

SOUTH ADAMS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS FOR TENTS, CANOPIES, AND OTHER MEMBRANE STRUCTURES

Requirements for tents, canopies, and other membrane structures are referenced from the 2003 International Fire Code Chapter 24.

PERMITS:

- Tents, Canopies, and Membrane Structures having an area exceeding **200 square feet** in an individual size and/or a combination of tents exceeding **700 square feet** stacked side by side shall not be erected, operated, or maintained for any purpose without obtaining a permit and fee approval from the Fire Code Official.
- The submitted tent, canopies or membrane structures shall be inspected at regular intervals, but not less than two times per permit use period, by the permittee, owner or agent to determine that the installation is maintained in accordance with this document. When required by the Fire Code Official, an inspection report shall consist of maintenance, anchors, and fabric inspections.

CONSTRUCTION:

- A detailed site and floor plan for tents, canopies, and membrane structures is required for submittal and approval under the conditions listed above in PERMITS.
- Anchorage is required to be adequately roped, braced and anchored to withstand the elements of weather and prevent against collapsing. Documents of structural stability shall be furnished to the Fire Code Official on request.
- An affidavit or affirmation shall be submitted to the Fire Code Official and a copy retained on the premises on which the tent or air-supported structure is located. The affidavit shall attest to the following information relative to the flame resistance of the fabric:
 - 1) Names and address of the owners of the tent, canopy, or air-supported structure.
 - 2) Date the fabric was last treated with flame-resistance solution.
 - 3) Trade name or kind of chemical used in treatment.
 - 4) Name of person or firm treating the material.
 - 5) Name of testing agency and test standard by which the fabric was tested.

- There shall be a **2A40BC** fire extinguisher located every **3000 square feet** of tent, canopy or membrane structure or **75 feet** lineal travel distance.
- There shall be an occupant load sign posted at the entrance/exit of any tent or membrane structure over **200 square feet** showing the maximum occupant load. The occupant load is figured using the square feet of the tent divided by **7**.
- When tents, canopies and membrane structures with an area combined together in excess of **700** square feet, a **12-foot** firebreak shall be maintained. The firebreak shall be free from guy ropes or other obstructions and shall be maintained on all sides of all tents, canopies and membrane structures unless otherwise approved by the Fire Code Official.
- Exit signs shall be clearly marked. Exit signs shall be installed at required exit doorways and where otherwise necessary to indicate clearly the direction of egress.

HEATING AND COOKING:

Heating and cooking equipment shall be in accordance with this section.

- Every tent, canopy and membrane structure shall be labeled with a placard to identify that cooking operations with LPG are present.
- Heating, cooking equipment, tanks, piping, hose, fittings, valves, tubing and other related components shall be approved by the Fire Code Official. Only grill type LPG cooking devices are allowed. Charcoal grills, Deep fat fryers, griddles or fryers of any type are not allowed for cooking purposes at any time.
- Any tent using cooking shall have a 2A40BC fire extinguisher.
- Location of the heating equipment and tanks shall be at least **3 feet** away from any tent, canopy or membrane structure. At no time shall the heating equipment be placed or operated under the tent, canopy or membrane structure.

Exception: Sternos or other type of food warming operations that do not pose an ignition hazard are allowed under a tent, canopy or membrane structure when approved by the Fire Code Official.

- **LPG (Propane):**

Tanks are allowed at the cooking site. There shall be a maximum of **(2) 100lb.** tanks allowed at the cooking site. The LPG tanks used at the cooking site shall be secured from falling or tipping over. Spare propane tanks will need to be stored at least **50 feet** away from any building, tent, or public access. The tanks need to be stored in a secured shaded area provided by the owner or permittee. At no time shall the general public be accessible to the propane tank storage area. The Fire Code Official will need to approve the location, type of barricade and security for the LPG storage area.