



Sarasota County Fire Department

To: Apartment Managers and Condominium Associations

RE: Storage and Use of Propane on Porches, Balconies, Breezeways, or Lanais

It has come to my attention that propane cylinders are being used and stored on porches, balconies, and breezeways. This activity is a life safety hazard to the occupant and his or her neighbor(s). Per the Florida Fire Prevention code, sixth edition:

10.10.6.1 For other than one- and two-family dwellings, no hibachi, grill or other similar devices used for cooking, heating, or any other purpose, shall be used or kindled on any balcony, under any overhanging portion or within 10 ft (3m) of any structure.

10.10.6.1.1 Listed electric portable, tabletop grills, not to exceed 200 square inches of cooking surface, or other similar apparatus shall be permitted.

10.10.6.2 For other than one - and two - family dwellings, no hibachi, grill, or other similar devices used for cooking shall be stored on a balcony.

In order to maintain a safe environment for the tenant and their neighbor(s), the cylinders must be removed from the structure as soon as possible. Failure to comply could result in non-compliance fees.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Should you have any questions please contact my office at (941) 861-2290.

Working Toward a Fire Safe Community



Anita L. Black
Fire Marshal

Serving our Community with **PRIDE**
Professionalism, Responsibility, Integrity, Devotion to Duty, Excellence

Table 69.5.3.1(a) Maximum Allowable Storage Quantities of LP-Gas in Other Than Industrial, Storage, and Mercantile Occupancies

Occupancy	Assembly	Educational	Day Care	Health Care	Ambulatory Health Care	Detention and Correctional	One- and Two-Family Dwellings	Lodging or Rooming House	Hotel and Dormitory	Apartment	Residential Board and Care	Business
Maximum Allowable Quantity (MAQ):												
Storage (state units: lb, gal, etc.)	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb
MAQ increases for:							Maximum 1 lb cylinders		1 lb cylinder			
Total (including cabinets)	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb	2lb
Total for suppression	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb
Total for both cabinets and suppression	0	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb	2 lb
Attended catered food service per NFPA 58 in 10 oz maximum cylinders	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb
			15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb
Additional 10 oz cylinders w 2-hr fire wall	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb	15 lb
Other												
Total (including threshold) for other	20 lb	20 lb	0	5lb								
	Flame effects per NFPA 160. Additional 20 lb units with 20 ft (6 m) separation.	In labs, not in classrooms. Additional 20 lb units with 20 ft (6 m) separation.		In labs only. Additional 5 lb units with 20 ft separation						Amounts per dwelling		

[58: Table 8.3.1(a)]

For SI units, 1 lb = 0.45 kg, 1 oz = 0.028 kg

69.5.3.4.3 The construction of all special buildings and rooms specified in 69.5.3.4.2 shall comply with Chapter 10 of NFPA 58 and the following:

- (1) Vents to the outside only shall be provided at both the top and bottom of the building and shall be located at least 5 ft (1.5 m) from any building opening.
- (2) The entire area shall be classified for purposes of ignition source control in accordance with Section 6.23 of NFPA 58. [58:8.3.4.3]

69.5.3.5 Storage Within Residential Buildings. Storage of cylinders within a residential building, including the basement or any storage area in a common basement of a multiple-family

building and attached or detached garages, shall be limited to cylinders each with a maximum water capacity of 2.7 lb (1.2 kg) and shall not exceed 5.4 lb (2.4 kg) aggregate water capacity per each living space unit. [58:8.3.5]

69.5.4 Storage Outside of Buildings.

69.5.4.1* Location of Storage Outside of Buildings.

69.5.4.1.1 Storage outside of buildings for cylinders awaiting use or resale or that are part of a cylinder exchange point shall be located as follows: