



Downey Fire Department
Fire Prevention Bureau
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STANDARDS FOR STORAGE AND USE OF PORTABLE LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS & ELECTRICAL OUTDOOR HEATERS

Portable liquefied petroleum gas (i.e., LPG/Propane) and /or electrical heaters may be permitted in outdoor locations provided that these uses comply with the requirements described in this document.

Fees and Permits:

Contact Downey Fire Department regarding any required permits or fees for the storage or use of LPG fueled and / or electrical heaters.

Requirements:

LPG Heater Appliances in Use:

- Outdoor heating appliances are prohibited inside tents and temporary membrane structures; and inside any occupancy when connected to the fuel gas container [CFC 605.5.2.1.1].
- Outdoor heating appliances shall not be located within 5 feet of buildings, lot lines and adjoining properties [CFC 605.5.2.1.2, Table 6109.12].
- Outdoor heating appliances in use shall not be located beneath or within 5 feet of combustible decorations, combustible overhangs, awnings, sunshades, or similar combustible materials [CFC 605.5.2.1.3].
- Outdoor heating appliances shall not be located within 5 feet of exits or exit discharges [CFC 605.5.2.1.4].
- Outdoor heating appliances shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and their listing [CFC 605.5.2.2.2].
- Outdoor heating appliances shall be equipped with a tilt or tip-over switch that automatically shuts off the flow of gas if the appliance is tilted more than 15 degrees from vertical [CFC 605.5.2.2.3].
- Outdoor heating appliances shall have their heating element or combustion chamber permanently guarded to prevent accidental contact by persons or material [CFC 605.5.2.2.4]



- Replacement of fuel gas containers in portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances shall not be conducted while the public is present. [CFC 605.5.2.3.2]
- The maximum individual capacity of gas containers used in connection with outdoor heating appliances shall not exceed 20 pounds [CFC 605.5.2.3.3]
- Facilities using outdoor heating appliances shall have compliant portable fire extinguishers (minimum 2-A:10-B:C) within 75 feet of the space where such appliances are used or stored [CFC 906].
- Sources of ignition shall be prohibited within 5 feet of any outdoor heating appliances. “NO SMOKING” signs shall be conspicuously posted at affected locations [CFC 305.1 and 310.3].

LPG Cylinders in Storage:

- LP-Gas cylinders shall be located in a manner which minimizes exposure to excessive temperature rise, physical damage, or tampering [CFC 6109.2].
- LP-Gas cylinders shall be stored or used in an upright position. Cylinder outlet valves shall be closed or plugged [CFC 6109.3 and 6109.8].
- LP-Gas cylinders shall not be stored on roofs [CFC 6109.6].
- LP-Gas cylinders shall not be located in basements, pits, or similar locations where heavier-than-air gas might collect [CFC 6109.7].
- LP-Gas cylinder storage outside of buildings shall be located at least 5 feet away from any doorway or opening to a building/area having two or more exits. Such storage shall be located at least 10 feet away from doorways or openings to buildings/areas having only one exit. Contact your Local Fire Department for storage requirements of more than 500 pounds of LPG [CFC table 6109.12 and 105.6.27]
- When exposed to vehicular traffic, LPG cylinders shall be suitably protected from impact [CFC 6109.13]
- LPG cylinders shall be protected by either [CFC 6109.13 & 6109.14]:
 - 1. An enclosure with at least a 6-foot high industrial type fence. NFPA 58 Sec 8.4.2.1(1); or
 - 2. A lockable, ventilated enclosure made of metal construction. NFPA 58 Sec 8.4.2.1(2)

