



CITY OF  
SANTA ROSA

**Fire Department**

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**FIRE DEPARTMENT  
INFORMATION BULLETIN**

**SUBJECT: FIRE SPRINKLER PROTECTION FOR COMBUSTIBLE WASTE  
DUMPSTERS AND CONTAINERS**

**Bulletin Number: 012**  
**Date of Issue: June 4, 1994**

**Code Reference:**  
**1994 Uniform Fire Code (UFC) Section 1103.2**  
**1994 Uniform Building Code (UBC) 18-16.070 Section 904.2.11.1**  
**Santa Rosa City Code Chapters 18-16,18-44**

**NOTE: This bulletin is a summary of Fire Department interpretations of City and State Codes. Information contained herein applies to typical instances and may not address all circumstances.**

**Commercial dumpsters with an individual capacity of 1.5 cubic yards or greater shall not be stored within buildings or placed within five (5) feet of combustible walls, building openings, combustible roof eaves or within five feet of a property line.**

**Exceptions:**

- 1. Dumpsters or containers that are protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system.**
- 2. Structures of Types I and II fire resistive construction used for dumpster or container storage located not less than ten feet from other buildings or property lines.**

**An approved sprinkler system shall be provided if the dumpster(s) cannot be located as required. The following information is given as a guideline for installation of a sprinkler system. Please contact the Fire Department at 543-3500, for additional assistance:**

- 1. The system installation may be completed by a plumber or licensed sprinkler company.**

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- 2. Plans consisting of scaled drawings and materials to be used shall be submitted to the Fire Department for approval prior to installation.**
- 3. The system may be supplied from the domestic water source of the building.**
- 4. Piping shall be 3/4" type K copper or 1" schedule 40 black steel pipe.**
- 5. An approved standard sprinkler head or side wall sprinkler (with ordinary rating 165°F) shall be utilized. A single sprinkler may be sufficient depending upon site conditions.**
- 6. A heat collector shall be installed above the sprinkler head. The eave/overhang of the building, or a fitted sheet metal collector (12" x 12"), may be utilized as the heat collector.**
- 7. An indicating shut-off valve, secured in the open position, and an approved plumbing check valve shall be provided between the domestic water source and the sprinkler head.**
- 8. The sprinkler head shall be placed above the container, usually 5-7 feet above the top of the trash container.**
- 9. Provide signs or markings (lines or stripes) to identify the approved location for the trash container.**