

EXCESSIVE STORAGE GUIDELINES

The Coon Rapids Fire Department has provided the following guidelines to ensure safe storage levels. General Criteria as defined for all single family dwellings, townhomes or apartments. Excessive storage contributes to smoke and serves as a fuel in the event of a fire. The fire will burn longer and at a higher temperature making efforts by rescue personnel more dangerous and difficult.

Interior storage must meet the following criteria:

1. Two feet of cleared space must be maintained between the ceiling and storage.
2. Three feet of cleared space must be maintained in front of every egress and exit. (i.e. all doors and windows.) Doors must open freely and completely.
3. Three feet of cleared space must be maintained around the furnace and water heater.
4. Electric baseboard heat units must have adequate air flow to function properly. A three foot clearance in front of these units is optimum.
5. All hallways, stairways and landings must be free of storage.
6. A garage must have space for at least one vehicle at all times. (City Code Section 11-705). Additionally, the above storage criteria must be maintained.

Single Family

Livable area* storage = 20% of total space.

Storage rooms** storage = 50% of total space.

Attached Multi-family

Livable area* storage = 20% of total space.

Storage rooms** storage = 30% of total space.

* Livable areas is defined as: bedrooms used for sleeping, living rooms, family rooms, kitchens and bathrooms.

** Storage rooms are defined as: bedrooms that are not used for sleeping, basements, storage rooms and garages.