

Tents, Canopies and Temporary Membrane Structures

What qualifies as a tent?

A structure, enclosure or shelter, with or without side-walls or drops, constructed of fabric or pliable material supported by any manner. (California Fire Code 105.6.43 and 3103.2)

- Tents with an area in excess of 400 square feet.
- Tents open on all sides (canopy) in excess of 700 square feet.

What documents must be submitted with the Sacramento Fire Department tent application?

- Overall site plan to show the property and roads; a minimum 20-foot separation between tents/other structures is required.
- A detailed site plan - A floor plan of the tent, showing the location and number of exits, fire extinguishers, stages, seating arrangements, and other objects.
- Certificates showing the tent to be flame retardant in accordance with the CA State Fire Marshal.
- A copy of your insurance liability for this event. The City of Sacramento shall be listed as a co-insured or hold harmless.
- Location of the required fire access roads
- Location of parking
- Location of cooking or catering area
- Seating arrangement
- Fuel fired equipment, internal combustion engines, generators, and climate control equipment
- Total occupant load based on use
- Size of tent structure
- Number of walls or openings

Special Details

- Anchorage type and fastening system to ground
- Distance from buildings
- Building exits near temporary tent location

Flame Retardant Requirements

The sidewalls or drops, and tops of tents and canopies shall be of flame-resistant material or treated with a flame retardant in an approved manner. A California State Fire Marshal tag shall be permanently fixed to the top and each sidewall. All flame certifications will be confirmed through the California State Fire Marshal database prior to permit being issued, please ensure that all information is registered and up to date. (Title 19, Division 1, Sections 315, 332, 335)

<https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/divisions/fire-engineering-and-investigations/flame-retardant-chemicals-and-fabrics/>



Small tents (10X10)

Shall have a permanently affixed label bearing the information in subsection (a) or shall comply with the provisions specified in CPAI-84. (Title 19, Division I, Section 335)



Decorative Material

In every Group A, E, I, R-I and D Occupancies all drapes, hangings, curtains, drops, and all other decorative material, including Christmas trees, that would tend to increase the fire and panic hazard shall be made from a nonflammable material, or shall be treated and maintained in a flame-retardant condition by means of a flame retardant solution or process approved by the State Fire Marshal, as set forth in Subchapter 8, Chapter 1, Title 19, CCR. (Title 19, Division I, Section 3.08)

Fire Extinguisher

One Class 2A fire extinguisher shall be provided in every tent having a floor area between 500 square feet and 1000 square feet plus one 2A fire extinguisher in each auxiliary adjacent tent. (2A:10-BC at a minimum) (Title 19, Division I, Section 3.19)

** Minimum rating of 2-A:20-B:C shall be provided not more than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from portable generators. **

Fire Safety Personnel

Any tent being used as a place of assembly shall provide at least one qualified fire safety person in every tent having a capacity of 500 persons and one additional qualified person for each 1000 additional persons. Such persons shall be on duty in the tent at all times when the tent is open to the public. They shall be proficient in the handling of fire extinguishers and equipment and shall be familiar with the fire and panic safety regulations. (Title 19, Division I, Section 320)

Liquid Propane Gas (LPG)

LP-gas containers and tanks shall be located outside, away from public access. Pressure relief devices shall be pointed away from the tent or membrane structure. All fuel tanks shall be secured from falling and refueling shall be performed in an approved location at least 20 feet from tents or membrane structures. (Title 19, Division I, Section 325)

Smoking

Smoking shall not be permitted in tents or membrane structures. Approved "No Smoking" signs shall be conspicuously posted in accordance with Section 310. (California Fire Code 3106.4.5)

The mission of the Sacramento Fire Department is to protect our community through effective and innovative public safety services.

Generators

Generators shall be located a minimum of **20 feet** from tents or canopies. They shall also be isolated from contact with the public by fencing, enclosed or other approved means. The refueling of hot generators is not allowed. (California Fire Code 3107.16)

Combustible Materials

Hay, straw, shavings or similar combustible materials shall not be located within any tent or membrane structure containing an assembly occupancy. (California Fire Code 3107.2)

Outdoor Cooking

Outdoor cooking that produces sparks or grease-laden vapors shall not be performed within **20 feet** of a tent or membrane structure. (California Fire Code 3107.12.6)

Flammable and Combustible Liquid Storage

Flammable and combustible liquids shall be stored outside in an approved manner not less than **50 feet** from tents or membrane structures. (California Fire Code 3107.14.2)

Open Flames

Open flames, candles, or any other device that emits a flame shall not be used in, or immediately adjacent to, any tent. (California Fire Code 3107.4; CCR T19, Division I, Section 317)

***** If tents do not meet any of the above requirements, they will not be allowed to be part of the event. We are more than happy to conduct a site visit prior to your event to assist in ensuring that your set up is compliant. If you have any questions you also can e-mail them to our team at the below email address.*****

Thank you and we look forward to your event.

Please note that this is intended to be a guide, other items may be identified during the inspection that need to be corrected.

