

**Encinitas Fire Prevention
505 S. Vulcan
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**FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR
STORAGE OF COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS**

STORAGE, USE, AND HANDLING OF COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS INSIDE BUILDINGS:

- Combustible material shall not be stored in exits or exit enclosures.
- Storage is prohibited under exit stairways.
Note: Storage is permitted under interior or exterior stairways when stairways are not within exit enclosures and such spaces are protected on the enclosed side by one-hour construction as specified by the Building Code.
- Storage of combustible materials is not permitted in boiler rooms, mechanical rooms, or electrical equipment rooms.
- Storage shall be maintained 2 feet or more below the ceiling in non-sprinklered areas of buildings.
- Storage shall be maintained 18 inches or more below sprinkler head deflectors in sprinklered areas of buildings.
- Combustibles shall not be stored in concealed spaces such as in attics or crawl space areas unless the area is protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system or the storage area is separated from adjacent combustible construction by one-hour construction. Storage shall not be placed on exposed joists. Openings shall be protected by fire rated assemblies.
- Combustible decorative materials shall be flame resistant in accordance with nationally recognized standards.
Exceptions include – salable goods, educational materials, live vegetation and individual decorative items.
- Combustible material storage from heat producing appliances shall be maintained as set forth in the product listing. Generally, however, combustible materials shall have 36 inches of clearance from gas-fired appliances such as, furnaces and water heaters or 24 inches away from electric water heaters.

STORAGE AND ACCUMULATION OF RUBBISH AND VEGETATION:

- Combustible rubbish kept or accumulated within or adjacent to buildings shall be in approved containers or receptacles constructed of noncombustible materials with a tight fitting lid. Oily rags and similar materials shall be stored in metal, metal lined or other approved containers equipped with tight fitting covers.
- Cut or uncut weeds, grass, vines and other vegetation shall be removed when determined by the fire department to be a fire hazard.
- Combustible rubbish shall be removed from buildings not less than once each working day.

STORAGE OF FUEL EQUIPMENT:

- Fueled equipment, including but not limited to motorcycles, mopeds, lawn-care equipment and portable cooking equipment, shall not be stored, operated or repaired within a building.

NOTE: UNLESS BUILDINGS OR ROOMS ARE CONSTRUCTED FOR SUCH USE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BUILDING CODE.

If you have specific questions regarding storage of combustible materials or any other fire safety issues please contact Encinitas Fire Department at (760) 633-2820.