Improper Storage Areas Safety Bulletin

Improper Storage Areas

The topic addressed in this bulletin is the improper locations for the storage of items based on their combustibility or their ability to obstruct the path of egress or access. This topic is regulated by University policy, the Township-adopted 2006 Edition of the International Fire Code and the State-adopted 2006 Edition of the NFPA Uniform Fire Code 1.

This item is regulated due to the hazards to life and property that improper storage can present.

Stairwell Storage

Stairwells are considered as means of egress as they provide building occupants with access to the floor level of discharge to the public way. Storage of combustible materials is prohibited as well as any unsecured or easily moved item that may obstruct the path of egress.

Mechanical Room Storage

The storage of combustible material or objects that may obstruct access to equipment controls is prohibited in mechanical rooms. The term mechanical room includes; boiler rooms, HVAC rooms, electrical rooms, or other areas where building utilities are controlled. Items such as belts, air filters, or other routine replacement parts may be stored, in limited quantity, in the same room as the requiring equipment.

At all times a clear space of 3 feet must be maintained around all electric utilities and fire safety equipment.

Referenced Statutes:

- 2006 Edition IFC –Means of Egress-315.2.2, Equipment Rooms – 315.2.3