



Summer Festival 2018

Permit and General Requirements for Tents and Canopies

In Accordance with the N.C. Fire Code – Chapter 24, the following specific guidelines shall be followed in reference to tents or canopies and membrane structures.

2403.2 Approval Required. Tents and membrane structures having an area in excess of 400 square feet shall not be erected, operated or maintained for any purpose without first obtaining a permit and approval from the Fire Code official.

Exceptions:

- Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.
- Fabric canopies open on all sides which comply with the following:
 1. Individual canopies having a maximum size of 700 square feet
 2. The aggregate area of multiple tents placed side by side without a fire break clearance of 12 feet, not exceeding 700 square feet.
 3. A minimum clearance of 12 feet to all structures and other tents.

2404.15.5 Cooking Tents. Tents where cooking is performed shall be separated from other tents, canopies or membrane structures by a **minimum of 20 feet.**

2404.3 Label. Membrane structures, tents or canopies shall have a permanently affixed label bearing the identification of size and fabric or material type.

(All tents or canopies used for cooking should be of a flame restraint material)

2404.12 Portable Fire Extinguishers. Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided as required. A 5lb ABC rated fire extinguisher shall be located within close proximity of the tent, canopy or membrane structure. All extinguishers shall have a **current inspection tag affixed** that is within one year of last inspection by a qualified fire extinguisher service company. New extinguishers can be tagged and dated out of the box with the manufacturer supplied tag for the first year after purchase.

All tents will be weighted down in a way to keep them from moving in case of heavy winds. Sand Bags, Water Bottles, 5 Gallon Buckets and Concrete Blocks work well.

Note: These general requirements are not all inclusive and more detailed information may be provided by the Fire Marshal during the permitting process or by contacting this office.

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