

CENTRAL MARIN FIRE DEPARTMENT



Developed by the Marin County Fire
Prevention Officers

Approved by:

[Signature]
Ruben Martin, Fire Chief

Fire Protection Standard 114

CHRISTMAS TREE LOTS AND FLAME PROOFING

Date: 08/21/2017

Revision: 01/01/2023

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This standard is promulgated pursuant to California Fire Code, California Code of Regulations and nationally recognized standards as adopted by the Central Marin Fire Department.

I. Sign Requirements:

Sign requirements for all Christmas Tree Lots whether flame proofing trees or not are:

- A. A permanent and durable sign shall be clearly visible at the main entrance to the lot with wording as in Figure 1.
 - B. Letters shall be at least 1" high with either Arial or Times New Roman Font.
 - C. Letters shall be of a contrasting color to their background.
 - D. Lines shall be spaced not less than 1/2" apart.
 - E. Sign shall be a minimum of 30 inches in height and 36 inches in width.
- II. Tents, awnings and any other fabric or membrane structures or coverings are prohibited on any lot. This requirement includes wood members with visqueen or similar plastic covering.
- III. Open flames, including heating or lighting apparatus or equipment capable of igniting flammable materials shall not be used.
- IV. A minimum of one (1) type 2A 10BC fire extinguisher shall be installed within every 75' travel distance.

Ex.

ANY CHRISTMAS TREES BEING PURCHASED FOR USE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING OCCUPANCIES SHALL BE MADE FROM A NON-FLAMMABLE MATERIAL, OR SHALL BE TREATED AND MAINTAINED IN A FLAME-RETARDANT CONDITION BY MEANS OF A FLAME-RETARDANT SOLUTION OR PROCESS APPROVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL AS SET FORTH IN CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS TITLE 19.

**ASSEMBLY OCCUPANCIES - CHURCHES,
DINING/DANCING HALLS, PLACES OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLY
EDUCATIONAL - SCHOOLS
INSTITUTIONAL - HOSPITALS, REST HOMES, ELDERLY CARE HOMES
RESIDENTIAL - APARTMENT COMPLEXES, HOTELS,
MOTELS, RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES**

2'-5"

3'-2 3/4"

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V. Flame Retardant Application License Required

For state and local laws regarding the application of flame retardant chemicals and finishes, see Below.

The following requirements and information are applicable to those parties and/or individuals engaged in the application of flame-retardant treatments and solutions to Christmas trees.

These requirements are pursuant to Title 19 California Administrative Code, Chapter 8 California Fire Code, and local ordinances.

1. Any person or firm desiring to engage in the business of, or perform for a fee the act of, applying a flame-retardant chemical to any fabric or material shall first make application for registration as a "Flame-Retardant Application Concern" conforms provided by the State Fire Marshal available from the Fire Prevention Bureau. Separate applications shall be submitted for each separate place of business.
2. Only State Fire Marshal approved products, applied by State Fire Marshal applicators, may be used on trees that are required to be flame proofed.
3. A tag must be attached to treated trees indicating the date of treatment, name of applicator, and name and registration number of the chemical used (Go to following link)
<http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/strucfireengineer/pdf/flameretardant/CertOfFlameRest.pdf>
4. Trees placed in the following occupancies are to be flame retardant:
 - a. All schools and churches
 - b. Hotels and Motels
 - c. Hospitals, senior homes, jails, health clinics
 - d. Places of public assembly

Exception: Trees located in areas protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system with Groups A, E, M, R-1 and R-2. Trees shall be allowed within dwelling units in Group R-2 occupancies.

Note: Starting on December 1st, the State Fire Marshal and the local fire authority will be conducting inspection of Christmas tree sales lots to determine that applicators are licensed and that they are using approved chemicals in the proper manner. Those persons or firms in non-compliance with these regulations are subject to legal action.