



Benicia Fire Department – Fire Prevention Policies

Subject: FLAMEPROOFING CHRISTMAS TREES

Section: Policies

Effective Date: April 2, 2009

Policy E

Page: 1 of 2

Revised Date: July 1, 2015

These requirements are pursuant to Title 19, California Administrative Code, 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” on forms provided by the State Fire Marshal available from the Fire and Life Safety Division. 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 (see Figure 1 below)
4. Trees placed in the following occupancies are to be flame-retardant by a licensed concern:
 - A. All schools and churches
 - B. Senior homes, jails, health clinics
 - C. Places of public assembly
 - D. Mercantile
 - E. Hotels, Motels, and Apartments

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. In commercial, and industrial businesses (not SFM regulated occupancies), they may treat their own trees. If they do, they shall keep the product container to show the inspector

Under CFC Section 806.1.1, all natural cut trees are prohibited in groups A, E, I-1, I-2, I-3, I-4, M, R-1, R-2, and R-4.



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Exception:

Trees located in areas protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system.