



Combustible rubbish and waste

Combustible rubbish and waste accumulation can pose a significant fire hazard to building occupants and premises. Therefore, storage of combustible rubbish and waste material creating a fire hazard shall not be allowed to accumulate in buildings or structures or upon premises unless the waste materials are kept in approved dumpsters or containers. Combustible rubbish and waste material shall not produce conditions that will create a nuisance or a hazard to the public health, safety or welfare.

The International Fire Code (IFC) sets forth requirements to keep the fire hazard low by limiting the size, type and location of containers that can be stored indoors, or in proximity of buildings and openings.

Storage under stairways

Storage is prohibited under exit stairways, unless the walls and soffits within enclosed usable spaces under enclosed, unenclosed stairways are protected by 1-hour fire-resistive-rated construction or the fire-resistance rating of the stairway enclosure, whichever is greater.

There's no enclosed usable space under exterior exit stairways unless the space is completely enclosed in 1-hour fire-resistive-rated construction. The open space under exterior stairways shall not be used for any purpose.



Capacity exceeding 5.33 cubic feet

Containers with a capacity exceeding 5.33 cubic feet (40 gallons) shall be provided with lids. Containers and lids shall be constructed of noncombustible materials or of combustible materials with a peak rate of heat release not exceeding 300 kW/m² when tested in accordance with ASTM E 1354.

Capacity of 1 cubic yard or more

Dumpsters with an individual capacity of 1.0 cubic yard (200 gallons) or more shall not be stored in buildings or placed within 5 feet of combustible walls, openings or combustible roof eave lines unless the dumpsters are constructed of noncombustible materials or of combustible materials with a peak rate of heat release not exceeding 300 kW/m² when tested in accordance with ASTM E 1354.

Exception:

Dumpsters in areas protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system installed throughout in accordance with the International Fire Code (IFC).

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Capacity of 1.5 cubic yards or more

Dumpsters and containers with an individual capacity of 1.5 cubic yards or more shall not be stored in buildings or placed within 5 feet of combustible walls, openings or combustible roof eave lines.

Exception:

Dumpsters in areas protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system installed throughout in accordance with the International Fire Code (IFC).