



**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT  
COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION**

620 South 'E' Street  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0179  
(909) 386-8400

Standard Number

**G-1**

Revision Date:  
3-22-16

**FIRE SAFETY STANDARD  
ORGANIC PRODUCT STORAGE**

**AUTHORITY**

Sections 102.9, 103 and 104.1 of the 2013 California Fire Code provides that the Fire Code Official of the San Bernardino County Fire Department shall have the authority to adopt policies, procedures, rules, and regulations in order to clarify the application of the Fire Code and to specify requirements not specifically provided for by the Fire Code. For further requirements on this subject, see section 508 of the 2013 California Fire Code. This standard may be modified with the approval of the Fire Code Official.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this standard is to provide the minimum requirements for the storage of any organic products that may create a fire hazard in their natural or processed state when stored in bulk piles.

**SCOPE**

This standard applies to the indoor or outdoor bulk storage of miscellaneous organic products, such as yard or tree trimmings, manure, organic compost, wood chips, peat moss, sawdust, or any other piled finely divided materials that can accumulate heat and present a spontaneous combustion hazard.

**DISCLAIMER**

*These standards may change without notice. Whenever applicable statutes, regulations and standards are updated and adopted, the latest shall apply. Please contact the Community Safety Division at (909) 386-8400 to determine if these standards have changed.*

*These requirements do not exempt any individual from complying with other applicable state, county, or city codes and standards.*

**SUBMITTALS**

The owner shall provide a plot plan containing the following information:

- 1) Fire apparatus access roads
- 2) The locations of permanent structures, raw material piles and all storage of finished products
- 3) Location of all water sources.
- 4) Location of all other hazards (i.e., flammable, combustible, or LPG tanks).



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**GENERAL**

- 1) Fire apparatus access roads, designed and constructed in accordance with 2013 California Fire Code section 503 and SBCFD Fire Safety Standard A-1, shall be maintained around the perimeter of the storage area.
- 2) Individual piles shall not be closer than twenty feet (20') from property lines.
- 3) Bulk storage of manure or organic products shall require an operational permit from the Fire Department and shall be renewed annually.
- 4) Individual piles shall not exceed 42,000 cubic feet of volume nor shall they exceed twenty-five (25') feet height.
- 5) Minimum distance between piles and structures shall not be less than twenty feet (20'.)
- 6) A water supply shall be provided and maintained in accordance with SBCFD Fire Safety Standard W-1. Minimum fire flow shall be 1500 GPM @ 20 psi for 2 hours. Fire hydrants shall be spaced along fire access roads in approved locations in accordance with 2010 California Fire Code Appendix C and SBCFD standard W-2.
- 7) An adequate number of oscillating sprinklers with a sufficient length of hose shall be provided for wetting down burning/smoldering areas. These sprinklers shall be mounted on a base of substantial size to support the sprinklers on the manure pile.
- 8) No smoking shall be permitted except in designated areas. These areas shall be designated by an approved: "**SMOKING AREA**" sign. "**NO SMOKING**" and "**NO OPEN FLAME**" signs shall be posted in conspicuous sight.
- 9) Flammable and combustible fuels for use in vehicles shall be stored in approved underground or approved aboveground vaulted tanks. These tanks shall be inspected and approved under a separate permit from the Fire Department.
- 10) Approved sizes and types of fire extinguishers shall be provided in the locations required by the Fire Code Official.
- 11) Equipment capable of moving the bulk products and disturbing or displacing the piles must be maintained on site.
- 12) If fire suppression activities are required, the business owner will be responsible for any and all costs that may occur for fire suppression efforts.