

engaged in the work of extinguishing fires in any town or county of this State, whether incorporated or not, exclusive of Baltimore City, are hereby severally authorized and empowered to inspect all buildings, structures or other places in their respective city, town or county, excepting, however, the interior of an private dwelling, where any combustible material, including waste paper, rags, shavings, waste, leather, rubber, crates, boxes, barrels, rubbish or other combustible material that is or may become dangerous as a fire menace to such building or buildings, structures or other places, has been allowed to accumulate, or where such board or members thereof, chief, assistants, or other officer aforesaid, has reason to believe that such material of a combustible nature has accumulated or is liable to be accumulated.

If such Board or Chief of the Fire Department, or Chief, Captain or Lieutenant of a Volunteer Fire Company, as designated above, after any inspection made under authority of this sub-title, shall in its or his discretion deem that any such accumulation of material of a combustible nature increases the danger of fire to the premises where such accumulation has been permitted, or to the property adjacent thereto, such Board or Chief of the Fire Department, or officer of a Volunteer Company as aforesaid, shall give notice in writing to the occupant or occupants, or one of them, of the premises where such accumulation has been permitted, to remove or cause to be removed from such premises such material of a combustible nature within forty-eight hours after receipt by him or her of such notice. In case such material of such a combustible nature shall not be removed within forty-eight hours after notice as aforesaid, such Board or Chief of the Fire Department, or other officer as herein specified, may cause the same to be removed from such premises, and thereupon cause notice in writing of the cost and expenses of such removal to be given to such occupant or occupants, or one of them, and also certify the amount thereof to the City Treasurer, Town Treasurer or County Treasurer of the city, town or county and in case such costs and expenses shall not be paid to said treasurer within thirty days after such notice, such city, town or county may recover such costs and expenses in an action on the case against such occupant or occupants.

See art. 48A, sec. 56.

1929, ch. 260, sec. 145.

145. Any person refusing to allow or hindering or obstructing such inspection shall be fined not less than ten dollars nor more than one hundred dollars or imprisoned for not exceeding thirty days for each such offense.

1929, ch. 260, sec. 146.

146. Any person who shall refuse or neglect to remove such material of a combustible nature at the expiration of the forty-eight hours' notice provided in Section 144 hereof shall be fined not less than five dollars nor more than fifty dollars for each such offense.