$75.00 + $5.00 per Fixture*	
Fire Protection Systems		
Sprinkler Systems	$75.00 per Riser + $1.25 per Sprinkler Head	
Hood Suppression Systems	$75.00 per System + $8.00 per Nozzle	
Standpipes	$125.00 per Riser + $25.00 per Outlet	
Fire Alarms	$75.00 + $5.00 per Device *or* Contact Point	
Private Fire Hydrants	$75.00 Each	

* *Plumbing Fixtures Include*: Water Heaters, Lavatories (All Types), Water Closets, Bathtubs/Showers, Drinking Fountains, Ice Making Machines, Service Sinks, Automatic Clothes Washers, Automatic Dishwashers, Interior/Exterior Spigots, Separate Interior Floor Drains, and Other Specialized Equipment.

Other	**Fee**	**Minimum Fee**
Tank Holding Hazardous Materials		
Installation or Removal	$125.00	
Signs (Not Exempted Under H101.2)	$1.00 psf	$50.00
Communications Towers	$350.00 + $5.00 per foot + Trades.	

Equipment buildings associated with the operations of communication towers will be permitted separately using the commercial/industrial fee schedule above.

Roof Replacement (Commercial)	$50.00
Swimming Pool	$150.00 + Trades

The swimming pool permit fee covers all portions of the work including, accessory structures (Up to 256 SF) such as buildings associated with the operations of the swimming pool, decking, fencing and accessibility.

Accessory Building (256 SF or Larger)	$0.20 psf	$50.00
Deck or Porch	$0.20 psf	$35.00
Moving a Building/Structure	$50.00	
Extra Inspections (Not VADR Associated)		
After Hours, Weekends or Holidays	$50.00 (Each Inspection)	
Elevator (Biannual Operating Permit)	$50.00 (Each)	
Temporary Tent or Membrane Structure	$50.00 + $35.00 for Generator(s).	
Certificate of Occupancy		
New Construction	No Fee	
Existing Buildings	$25.00	
Temporary Certificate of Occupancy	$25.00	
Renewal of Expired Permits	New Permit Fees	
Amend or Alter a Permit	$25.00	
State Training Levy	2.00% of the Total Permit Fee	
Penalty for Starting Work Without a Valid Permit	50.00% of All Applicable Permit Fees + All Applicable Permit Fees Minimum Penalty: $100.00	
Appeal to Board of Building Code Appeals	$250.00	