



KERNERSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Marshal's Office

Post Office Drawer 728 • Kernersville, North Carolina 27285-0728

GENERAL TENT / CANOPY REQUIREMENTS

- ❑ Tents in excess of 200 square feet and Canopies that exceed 400 square feet require a permit from the Fire Marshal's Office.
- ❑ Flame retardant certificate shall be provided before a permit can be issued.
- ❑ Tents shall have labels permanently affixed identifying the material type and size.
- ❑ Flame propagation performance criteria as follows must be provided and a copy kept on site:
 - Names and addresses of the owners of the tent.
 - Date the fabric was last treated with flame retardant.
 - Trade name or kind of chemical used in the treatment.
 - Name of person or firm treating the material.
 - Name of testing agency and test standard by which the fabric was tested.
- ❑ Occupant loads of 50 or more require detailed floor plans.
- ❑ Tents and canopies shall not be located within 20 feet of lot lines, buildings, other tents, canopies or membrane structures, **parked vehicles or internal combustion engines**. For the purpose of determining required distances, support ropes and guy wires shall be considered as part of the tent or canopy structure.
- ❑ Documentation of structural stability shall be furnished to the Fire Code Official upon request.
- ❑ Exits shall be spaced at approximately equal intervals around the perimeter of the tent. They shall be located such that all points are 100 feet or less from an exit.
- ❑ Exit openings from tents shall remain open unless covered by a flame-resistant curtain meeting the following conditions:
 - Curtains shall be free sliding on a metal support. The support shall be a minimum of 80 inches above floor level at the exit. The curtain shall be arranged such that when open, no part obstructs the exit.

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- Curtains shall be of a color or colors that contrast with the color of the tent.
- Employee only aisles shall maintain a minimum 24 inch width.
- Public areas shall have smooth surfaced, unobstructed aisles that provide a minimum width of 44 inches
- Exits shall be clearly marked.
- Exit sign shall be an approved self-luminous type or shall be internally or externally illuminated. Illuminated signs shall be powered by two separate circuits, one of which shall be separate from all other circuits.
- Means of egress shall be illuminated with a light having a light intensity of not less than 1 foot-candle (11 lux) at floor level while the structure is occupied.
- Guy wires, ropes and other support members shall not cross a means of egress at a height of less than 8 feet.
- Smoking shall not be permitted in tents, canopies or membrane structures. Approved “No Smoking” signs shall be posted conspicuously.
- Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided.
- **Fireworks Tents: A minimum of one pressurized water portable fire extinguisher shall be located not more than 15 feet and not less than 10 feet from the hazard.**
- Generators shall be separated from tents, canopies and membrane structures by a minimum of 20 feet and shall be isolated from contact with the public by fencing, enclosure or other approved means.
- Combustible waste shall be kept clear from inside the tent.
- Combustible vegetation shall be removed from the area occupied by a tent, canopy or membrane structure and from within 30 feet of such structures.
- Cooking Tents have further requirements