

SUBJECT: CARNIVALS, FAIRS AND OUTDOOR ASSEMBLIES

REFERENCES: Ohio Fire Code and Ohio Building Code

All carnivals, fairs and outdoor assemblies will be inspected by the Wooster Fire Department Fire Department Inspection Bureau and the Wooster Building Standards Division for compliance with the following requirements. In the event fire and safety violations are found, the responsible person will be given the opportunity for compliance. It will be the responsibility of the promoter to insure vendors are aware of these regulations.

1. COMPRESSED GAS CYLINDERS

- A. The use, storage, and handling of portable containers of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) such as propane, inside any building, used for assembly purposes or tents is strictly prohibited.
- B. All cylinders shall be stored in an upright position and secured to prevent accidental tip-over with the pressure regulator directed away from tents, canopies, and exit ways.
- C. Cylinder not in use shall be capped.
- D. Each vendor shall test the hose connections with soap and water solution to ensure no leaks are present.
- E. If hose is used, use hose continuously marked: LP GAS PROPANE, 350 PSI WORKING PRESSURE.
- F. All cylinders must be suitable for continued use according to ASME or DOT with testing dates stamped on cylinder.
- G. All LPG tanks, hoses and fittings must be UL approved and follow the guidelines of NFPA # 58, Liquefied Petroleum Gas.

2. ELECTRICAL

- A. All wiring shall comply with the National Electrical Code and is subject to approval by the Electrical Inspector.
- B. The use of lightweight electrical extension cords shall be prohibited. Any electrical cord which runs through areas exposed to pedestrian traffic shall be secured in place and protected by bridging.
- C. All weather exposed wiring, connections, and junction boxes shall be waterproof.

3. HEATING AND COOKING APPLIANCES/FOOD VENDORS

- A. Gasoline, gas, charcoal, or other cooking device or any other unapproved open flame shall not be permitted or located within 20 feet of the tent or air-supported structure unless prior approval has been obtained from the Fire Prevention Bureau.
- B. Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided within a 30 foot travel distance of commercial type cooking equipment. Cooking equipment involving vegetable or animal oils and fats shall be protected by a Class K

rated portable extinguisher. All other types of cooking shall have a 4A40BC extinguisher.

- C. All cooking and heating equipment tanks, piping, hoses, valves, tubing and other related components shall be approved with the Ohio Mechanical Code.
- D. No flammable liquids will be allowed into an area where an open flame exist. This includes charcoal fires which have been ignited through use of fire starter liquid. To enhance a charcoal or wood base fire, the vendor should add additional charcoal or wood as opposed to using "starter" to quicken the process.
- E. When using charcoal, and/or wood a metal container with a tight fitting lid for the disposal of ashes is required. Ashes shall be wet down with water before leaving them unattended or discarding.

4. FIRE EXTINGUISHER

- A. All tents and air supported structure where cooking does not take place are required to have a fire extinguisher of a minimum size of 2A:10BC
- B. Fire extinguishers must be visible and accessible.
- C. Fire extinguisher must be serviced annually and tagged accordingly

5. FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS

- A. A fire lane must be maintained with a minimum width of 18 feet. A clear lane of travel for emergency vehicles shall be maintained. In this "fire lane" no non-mobile obstructions shall be positioned in any manner, which would impede emergency traffic. The fire lane must have a vertical clearance of 13 feet 6 inches.
- B. Fire hydrants shall not be blocked.
- C. No display or exhibit shall block access to any fire fighting equipment, including fire extinguishers, fire hose cabinets, fire system controls, fire department connections, and fire hydrants. A clearance of 36 inches shall be maintained around fire fighting equipment.

6. SMOKING

- A. Smoking shall not be permitted in tents or air supported structures.

7. TENTS AND MEMBRANE STRUCTURES

- A. The membrane material on all tents must be flame-resistant
- B. The owner or agent is required to have a certificate executed by an approved testing laboratory, certifying that the tents, canopies and membrane structures and their appurtenances, sidewalls, drops and tarpaulins shall be composed of flame-resistant material or shall be treated with a flame retardant in an approved manner and meet the requirements for flame resistance as determined in accordance with NFPA 701. This certificate needs to be retained and displayed in the tent or membrane structure. These certificates should be available from the tent supplier. (Example certificate enclosed)
- C. Membrane structures, tents or canopies shall have a permanently affixed label bearing the identification of fabric and material.

- D. Further if the tent or membrane structure covers an area in excess of 200 square feet a permit must be obtained from the Wooster City Building Standards. Contact Wooster City Building Standards for permit requirements.

Please contact the Wooster Fire Prevention Bureau for any question concerning these requirements. The Wooster Fire Prevention Bureau is located at 510 North Market St.
Phone: 330 263-5266 Fax :330 263 5281