



City of Cambridge Press Release

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For Immediate Release :

Get Ready for Spring!

Learn About Cambridge's On-Demand Storage Unit (POD) Requirements

Cambridge, MD (February 18, 2025). The use of portable on-demand storage units, a.k.a. PODs, in the City of Cambridge is governed by City Code Sec. 4-45. As spring is coming and residents may be finalizing plans for repair and/or renovation of their houses, the City wants to remind residents that there are several requirements for obtaining and placing a POD on a residential property.

PODS require a permit

Residents wishing to place a POD on their property must first obtain a permit. If a resident submits a building permit application for new construction or renovation of an existing property, permission for placement of a POD may be requested within the building permit application.

POD placements are time-limited

A POD, even if requested as part of a building permit application, may only be placed on a residential property for 60 days. A 30-day extension may be granted, if necessary, pending a show of good cause. Only one POD may be placed on a property at any time and the POD may be placed for no longer than a maximum of 90 days within any 12-month period.

Prior written approvals are sometimes necessary

PODS may not be placed in the street, on a public sidewalk, or on the right-of-way. Prior written approval from both the permitting official and a designated member of the Cambridge Police Department are required for any exception to this placement.

PODs may not be placed in an unpaved area of the front yard of a property. Prior written approval by the permitting official is required for any exception to this rule.

POD placement and necessary upkeep

PODs ideally should be placed in the residence's driveway or on a paved surface to the rear or side of the building, keeping in mind that placement must be 3 feet from the property line and 10 feet from any occupied residential structure.

PODs must be kept in good condition, with the area around the POD maintained in accordance with the City's property maintenance requirements. Storage of hazardous materials in a POD is strictly prohibited.

Violations

Violations of the provisions of the Code are subject to fines of \$100 per day and costs associated with abatement of any problems.

Additional reading

City Code Sec. 4-45 Portable on-demand units ("PODs")

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