



## SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

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

Standard Number

**S - 2**

Revision Date:  
July 1, 2023

### FIRE PREVENTION STANDARD AUTO WRECKING AND STORAGE YARDS

#### **AUTHORITY**

Sections 102.9, 103 and 104.1 of the 2022 California Fire Code (CFC) and Sections 4 and 8 of Ordinance 23-01 of the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District Fire Code (Fire Code) state that the Fire Code Official of the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District (SBCFPD) shall have the authority to adopt policies, procedures, rules, and regulations in order to clarify the application of the Fire Code and to determine requirements not specifically provided for by the Fire Code. This Standard may be modified with the approval of the Fire Code Official.

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this standard is to provide guidance for the safe operation of new and existing auto wrecking and storage yards, to minimize the risk of fires and thus provide improved protection against injury, life loss, and property damage.

#### **SCOPE**

This standard shall apply to the use and operation of automotive wrecking and storage yards.

#### **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.

#### **GENERAL**

- 1) "Storage Yards" shall include but are not limited to RV storage, tractor and/or trailer, vehicle, vessel, and container yards, lots, and depots.

#### **FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS**

- 1) Fire apparatus access roads shall be provided in accordance with the current CA Fire Code and SBCFPD Fire Safety Standards A1, A2, A3.
- 2) Fire apparatus access roads shall not be obstructed by any vehicles or storage at any time.

#### **FIRE HYDRANTS**

- 1) Fire hydrants shall be spaced at three hundred (300) feet apart, with no part of the building more than three hundred (300) feet from any hydrant. Additional on-site hydrants may be required by the Fire Code Official.



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- 2) If no buildings are constructed on the property at least one hydrant shall be installed at each entrance to the property from a public way.
  - a) Required fire flow for auto wrecking and storage yards is 1500 GPM at 20 PSI.

#### **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

- 1) Motor vehicle fluids shall be drained from salvage vehicles when such fluids are leaking.
- 2) Flammable and combustible liquids shall be stored in accordance current CA Fire Code and all applicable Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Waste Generator laws and regulations.
- 3) Lead-acid Batteries shall be stored in a covered storage area on an impervious surface with secondary containment, or in a non-leaking container with a lid, and properly managed.
- 4) All storage containers shall be properly labeled.
- 5) Safety Data Sheets shall be current and available for viewing.
- 6) Compressed gas cylinders shall be secured to prevent falling due to contact, vibration or seismic activity per current CA Fire Code.
- 7) Stored vehicles shall have a barrier between the fluid leaks and the ground.
- 8) Provide secondary containment for all hazardous liquids.
- 9) A minimum of one 4A40BC fire extinguisher shall be readily available and the individual employees shall be trained in the proper use of the fire extinguisher.
- 10) Contact the Hazardous Material Division and submit a Business Emergency/Contingency Plan.
- 11) Obtain a valid EPA ID number.

#### **HOT WORK OPERATIONS**

- 1) A hot works permit is required for all welding and cutting operations.
- 2) Welding and cutting shall not be conducted in areas where flammable liquids or combustibles are in close proximity.
- 3) Appropriate shielding shall be provided, along with a fire watch during hot work operations.
- 4) A least one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 4A40BC shall be readily accessible within 30 feet of the location where hot work is performed.
- 5) All containers, cylinders and tanks shall be secured and stored per current CA Fire Code.



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**HOUSEKEEPING**

- 1) Combustible debris and vegetation shall be removed from the location and placed in approved containers.
- 2) Oily rags shall be kept in an approved metal container with a self-closing metal lid.

**TIRE STORAGE**

- 1) Tire storage shall be in accordance with currently adopted California Fire Code and this standard.
- 2) Individual tire pile storage shall not exceed 5,000 square feet of continuous area. Pile width shall not exceed 50 feet. Piles shall not exceed 50,000 cubic feet in volume or 10 feet in height.
- 3) Separation between tire piles and all other stored products shall be a minimum of 40 feet.
- 4) Tire pile distance from property lines and buildings shall be 50 feet.
- 5) Tire storage piles with less than 500 tires shall be permitted to be located 10 feet from property lines and buildings. Piles shall not be higher than 6 feet within 20 feet from building(s) and property line(s).
- 6) Interior rack storage of tires shall comply with currently adopted California Fire Code.