



CITY OF MANTECA - FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

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COMBUSTIBLE FIBERS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

105.6.8 An operational permit is required for the storage and handling of combustible fibers in quantities greater than 100 cubic feet (2.8 m³).

Exception: A permit is not required for agricultural storage.

DEFINITION

COMBUSTIBLE FIBERS. Readily ignitable and free-burning materials in a fibrous or shredded form, such as cocoa fiber, cloth, cotton, excelsior, hay, hemp, henequen, istle, jute, kapok, oakum, rags, sisal, Spanish moss, straw, tow, wastepaper, certain synthetic fibers or other like materials. This definition does not include densely packed baled cotton.

REQUIREMENTS

3703.1 Use of combustible receptacles. Ashes, waste, rubbish or sweepings shall not be placed in wood or other combustible receptacles and shall be removed daily from the structure.

3703.2 Vegetation. Grass or weeds shall not be allowed to accumulate at any point on the premises.

3703.3 Clearances. A minimum clearance of 3 feet (914 mm) shall be maintained between automatic sprinklers and the top of piles.

3703.4 Agricultural products. Hay, straw, seed cotton or similar agricultural products shall not be stored adjacent to structures or combustible materials unless a clear horizontal distance equal to the height of a pile is maintained between such storage and structures or combustible materials. Storage shall be limited to stacks of 100 tons (91 metric tons) each. Stacks shall be separated by a minimum of 20 feet (6096 mm) of clear space. Quantities of hay, straw, seed cotton and other agricultural products shall not be limited where stored in or near farm structures located outside closely built areas. A permit shall not be required for agricultural storage.

3703.5 Dust collection. Where located within a building, equipment or machinery which generates or emits combustible fibers shall be provided with an approved dust-collecting and exhaust system. Such systems shall comply with the *California Mechanical Code*.

3703.6 Portable fire extinguishers. Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in accordance with Section 906 as required for extra-hazard occupancy protection as indicated in Table 906.3(1).

3704.1 General. Loose combustible fibers, not in suitable bales or packages and whether housed or in the open, shall not be stored within 100 feet (30 480 mm) of any structure, except as indicated in Section 3704.2 through 3704.6.

3705.1 Bale size and separation. Baled combustible fibers shall be limited to single blocks or piles not more than 25,000 cubic feet (700 m³) in volume, not including aisles or clearances. Blocks or piles of baled fiber shall be separated from adjacent storage by aisles not less than 5 feet (1524 mm) wide, or by flash-fire barriers constructed of continuous sheets of noncombustible material extending from the floor to a minimum height of 1 foot (305 mm) above the highest point of the piles and projecting not less than 1 foot (305 mm) beyond the sides of the piles.

3705.2 Special baling conditions. Sisal and other fibers in bales bound with combustible tie ropes, jute and other fibers that swell when wet, shall be stored to allow for expansion in any direction without affecting building walls, ceilings or columns. A minimum clearance of 3 feet (914 mm) shall be required between walls and sides of piles, except that where the storage compartment is not more than 30 feet (9144 mm) wide, the minimum clearance at side walls shall be 1 foot (305 mm), provided that a center aisle not less than 5 feet (1524 mm) wide is maintained.

Additional requirements may apply.