

CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER	POLICY	DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT
Subject: PROPANE (LPG) USE/STORAGE		
Reference: IFC, Denver Amendments, and NFPA 55, 58		
Approved: Joseph L. Gonzales, Division Chief, Fire Prevention Division		
Number: IFC-3803-1	Effective Date: February 1, 2012	Page: 1 of 5

This policy is meant to provide basic information for most common conditions and situations. In any given occupancy, all other Fire Code requirements will be enforced. These will be addressed by the Fire Inspector during a premise inspection. Any questions can be addressed by the Fire Prevention Division between 6:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at (720) 913-3474 or at DenFPB@DENVERGOV.ORG. You may obtain a WALK IN PERMIT between 6:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. ONLY, Monday-Friday at 745 West Colfax Avenue – 1st Floor.

I. SCOPE

The Denver Fire Department must approve the use and/or storage of LPG in advance. A permit must be issued prior to the use and/or storage. **A permit is required when: *one pound or more*** of LPG is used and/or stored at a property in the City and County of Denver (see chart on page 2). This includes LPG used on a temporary or permanent basis. ***Distributors shall not fill an LP gas container for which a permit is required unless a permit for installation has been issued for that location.***

The LPG tank/cage installer, prior to delivery of said tank or cage, must obtain an LPG Tank/Cage permit.

The business/property owner, prior to delivery of LPG tank/cylinders, must obtain an LPG Use/Storage permit.

II. PERMITS

A permit shall be obtained from the Denver Fire Department, Fire Prevention Division. The permit shall be kept on site for inspection. To obtain a permit, the following information must be provided:

- Business Name, phone number, fax number, and address
- Contact Name, phone number, and fax number
- Property/business owner name, phone number, fax number, and address.
- Site address
- List the use(s) of the LPG, eg. forklift, welding, temporary heater, etc.
- List the number of cylinders; include the weight (in pounds) of each individual cylinder, tank.
- List total weight of all LPG on site; include inside and outside use and/or storage.
- Diagram of site location indicating LPG use/storage area.

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- Show distances from all buildings, property lines, utility poles, power lines, etc. (For storage area include distance from all building openings: windows, doors, vents, etc).
- Presence/absence of Code complying/functional sprinkler system

To convert LPG quantities from gallons to pounds, use the following formula:

Number of gallons x 4.2 = Number of pounds

Example: 10 gallons x 4.2 = 42 pounds

COSTS AND CONDITIONS OF PERMITS

The cost of the permit is as follows:

LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS (LPG) PERMIT FEE

1 - 100 pounds - \$125.00 for the first pound plus \$0.75 for each additional pound or fraction thereof up to and including 100 pounds.

101 – 500 pounds - \$200.00 for the first 100 pounds plus \$0.25 for each additional pound or fraction thereof up to and including 500 pounds.

501- 1500 pounds - \$300.00 for the first 500 pounds plus \$0.35 for each additional pound or fraction thereof up to and including 1500 pounds.

1501 and more pounds - \$650.00.

LP gas - storage, use and handling inside or outside of buildings – in any amount requires a permit.

Mushroom Heater \$75 each unit single site recurring use.

Make check payable to **Denver Manager of Finance**. **Walk-in** permit processing is located at 745 West Colfax Avenue, 1st Floor, Monday-Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. **ONLY**. **Mail-in** applications to 745 W. Colfax Avenue, Denver, CO 80204.

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III. SITE INSPECTION

Upon approval of LPG Use and/or Storage Permit Form, A Denver Fire Prevention Inspector will conduct a field inspection of the site. Compliance with all Fire Code requirements shall be maintained at all times. Permit shall be kept on site and posted. Permit is only valid for business/property owner, time frame, and site address indicated on the permit. A permit will be revoked if:

1. Any of the conditions or limitations set forth in the permit has been violated
2. Compliance with written order has not been achieved
3. False statements or misrepresentations of information provided in the permit application are found
4. The permit is issued in error or in violation of a City ordinance, or a Fire Code violation exists

IV. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. "NO SMOKING" and "FLAMMABLE" signs shall be posted and this restriction enforced. **2009 IFC 3807.2**
2. A minimum 2-A-20-BC rated fire extinguisher must be within 75 feet of LPG use. **2009 IFC TABLE 906.3(2)**
3. No ignition sources within 25 feet of LPG. **2009 IFC 2703.7.1**
4. Piping shall be protected in an approved manner. **2009 IFC 2703.2.2**
5. No storage shall be allowed within 20 feet of any opening, window, door, vent, etc. **2009 IFC 3809.4**
6. No storage shall be allowed within 10 feet of building exits. **2009 IFC 3809.4 – NFPA 8.4.1.1**
7. Approved vehicle protection must be provided for LPG cylinders/tank. Jersey barricades must be provided for temporary LPG use. Guard posts must be provided for permanent use and shall be:

(2009 IFC SECTION 312)

 - constructed of steel not less than 4 inches in diameter and concrete-filled,
 - spaced not more than 4 feet between posts on center,
 - set not less than 3 feet deep in a concrete footing of not less than a 15-inch diameter,
 - set with the top of post not less than 3 feet above ground, and
 - located not less than 5 feet from the tank.
8. Each site shall be inspected, after cage and all required safeguards are in place, before final sign off.

