



FIREWOOD STORAGE

Minneapolis Department of Inspections
Chapter 228 Minneapolis Code of Ordinances

Revised December 2005

Regulations governing the storage, location and maintenance of firewood on residential property as excerpted from Chapter 228 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances.

The following terms and words apply when used in this section:

Fireplace cord: A stack of wood sixteen (16) inches wide by eight (8) feet long by four (4) feet high.

Firewood: Any wood or wood product used or intended to be used as heating fuel in a residence. Painted or treated wood shall not be considered firewood.

Neat, secure stack: A stack of firewood that is piled in a regular, orderly arrangement that is stable and reasonably resistant to collapse.

Except for firewood and construction materials necessary for on-site work, no wood or wood product shall be kept or stored upon residential premises. Firewood may be stored upon residential premises solely for use on the premises and not for resale. All firewood located upon residential premises shall be stored as follows:

1. The firewood shall be cut/split, prepared for use, and stored in neat, secure stacks.
2. The height of a woodpile over three (3) feet shall be no more than twice its width, but in no event shall the height exceed six (6) feet.
3. The firewood shall be stored a minimum of eight (8) inches off the ground and on a well supported, non-rotting base.
4. No firewood shall be stored within any yard required by the Zoning Ordinance, except firewood may be stored in a required side yard located behind the principal structure, or in a required rear yard, if effectively screened from view.
5. No more than one fourth (1/4) of a fireplace cord shall be stored on a porch of a residential structure.
6. No more than two (2) fireplace cords shall be stored on any residential premises without a permit issued by the fire department.

For more information on firewood storage please contact the Housing Division at (612) 673-5858. For information on obtaining a permit for storage of more than two (2) fireplace cords please contact the Minneapolis Fire Department at (612) 673-2890.

Firewood storage diagram

