

CRR POLICY 1332: ASH MANAGEMENT & DISPOSAL PLAN

Created: February 27, 2020 Revised: n/a Effective Date: Immediate
Community Risk Management Division – 928-204-8926



This policy is promulgated in accordance with Section 104.1 of the 2012 International Fire Code (IFC) and is an official interpretation of Section 102.9 of the 2012 IFC.

The following shall apply to all commercial residential operations with wood burning fireplaces, stoves, fire pits, etc., and is intended as a guideline for all others in Sedona Fire District of acceptable ash management and disposal practices.

Due to the large number of unwanted and un-intended fires at commercial lodging facilities due to improper ash disposal practices, this policy has been established. These fires occur when ashes from wood burning fireplaces, stoves and fire pits are placed into trash receptacle while still smoldering. Proper ash management and disposal will greatly the likelihood that these types of fires will occur. Reducing these types of fires is paramount to enhancing the fire and life safety of your employees and guests; protecting your business from fire loss and litigation due to negligence; and ensuring that fire suppression resources remain available for other emergencies.

Proper disposal of ashes requires the following:

- 1) Carefully empty the hot ashes into a metal container that can be closed tightly with a metal lid;
- 2) Douse the ashes with water and cover the lid securely;
- 3) Store the covered container in a safe place outside of your house or business and away from wind and other ignitable or combustible items. Do not dispose of hot ashes in plastic, paper, or cardboard. Do not place the container containing the ashes on decks, patios or porches;
- 4) Leave ashes in the container for seven days to cool completely;
- 5) Once the ashes have cooled completely, you can place them in a plastic bag, tie it securely, and dispose of it in your curbside trash can or dumpster.

Section 102.9 of the fire code states:

102.9 Matters not provided for. Requirements that are essential for the public safety of an existing or proposed activity, building or structure, or for the safety of the occupants thereof, which are not specifically provided for by this code, shall be determined by the fire code official.

The Fire Marshal has therefore enacted the following requirements:

Businesses which regularly dispose of hot ashes and embers shall be responsible for implementing and adhering to an ash disposal and management plan and training their employees accordingly. Businesses shall purchase seven metal trash cans with tight fitting lids and label each can with a day of the week. Ashes collected shall be placed into the ash collection can that corresponds to the day of the week that they were collected and place the ash can in a safe location. After the lid is put in place, the ashes shall be left to cool for the next six days. The following week that daily collection can may be dumped into the dumpster or curbside collection receptacle and that weekly ash can may then be re-filled with ashes collected on that day.

It is hoped that the above procedures will greatly reduce the likelihood that an unwanted fire will impact your business and those around you.

Any comments or questions regarding the above information may be submitted to:

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