



## **Capital City Fire / Rescue - Fire Marshal's Office**

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# **Requirements for Tents and other Membrane Structures**

Capital City Fire/Rescue has put together a list of the most common fire and life safety code requirements for tents and membrane structures. We hope it will help answer any questions you may have. This is not intended to be a complete list, but may answer the most common questions. The information below is based on the International Fire Code.

## **Requirements for All Tents** (Public/Commercial Use)

### ***Flame Resistance and Structure***

All tent fabric must be flame resistant. (IFC 2404.2)

A certificate or other proof of approval by a testing laboratory is acceptable as evidence of the required fire resistance. A copy of the certificate must be provided to the Fire Marshal's Office upon request. These certificates should be available from the tent supplier. (IFC 2404.4)

### ***Location***

Tents or membrane structures shall not be located within 20 feet of lot lines, parked vehicles or internal combustion engines. (IFC 2403.8.2)

Tents or membrane structures and their appurtenances shall be adequately roped, braced and anchored to withstand the elements of weather and prevent against collapsing. Documentation of structural stability shall be furnished to the fire marshal upon request. (IFC 2403.9)

### ***Fire Protection***

One portable fire extinguisher (minimum 2A-10BC) shall be provided at each enclosed tent. (IFC 906)

Smoking is prohibited in any tent. Approved "No Smoking" signs shall be conspicuously posted. (IFC 2404.6)

### ***Open Flame***

Open flame or other devices emitting flame, fire or heat or any flammable or combustible liquids, gas, charcoal or other cooking device or any other unapproved devices shall not be permitted inside or located within 20 feet of the tent, canopy or membrane structures while open to the public unless approved by the fire marshal. (IFC 2404.7)

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### ***Electrical***

Generators and other internal combustion power sources shall be separated from tents, canopies or membrane structures by a minimum of 20 feet and shall be isolated from contact with the public by fencing, enclosure or other *approved* means. (IFC 2404.19)

### ***Floor Coverings***

No hay, straw, shavings, or similar combustible materials are permitted within any tent unless they have been treated to make them flame retardant. (IFC 2404.5)

The floor surface inside and the grounds and within a 30 foot perimeter shall be kept free of combustible waste and other combustible materials that could create a fire hazard. Such waste shall be stored in approved containers and removed from the premises at least once a day during the period the structure is occupied by the public. (IFC 2404.22)

## **Additional Requirements for Cooking Tents**

**A permit must be obtained for use of any open flame (including use of sterno and other food warming devices), and cooking equipment and must be approved in advance by the Fire Marshal's Office. Please contact the Juneau Permit Center, 230 S. Franklin St, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor .(907)586-3365**

Cooking involving up to four deep fat fryers, one Class K portable fire extinguisher of a minimum 1.5 gallon capacity, shall be provided. Cooking that does not include deep fat frying, one portable fire extinguisher (minimum 2A-10BC) shall be provided and readily available. (IFC 904.11.5.2)

Location of LP-gas containers shall be located outside. Safety release valves shall be pointed away from the tent or membrane structure.(IFC 2404.16.2)

Portable LP-gas containers shall have a minimum separation between the container and structure not less than 10 feet. (IFC 2404.16.2.1)

Flammable-liquid-fueled equipment shall not be used in tents, canopies or membrane structures. (IFC 2404.17.1)

Outdoor cooking that produces sparks or grease-laden vapors shall not be performed within 20 feet of a tent or membrane structure. (IFC 2404.15.6)

Cooking and heating equipment shall not be located within 10 feet of exits or combustible materials. (IFC 2404.15.5)