Should you have any questions, contact: Codeenforcement@sfd.cityofsacramento.org

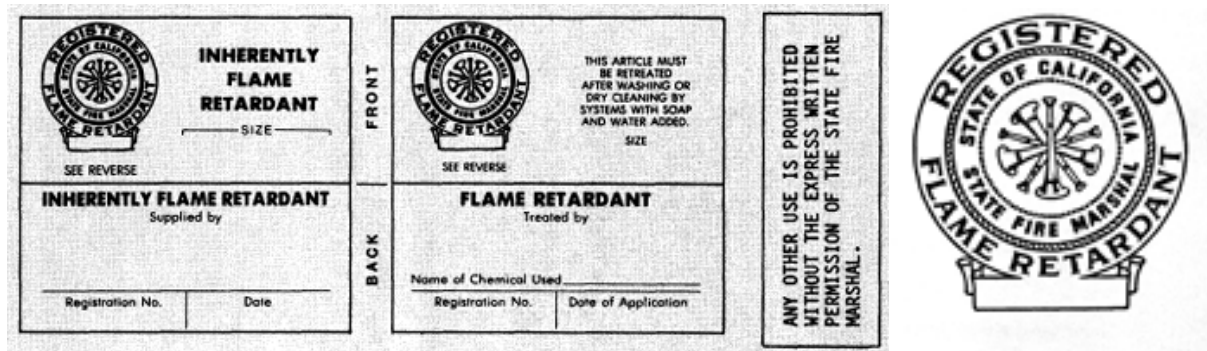
Hot Food Vendor Requirements

The use of food booths is regulated by the Fire Department and the Sacramento County Health Department. These requirements apply to single vendor, freestanding booths, and mobile food trucks. Cooking within tents containing seating is subject to additional requirements. All food vendors are subject to inspection prior to an event. Failure to comply with the following regulations may result in the closure of the location or vendor not being allowed to cook or be a part of the event.

Flame Retardant Requirements

The sidewalls or drop, and tops of tents and canopies shall be of flame-resistant material or treated with a flame retardant in an approved manner. A California State Fire Marshal tag shall be permanently fixed to the top and each sidewall. All flame certifications will be confirmed through the California State Fire Marshal database, please ensure that all information is registered and up to date.

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Portable Fire Extinguishers

A portable fire extinguisher shall be provided for each food booth. The minimum size for the extinguisher is 2A 10B: C (5 lbs.). If a Deep Fat Fryer is being used, a K TYPE extinguisher shall also be provided. Extinguishers shall have a current California State Fire Marshal's service tag. The extinguishers shall be mounted or installed in an accessible and visible location, between 3 and 5 feet above the ground. (California Fire Code 3106.4.4)

Location

Food booths shall have a clearance of at least 20 feet on two sides. The booth shall not be located within 10 feet of any rides or devices. Cooking that produces sparks or grease-laden vapors shall not be conducted within 20 feet of a structure. (California Fire Code 3106.5.1)

Deep Fat Fryers

Deep Fat Fryers shall not be used in food vendor tents. If a Fryer is used in conjunction with a BBQ, it shall be at least 3 feet away from the BBQ. Deep Fat Fryers also requires the addition of a K TYPE fire extinguisher.

Liquid Propane Gas (LPG)

Fuel tanks (LPG) shall be stored outside of the structure. The tanks shall also be located away from public access. Fuel tanks shall be secured from falling. LP-gas containers and tanks shall be located outside; pressure relief devices shall be pointed away from tent or membrane structure. Refueling shall be performed in an approved location not less than 20 feet from tents or membrane structures. (California Fire Code 3107.13.1 through 3107.13.3)

Smoking

Smoking is not allowed at any time within the food booth, or within 25 feet of any fuel source. (California Fire Code 3106.4.5)

Generators

Generators shall be located a minimum of 20 feet from tents or canopies. They shall also be isolated from contact with the public by fencing, enclosed or other approved means. The refueling of hot generators is not allowed. (California Fire Code 3107.16)

Electrical Hazards

Identified electrical hazards shall be abated. Identified hazardous electrical conditions in permanent wiring shall be brought to the attention of the responsible code official. Electrical wiring, devices, appliances and other equipment that is modified or damaged and constitutes an electrical shock or fire hazard shall not be used. (California Fire Code 605.1)

- Extension cords shall be plugged directly into an approved receptacle, power tap or multiplug adapter and, except for approved multiplug extensions cords, shall serve only one portable appliance. (California Fire Code 605.5.1)
- Multiplug adapters, such as cube adapters, unfused plug strips or any other device not complying with the California Electrical Code shall be prohibited. (California Fire Code 605.4)

Food Trucks

- Wet chemical fire extinguishing systems (commonly referred to as an ANSUL system) shall have a current service tag from a California State Fire Marshal or C-16 licensed vendor. (Serviced within the last 6 months)
- Fire extinguishers shall bear a current service tag. (Serviced within the last 12 months)
- Cooking ventilation systems shall have been cleaned at their indicated interval.

*** If food vendors do not meet any of the above requirements, they will not be allowed to cook at the event. It is highly advised to have a local fire servicing company on standby for your event.

Please note that this is intended to be a guide, other items may be identified during the inspection that need to be corrected.

A copy of these regulations shall be posted in the structure and signed by the vendor. By signing this form, the vendor agrees to comply with these regulations. The signed copy will be available on request for review by the Fire Department.

Should you have any questions, contact: Codeenforcement@sfd.cityofsacramento.org

Special Event Food Vendor Setup

Shall provide a 2-A:10-B:C Fire Extinguisher for each food booth and generator.



Shall provide a K-type extinguisher for all cooking that involves solid fuels or frying. (California Fire Code 906.4)

