



# MCKINNEY FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE



## High Piled Storage Guide

Any business within the City of McKinney that proposes to install High Piled Storage Racks (12 Feet or over for an area of 500 square feet or more) will be required to obtain a permit prior to installation and shall be required to maintain an annual operational use permit through the McKinney Fire Marshal's Office (FMO).

### PERMITS REQUIRED

1. An operational use permit is required for the installation and continued use of high piled storage. A new application and inspection will be required for continued operation annually, prior to the expiration of the previous permit.

### INITIAL APPLICATION

1. Prior to the installation of any high piled storage, an operational permit shall be obtained through the McKinney FMO. No work shall be done on the installation of any component of the system until the permit is approved.
2. Complete the application process and submit the following with the application:
  - a. Site plan drawing of the existing site location and conditions, to include:
    - All buildings, structures, parking lots, storm sewer inlets
    - Fire lane, fire hydrants, fire department connections (FDC), riser room
  - b. Building floor plan
    - Provide a scaled and dimensions floor plan for each building where high-piled storage will be used.
    - Mark each high-piled storage area showing locations and dimensions of the area, and any fixtures.
    - Access to storage areas, location of emergency equipment, and location of underground or aboveground tanks
    - Engineered rack systems will require the construction plans and specifications have been reviewed, approved, and sealed by the licensed P.E.
    - This submittal shall be separate from any other plan submittal but may refer to those submittals if they have at a minimum been submitted to the Fire Department for review.
    - Two emergency contacts shall be provided that can be contacted on a 24-hour basis
    - Provide an evacuation plan for publicly accessible areas and a separate set of plans indicating the location and width of aisles, location of exits, exit access doors, exit signs, the height of storage, and location of hazardous materials.

### ANNUAL RENEWAL OF APPLICATION

1. The owner/manager of the business is required to apply on an *annual basis* and will be inspected to ensure continued compliance with this special hazard.
  - a. If no changes from the construction permit or previous years, the owner/manager will only need to complete an operational permit application.
  - b. If *changes have occurred* from the construction permit or the previous year, all documents under 'construction permit' shall be provided with the new application.

### INSPECTIONS

1. Inspection of the initial installation shall be completed prior to the release of the installation for use.
2. Annual operational use permit inspections will be conducted after application and shall comply with the requirements above.
3. Failed inspections or non-compliance with code may result in re-inspection fees and/or citations issued.



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### INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. SIGNAGE REQUIREMENTS
2. Posted at racks:
  - a. "MAXIMUM STORAGE HEIGHT XX FT" - all letters minimum of 2" high. (White letters), red background, readily visible to the public.
  - b. Striping at Maximum Height:
    - "NO STORAGE PERMITTED ABOVE THIS LINE" – minimum size of striping is 6"; minimum size of the lettering is 4". Striping must be yellow background with black lettering or red background with white lettering. Must be at a minimum of 25-foot intervals.

### AISLES

1. Minimum Aisle width is 44" in sprinklered buildings and 96" in non-sprinklered buildings
2. Minimum Aisle width is 96" if using a mechanical stocking
3. Minimum Aisle width is 96" if storage exceeds 2,500 square feet
4. Storage is not allowed in aisles
5. During re-stocking a minimum of 24" must remain clear or ½ of the aisle width whichever is greater.

**All requirements follow the current adopted International Fire Code (IFC) and local Fire Code amendments. This is not an exhaustive list, and it shall be the responsibility of the owner/operator to ensure compliance with all codes & standards**