

U.S. Fire Administration / National Fire Academy

# Coffee Break Training

## Topic: Outdoor Flammable Liquid Container Storage: Setbacks

**Learning objective:** The student shall be able to explain property line and building setback requirements for outdoor flammable and combustible liquid container storage.

**F**lammable and combustible liquid storage facilities are highly regulated because of the potential for serious fires with potential heat of combustion and rates of heat release.

Container storage (vessels less than 60 U.S. gallons) in outdoor piles must be in accordance with fire code tables:

Liquid Class	Maximum Gallons per Pile	Distance Between Piles (feet)	Distance to Property Line That Is or Can be Built Upon (feet)	Distance to Street, Alley or Public Way (feet)
I-A	1,100	5	50	10
I-B	2,200	5	50	10
I-C	4,400	5	50	10
II	8,800	5	25	5
III	22,000	5	10	5

Remember to read the footnotes to these fire code tables, because the distances may change. For example, if there is no fire department or brigade available to provide exposure protection, the distances in the “property line” column must be doubled.



For additional information, refer to NFPA 1, Uniform Fire Code™, Chapter 66; International Fire Code®, Chapter 34; or NFPA 30, Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code.

And a Happy Halloween to you, too!