



# Operational Permit Application

## Miscellaneous Combustible Storage

[www.cityofvancouver.us/departments/fire-department](http://www.cityofvancouver.us/departments/fire-department)

International Fire Code as adopted by VMC 16.04 (Washington State Fire Code)

### Permitting Requirements

An **operational permit** is required to store, in any building or on any premises, in excess of 2,500 cubic feet gross volume of combustible empty packing cases, boxes, barrels or similar containers, combustible pallets, rubber tires, rubber, cork or similar combustible material.

### Site Information

Site Address		Owner Name	
Other			

### Applicant Information

Company Name		Address		
Contact Name				
Office Phone		Cellular		Email

### Contractor

Company Name		Address		
Contact Name				
Office Phone		Cellular		Email

### Storage Information

Storage Type (Select all that apply):	<input type="checkbox"/> Interior Storage <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Storage <input type="checkbox"/> Pallet Storage			
Type of Pallet Storage (where applicable):	<input type="checkbox"/> Wooden Pallets <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic Pallets			
Sprinklered Building? (for interior storage only)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
Storage Height (ft):		Ceiling Height (ft):		
Description of Commodities:				

## Description of Work

## Electronic Plan Standards

### File Naming Standards:

Electronic plans and documents shall be named as specified in the City of Vancouver [ePLANS](https://www.cityofvancouver.us/business/permits-licenses-and-inspections/eplans/) system:  
<https://www.cityofvancouver.us/business/permits-licenses-and-inspections/eplans/>



### Acceptable File Types:

Plans, calculations, specifications and supporting documents shall be uploaded as a PDF file.

### Plan Sheet Standards:

All plans shall be drawn to scale, as identified in the checklist, and each sheet shall state the scale and show a measurable scale on the page for measurement calibrations.

### Document Orientation:

All plans must be uploaded in "Landscape" format in the horizontal position with a north indicator. All other documents can be in "Portrait" format.

### Stamped:

Where documentation contains a code analysis or engineering calculations, such documents shall be stamped by the design professional.

## Minimum Submittal Checklist for Upload to ePLANS

- Completed Operational Permit Application – Miscellaneous Combustible Storage (this document) Check all *Permit Conditions* checkboxes that are applicable to your project
- Site plans and floor plans (see *Plan Details* below)

## Plan Details

The following is a list of information required on all plan submittals for review of a miscellaneous combustible storage permit . The plan shall be drawn to 1/8"= 1'-0" minimum scale. The applicant is required to submit all applicable information so an accurate and timely review may be completed:

### **General:**

- Site plan to include a north arrow, a measurable scale for calibration purposes, fire hydrants, emergency access lanes and doors, vehicle gates, fire department connection, facility evacuation meeting point locations, sprinkler riser(s), standpipes, fire alarm control panel, Knox Box, and roof access (if provided).
- Outside pallet storage layout to include the pallet type, storage height, separation distance between adjacent piles, separation distance between pallet storage and adjacent building exterior walls and type of building openings, where applicable.
- Elevation view of all interior and outdoor storages. Indicate clearance between interior storage and ceiling for non-sprinklered buildings. Indicate clearance between interior storage and sprinkler deflectors for sprinklered buildings.

## Permit Conditions

The following is a list of WSFC 315 requirements related to General Storage. Use this form to confirm that all applicable requirements are met. Non-applicable requirements can be left blank.

### Storage in Buildings:

- Storage of materials in buildings shall be orderly and stacks shall be stable. Storage of combustible materials shall be separated from heaters or heating devices by distance or shielding so that ignition cannot occur (WSFC 315.3).
  - Storage shall be maintained 2 feet or more below the ceiling in non-sprinklered areas of buildings or not less than 18 inches below sprinkler head deflectors in sprinklered areas of buildings (WSFC 315.3.1).
- Exceptions:
1. The 2-foot ceiling clearance requirement does not apply to storage along walls in non-sprinklered areas of the building.
  2. The 10-inch clearance requirement does not apply to storage along walls in sprinklered areas of the building.
- Combustible materials shall not be stored in exits or enclosures for stairways and ramps (WSFC 315.3.2).
  - Combustible material shall not be stored in boiler rooms, mechanical rooms, electrical equipment rooms or in fire command centers (FCC), when unrelated to the FCC operations (WSFC 315.3.3).
  - Attic, under-floor and concealed spaces used for storage of combustible materials shall be protected on the storage side as required for 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction. Openings shall be protected by assemblies that are self-closing and are of noncombustible construction or solid wood core not less than 1 3/4 inches in thickness. Storage shall not be placed on exposed joists (WSFC 315.3.4).

