



Scott M. Jalbert, Unit Chief

Standard 7

Tents, Membranes and Canopies

Scope

The scope of this standard is to establish consistent requirements for tents, temporary structures or membrane structures exceeding 200 square feet and/or canopies exceeding 400 square feet in size that are used as booths for carnivals, street fairs and flea markets.

Permits, approvals and inspections shall be in accordance with the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 19, 2016 California Fire Code (CFC), 2016 California Building Code (CBC), California Health and Safety Code, *CAL FIRE*/San Luis Obispo County Fire Department, and the San Luis Obispo County Health Department.

Booths

- Sidewalls, drops and tops of all such structures shall be made of a flame-resistant material or treated with a flame retardant approved by the California State Fire Marshal.
- The California State Fire Marshal's seal shall be permanently affixed to the structure or a label showing the name, type and applicant of flame retardant materials.
- A 10-foot wide separation shall be provided for every 200 lineal feet of vendor booths.
- A fire access of 20 feet between rows of booths shall be maintained at all times.
- Sale or display items shall not be allowed within the fire access.
- Booths shall not be used for more than 180 days in a 12-month period.
- Booths or rows of booths shall be located more than 20 feet from property lines, buildings, parking areas or internal combustible engines.
- Booths shall have at least one exit.
- All structures shall be adequately braced and anchored to prevent collapse.

Portable Fire Extinguishers

- Portable fire extinguishers shall be installed throughout the premises, display areas and not exceed 75 feet of travel.
- Portable fire extinguisher shall be a minimum rating of 2A:10B:C.
- Booths with cooking facilities inside or adjacent to them shall have a fire extinguisher rating of a minimum 3A:40B:C

- Permanent businesses shall have a portable fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2A:10B:C.

Ignition Source

- Smoking, fireworks, open flame or hot objects capable of igniting combustible materials shall not be allowed inside the booths.
- ‘**No Smoking**’ signs shall be posted.
- Cooking and BBQs shall be a minimum of 10 feet from any booth and shall be protected from public access.

Electrical Cords and Generators

- Extension cords shall be of a grounded type and listed for exterior use.
- Extension cords shall be unplugged after each daily use.
- Extension cords shall not be used in lieu of hardwiring.
- Generators and other internal combustion engines will be 20 feet from tents, isolated from public contact with fencing or enclosures.

Compressed Gas Tanks

- LPG and other compressed gas tanks shall be secured in an upright position.
- All tanks shall be protected from public access.
- Empty tanks shall be removed daily.

Cooking Area Layout

- A minimum of 2-foot side clear space shall be provided between the cooking space area and the back of the tent.
- A minimum of 18-inch wide clear space shall be provided between the cooking space and the side and rear of the cooking area.
- Cooking and barbecues shall be a minimum of 10 feet from any booth and shall be protected from access by the public.

Use of Liquid Petroleum Gas

- Vendors may use Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) in booths as defined above, when the booth is separated from other booths, tents and canopies by at least 20 feet and approved by the SLO County Health Department.
- LPG cylinders shall be located outside tents and canopies. Minimum of 10 feet (less than 500 gal) and 25 feet (over 500 gallons)
- Vendors using LPG or liquid fueled appliances in a tent or canopy will not be allowed to participate in the event. Wood booths would be required

Barbecues

- Trailer barbecues shall not be located inside or within 20 feet of combustible walls, roofs, or other combustible material.
- Small barbecues and hibachis may be placed on tables in the cooking space if a thermal barrier is provided between the barbecue and table. This may be a concrete block underneath the barbecue, as long as the entire area of the barbecue is provided with protection underneath.

Special Appliances

- Warming appliances/steaming trays, both electric and solid fuel types, shall be located inside tents. They will be monitored by the event organizers, the County Health Department and the *CAL FIRE/SLO* County Fire Department. The intent is that food preparation will occur within the tent.
- Deep-fat fryers and other unique appliances for the cooking and holding of food until served will be reviewed by *CAL FIRE/SLO* County Fire Department and are approved on a case-by-case basis. If approved, a Class K portable fire extinguisher shall be located within 30 feet of the fryer.
- If the appliances used require food preparation to occur outside, the Fire Marshal may evaluate the heat potential of the appliance and approve its' use within the tent.