

# Seattle Fire Department

## Permit Conditions

1101

Site Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspector: \_\_\_\_\_

### Combustible Material Storage

#### NOTICE

This permit shall be kept on the premises designated herein at all times and shall be readily available for inspection by the fire code official. (SFC 105.3.5)

1. Storage shall be maintained 2 feet or more below the ceiling in non-sprinklered areas of buildings or not less than 18 inches below sprinkler head deflectors in sprinklered areas of buildings.

**Exceptions:**

1. The 2-foot ceiling clearance is not required for storage along walls in non-sprinklered areas of buildings.
  2. The 18-inch ceiling clearance is not required for storage along walls in areas of buildings equipped with an automatic sprinkler system. (SFC 315.3.1)
2. Storage height shall not exceed 12 feet for combustible materials and 6 feet for high-hazard materials such as lithium-ion batteries, rubber tires, flammable liquids and idle pallets and similar products.  
**Exception:** Storage height is allowed to exceed 12 feet for an aggregate storage area not exceeding 500 square feet. (SFC 105.5.26)
  3. Storage shall be within 20 feet of two aisles each at least 44 inches wide. (SFC 315.3.5)
  4. No block pile shall exceed 40 x 40 feet, unless approved by the fire code official. (SFC 315.3.5)
  5. No dead end aisle shall be longer than 10 times the width. (SFC 315.3.5)
  6. All storage in unsprinklered areas shall be within 150 feet aisle travel of an exterior door. (SFC 315.3.5)
  7. Storage shall not obstruct access to fire extinguishers, standpipe outlets, sprinkler control valves, manual fire alarm boxes, or fire department access openings. (SFC 504.1, 905.7, 906.6, and 907.4.2.6)
  8. Oily rags and other materials susceptible to spontaneous ignition shall be stored in listed metal, metal-lined or other approved noncombustible containers equipped with tight-fitting covers. Contents of such containers shall be removed from the building and disposed of daily. (SFC 304.3.1)
  9. Rubbish containers exceeding 5.33 cubic feet (40 gallons) capacity shall be constructed of non-combustible materials or approved combustible materials and shall be provided with lids.  
**Exception:** Waste accumulated for collection by the solid waste utility shall be stored in containers (to include recycling containers) specified in the City's solid waste collection contracts authorized by ordinance. (SFC 304.3.2)
  10. Dumpsters and containers with an individual capacity of 1.5 cubic yards (40.5 cubic feet) or more shall not be stored in buildings or placed within 5 feet of combustible walls, openings or combustible roof eave lines.

**Exceptions:**

1. Areas protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system.

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2. Structures of Types I and Type II-A construction located not less than 10 feet from other buildings and used exclusively for dumpster or container storage.
  3. Dumpsters or containers that are located adjacent to buildings where the exterior area is protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system. (SFC 304.3.3)
11. Weeds, grass, vines and other growth that is capable of being ignited and endangering property shall be removed by the owner or occupant. (SFC 304.1.2)
  12. Combustible material shall not be stored in exits, exit enclosures, boiler rooms, mechanical rooms or electrical equipment rooms. (SFC 315.3.2, 315.3.3 and 1032.2)
  13. Combustible materials shall not be stored in attics, under-floor or other concealed spaces (e.g., crawl spaces, under porches, etc.) unless
    1. those spaces are protected on the storage side as required for 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction,
    2. openings are protected by assemblies that are self-closing, and
    3. openings assemblies are of noncombustible construction or solid wood core not less than 1.75 inches in thickness. (SFC 315.3.4)
- Exceptions:**
1. Areas protected by approved automatic sprinkler systems.
  2. Group R-3 and Group U occupancies.
14. Storage of combustible materials is prohibited under stairways unless specifically authorized by this permit. (SFC 315.3.2.1)