



Every spring and fall when you change your clocks please change the batteries in all of your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.



COON RAPIDS
FIRE DEPARTMENT
STORAGE
GUIDELINES

Community strength... for generations

EXCESSIVE STORAGE GUIDELINES

The Coon Rapids Fire Department has provided the following guidelines as defined for all single family dwellings, townhomes or apartments. Excessive Storage contributes to smoke and serves as a fuel in the event of a fire, thus making efforts by rescue personnel more dangerous and difficult.

Interior storage must meet the following criteria:

- Two feet of clear space maintained between storage and the ceiling.
- Three feet of clear space maintained in front of all doors and windows. All doors & windows must open freely.
- Three feet of clear space in front of electric baseboard heating units.
- All hallways & stairs free of storage.
- Garage must have space for a vehicle at all times (City Code Section 11-601.1)
- Stovetops must be clear of combustible items. No combustible storage in ovens.

Single Family- Maximum storage limits

Livable area* storage = 20% of total space per room.
Storage rooms** storage = maximum of 50% of total space.

Attached Multi-family- Maximum storage limits

Livable area* storage = 20% of total space per room.
Storage rooms** storage = maximum of 30% of total space.

*Livable area is defined as: bedrooms used for sleeping, living rooms, family rooms, kitchens and bathrooms.

** Storage rooms are defined as bedrooms not used for sleeping, basements, storage rooms & garages.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- Cooking is unsafe if flammable items are too close to the stove or oven.
- Open flames from smoking materials or candles in a home with Excessive Storage is very dangerous
- Excessive Storage puts first responders in harm's way. They cannot move efficiently throughout the home.
- Responders can become trapped in a home when doors and windows are blocked. They may be injured by falling objects.
- The weight of stored items, especially if water is added to put out a fire, can lead to the collapse of the structure.
- Excessive storage and clutter impedes the search and rescue of individuals and pets. It also makes it more difficult to provide emergency medical care.

SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS/DETECTORS

(for use in single family dwellings, townhomes and duplexes)

Install working smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors in your home, and test them monthly.

Please check the date on the unit and determine how old it is. The NFPA recommends replacing smoke alarms every 10 years and carbon monoxide detectors every 7 years.

Smoke detectors shall be mounted on the ceiling at least 4" from a wall or on a wall with the top of the detector not less than 4" or more than 12" below the ceiling.

LOCATION OF DETECTORS

Smoke Detector

Carbon Monoxide Detector

