Site Selection & Preparation

Thank you for considering a storm shelter from Safe Sheds. The following information should be considered when you are determining the location to set the storm shelter. Careful planning at this time can save time and money when the unit is delivered.

The unit will be delivered on a modified semi-tractor truck. The shelter is transported over the back tandem axles of the truck. The truck will need to drive onto your property and back-up onto the site to set the building. Once the truck is in place, the unit is raised above the back axles using a hydraulic lifting mechanism and the semi-tractor will drive forward out from under the building. With the truck removed, the shelter is lowered by the same hydraulic mechanism onto your site. To see a video of the delivery and installation process, visit our web site (www.safesheds.com) and navigate to the Delivery and Installation page.

We ask you to consider the following requirements for your site selection:

1) The truck must be able to navigate safely from the road, alley or driveway to your selected site, this means that a clear path a minimum of 10, but preferred 12 feet wide and 12.5 feet high should be considered.
2) If the truck will have to make any turns to back onto the site, space for these should also be considered. Please be observant of roof overhangs, tree limbs, phone and power lines and septic and sewer lines along this path.
3) Most water, gas, sewer and septic lines will be buried deep enough to bear the weight of the loaded truck, however, we do not want the tires of the truck to run over any water meters or septic tanks. Damage to these items could result in added expense to the homeowner.
4) The site you want to set the shelter on should be level with little or no incline. A base of sand, rock or concrete is not required but can be helpful to level out the site. These base materials must not be more than a few inches deep and should be easily raked to level (concrete excluded). Any more than a few inches can create issues when the weight of the truck and shelter are applied to the base. The area in front of the site should also be fairly flat for at least 30 feet in the direction that the truck will come in from, to allow the truck room to pull forward after the building has been raised off the truck axles.
5) If you are placing sand, rock or some other material under the shelter to make the surface level, you do not need to include the area beyond the shelter. Drainage ditches or slopes that are located near the selected site may need to have boards or
other temporary filler in place to allow for a level approach with the truck. While many inclines can be overcome with the truck, it is not good to have one side much lower than the other.

6) You need to know the location of water, gas and sewer lines near the site to make sure that the building is not being set or anchored where these items could be damaged. Earth anchors and concrete anchors are imbedded four feet into the ground and could strike any buried lines such as power, water, sewer, phone, cable etc. Contact your local utility company to identify buried lines prior to having the building set if anchors are involved. Your utility company can usually do this at no cost to the homeowner.

7) If you plan to set the shelter near any other structure, you will need to leave a minimum of 2 1/2 feet from the side walls of the shelter and 3 feet from the back wall of the shelter to allow room for the hydraulic legs to extend to raise and lower the shelter. This space will also allow for the hydraulic cage to be removed from the unit after it has been set in place. Again please watch for any overhangs less than 13 feet off the ground.

8) If you are planning to use anchors on your building, please consider the soil content below your site. These anchors go four feet into the ground. Earth anchors use a screw in method and will not penetrate large roots, boulders or slabs of submerged concrete. In-ground anchors are driven 4’ deep into the ground and will not penetrate roots, rocks, or other solid material. If you have a sub soil with large rocks, please let us know and we can prepare a modified concrete anchor.

If you have any questions or concerns about your location selection, please call our office at 888-556-1531. We can review your site via Google Maps satellite images, you can send us photographs, or, if you’re nearby or we will have a delivery driver in your area, we may be able to send someone to your home to review your placement location.

**DAMAGE WAIVERS**

The weight of the storm shelter, combined with the weight of the delivery truck, can create some ruts if the truck must travel through soft ground to get to the intended shelter site. The delivery driver will have a damage waiver form for you to sign when he arrives at your location. If the truck will need to cross any portion of a neighboring yard to have proper access to your site, we will ask the other property owner(s) to sign a waiver also. If your neighbor(s) works during the day, please let us know and we will e-mail a damage waiver form to you prior to delivery for you to have your neighbor sign.