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9. If fuel dispensers are present, cage shall not be less than twenty (20) feet from fuel dispensers, and grading shall be away from cage.
2009 IFC 3809.12
10. Cage shall be constructed of metal in a manner as to allow for complete ventilation (i.e., “expanded” metal). **NFPA 58 8.4.2.1**
11. Building separation shall be determined by aggregate quantity of propane. See **IFC Table 3809.12**.
12. Attendant shall be the only person to remove or replace any cylinders in cages; patrons shall at no time be allowed to do the exchange.
NFPA 58 7.2.2.1
13. All cylinders, whether empty or full, shall have a POL plug in place unless the cylinder is in use. **NFPA 58**
14. Each LPG supplier shall provide emergency phone numbers of company representatives who will respond to LPG emergency 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This list shall be kept current at all times. **NFPA 58**
15. LPG suppliers shall provide all employees of each outlet with approved training as to the physical characteristics of LPG, the dangers of LPG, and emergency procedures in the event of a fire or release. **NFPA 58**
16. Each outlet shall have a list(s) of all trained employees available for inspection by the Fire Department. **2009 IFC 301/ Denver Amendments**
17. If any of these regulations are violated, or if it is demonstrated that the exchange program presents an excessive hazard to the surrounding community, the permit shall be revoked.
18. A copy of the “Emergency Procedures” shall be posted in a conspicuous location. **NFPA 58 Chapter 14**
19. Transport of LPG containers shall comply with all pertinent DOT, Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 49, State of Colorado regulations, and City and County of Denver ordinance.

V. EXCEPTIONS:

1. Business occupancies: Portable LP-gas containers are allowed to be used to supply self-contained LPG torch assemblies or similar appliances. The maximum amount of LPG is two 1 (one) pound cylinders. A LPG permit is required.
2. The installation of non-stationary or stationary LP-gas cylinders/tanks for either permanent or temporary use (e.g. heating, cooking, generator, etc.) is not allowed on any property in the City and County of Denver where natural gas is available within 300 feet of the property line.

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LPG USE/STORAGE PERMIT APPLICATION FORM

THIS FORM SHALL BE FILLED OUT AND SIGNED BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SITE APPLYING FOR THE PERMIT(S). IT SHALL BE RETURNED TO THE FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION. MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO DENVER MANAGER OF REVENUE. A PERMIT WILL NOT BE ISSUED IF THE FORM IS NOT COMPLETE AND ACCOMPANIED WITH A PLOT DIAGRAM AND FEE.

NAME OF BUSINESS: _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____ CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PERMIT SITE ADDRESS: _____ DENVER, CO. ZIP _____

CONTACT'S NAME: _____

CONTACT'S PHONE NUMBER: _____ FAX: _____

START DATE: _____ FEE: _____

HOURS OF OPERATION: _____ TO _____

LPG TANK SIZE: _____ INTENDED USE _____

LPG NUMBER OF CYLINDERS/WEIGHT OF EACH CYLINDER: _____
(e.g., 4-33# LPG CYLINDERS TOTAL 132# LPG ON SITE)

PROVIDE A PLOT DIAGRAM (SKETCH OF SITE) SHOWING THE LAYOUT OF THE PROPERTY AND BUILDING. INCLUDING PROPERTY LINES, BUILDING FLOOR LAYOUT, ROADS, VEHICLE ACCESS POINTS, FIRE EXTINGUISHER LOCATION, DISPENSER (PUMP) LOCATIONS, EMERGENCY SHUTOFFS, FUEL STORAGE TANK LOCATIONS AND LP-GAS USE/STORAGE AREAS.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE DENVER FIRE PREVENTION PERSONNEL WILL CONDUCT A SITE INSPECTION, AND IF THE INSTALLATION DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE DENVER FIRE CODE (2009 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE WITH CITY AMENDMENTS), THE PERMIT MAY BE REVOKED WITHOUT A REFUND.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

END OF DOCUMENT