



Fire Marshals Association Of Palm Beach County

Topic: Fuel Storage in Residential Buildings Issue Date: 02/01/07

Many residents of South Florida utilize gasoline to power our lawn equipment, outboard motors, or other devices. When a hurricane threatens, many of us store additional fuel for our portable generators.

The Fire Marshal's Association of Palm Beach County wants our resident to recognize that the storage of gasoline in a residence creates a number of hazards, primarily relating to the increased possibility of fire or explosion.

Be sure to store flammable liquids/gasoline only in approved containers. Never store in excess of 25 gallons of flammable liquids/gasoline indoors if you live in a residence up to 3 units and 10 gallons if you live in a residence of greater than 3 units. Flammable liquids should not be stored in living areas. Keep them in garages or other outside storage areas.

Use remaining fuel in your car after the power is restored to limit the risk of fire or explosion in your home.

Code References

Per the Florida Fire Prevention Code; NFPA 1; the allowable limits are divided into two categories based on the number of living units within the building.

66.4.5.3: Dwellings and Residential Buildings Containing not more than three dwelling units and Accompanying attached and detached garages: “storage in excess of 25 gallons of Class I and Class II liquids combined shall be prohibited. In addition, storage in excess of 60 gallons of Class IIIA liquids shall be prohibited”.

66.4.5.4: Assembly Occupancies, Buildings, Containing more than Three Dwelling Units, and Hotels:

“Storage in excess of 10 gallons of Class I and Class II liquids combined or 60 gallons of Class IIIA liquids shall be in containers stored in storage cabinets, in safety cans, or in an inside storage area that does not have openings that communicate with that portion of the building used by the public”.