Exceptions:

1. Areas protected by approved automatic sprinkler systems.
2. Group R-3 and Group U occupancies.

### Outside Storage:

- Outside storage of combustible materials shall not be located within 10 feet of a lot line (WSFC 315.4).
- Exceptions:
1. The separation distance is allowed to be reduced to 3 feet for storage not exceeding 6 feet in height.
  2. The separation distance is allowed to be reduced where the fire code official determines that hazard to the adjoining property does not exist.
- Where buildings are protected by an automatic sprinkler system, the outdoor storage, display and handling of combustible materials under eaves, canopies or other projections or overhangs are prohibited except where automatic sprinklers are installed under such eaves, canopies or other projections or overhangs (WSFC 315.4.1).
  - Outside storage shall not exceed 20 feet in height (WSFC 315.4.2)
- Outdoor storage within the utility easement underneath high-voltage transmission lines shall be limited to noncombustible material. Storage of hazardous materials including, but not limited to, flammable and combustible liquids is prohibited (WSFC 316.6.2).
- Exception: Combustible storage, including vehicles and fuel storage for backup power equipment serving public utility equipment, is allowed, provided that a plan indicating the storage configuration is submitted and approved.
- Storage is prohibited in HVAC plenums. Abandoned material in HVAC plenums shall be deemed to be storage and shall be removed. Where located in HVAC plenums, the portion of abandoned cables that are able to be accessed without causing damage, or requiring demolition to the building shall be identified for future use with a tag or shall be deemed storage and shall be removed (WSFC 315.6).

**Outdoor Pallet Storage:**

- Pallets stored within a building shall be protected in accordance with WSFC Chapter 32 as well as the following (WSFC 315.7):
  - Where buildings are equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system, the outdoor storage of pallets under eaves, canopies or other projections or overhangs are prohibited except where automatic sprinklers are installed under such eaves, canopies or other projections or overhangs (WSFC 315.7.1).
  - Pallet storage shall not be located within 10 feet of a lot line (WSFC 315.7.2).
  - Pallet storage shall not exceed 20 feet in height (WSFC 315.7.3).
  - Pallet stacks shall be arranged to form stable piles. Individual pallet piles shall cover an area not greater than 400 square feet (WSFC 315.7.4).
  - Pallets shall be all wood, with slatted or solid top or bottom, with metal fasteners, or shall be plastic or composite pallets, listed and labeled in accordance with UL 2335 or FM 4996. Plastic pallets shall be both solid and gridded deck, independent of the pallet manufacturing process, type of resin used in fabrication or geometry of the pallet (WSFC 315.7.5).
  - Pallet stacks and piles shall be separated from buildings in accordance with WSFC Table 315.7.6(1) for wood pallets and Table 315.7.6(2) for plastic pallets.
  - Pallets shall be separated from other pallet piles and other storage in accordance with WSFC Table 315.7.6(3) for wood pallets and Table 315.7.6(4) for plastic pallets (WSFC 315.7.6.2).
  - Pallets shall not be stored underneath high-voltage transmission lines, elevated roadways or elevated railways (WSFC 315.7.7).

**NOTE:** *This is not intended to be an all-inclusive list. The WSFC requirements listed are intended to ensure that we have adequate information to begin a review of the application. Additional information may be required.*

**I understand that all applicable codes apply and that other regulatory codes may also apply. Errors and/or omissions on the plans and corrections from field inspections are the responsibility of the owner/contractor. All work is subject to compliance with City of Vancouver ordinances and laws of the State of Washington.**

APPLICANT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ APPLICATION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_