



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

Fire Department

Fire Prevention Division

GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS

GUIDELINE A.16 –Dumpster/Container Locations

A.16.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this guideline is to provide fire code regulations to assist business owners and multifamily residential occupancies in understanding the requirements for dumpster/container locations and as required in California Fire Code Section 304.

A.16.2 SCOPE

This guideline shall apply to all businesses and multifamily residential occupancies in Newport Beach that utilize containers/dumpsters with a capacity of 1.0 cubic yard (200 gallons) or more.

A.16.3 DEFINITIONS

DUMPSTER. A large trash receptacle designed to be hoisted and emptied into a truck.

Examples of dumpster/container noncombustible material:

- Welded steel
- Fiberglass construction tested as per ASTM E 1354. (available through McClure Industries)

Example of combustible dumpster/container material:

- Medium or high density polyethylene dumpsters

NONCOMBUSTIBLE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION. Material of which no part will ignite and burn when subjected to fire.

Examples of noncombustible building construction:

- Brick and concrete masonry
- Plaster or quarry tile on brick
- Clay tile or concrete masonry products

Examples of combustible building construction:

- Plaster on wood
- Gypsum board on wood studs
- Plywood or other wood sheathing on wood metal studs

A16.4 PROCEDURE

Dumpsters/Containers with an individual capacity of 1.0 cubic yards (200 gallons) or more:

- Shall not be stored within structures unless protected by an approved automatic fire sprinkler system installed throughout the structure.
- Shall not be placed within 5-feet of combustible walls, openings or combustible roof eave lines unless the dumpster/container is 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 at an incident heat flux of 50 kW/m² in the horizontal orientation.
- Storage within a purpose built trash enclosure shall not be prohibited where the enclosure is of type I or IIA construction and located not less than 10-feet from other structures. The enclosure must be used exclusively for dumpster or container storage.

Dumpster and containers with an individual capacity of 1.5 cubic yards (300 gallons) or more:

- Shall not be stored within structures unless protected by an approved automatic fire sprinkler system installed throughout the structure.
- All dumpsters/containers (combustible and noncombustible) shall not be placed within 5-feet of combustible walls, openings or combustible roof eave lines.
- Storage within a purpose built trash enclosure shall not be prohibited where the enclosure is of type I or IIA construction and located not less than 10-feet from other structures. The enclosure must be used exclusively for dumpster or container storage.

Exterior roof projections over all dumpster/container areas:

- Structures with an automatic fire sprinkler system which have an exterior roof projection exceeding 4-feet in width, will be required to provide fire sprinklers under the projection if a dumpster/container is located underneath the projection. The number of fire sprinklers required will be based on size of dumpster/container. Any fire sprinklers addition or modifications will require a permit through the Nbfd Fire Prevention Division.