

COOKING OPERATIONS FOR FOOD VENDING TENTS

The Roaring Fork Fire Rescue Authority and the Town of Snowmass Village have adopted the 2015 International Fire Code (IFC). Recent liquid propane tank incidents in the area, that have caused employee and spectator/guest injuries, have prompted us to reinforce the fire codes concerning cooking operations for food vendors utilizing tents and temporary membrane structures.

It is important for all event planners, including property owners, food vendors and tent companies to begin planning early for these requirements, and be able to provide a layout map of the cooking area(s) they plan to utilize during their event, including number and type of appliances.

In addition to the IFC Code, please take specific note of all of these rules to be followed, and be prepared for stricter guidance and inspections:

- All portable generators shall have the protection of a serviced and tagged fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 10-B, no further than 3 feet from the generator.
- All tents utilizing cooking operations or appliances that produce sparks or grease-laden vapors or flying embers, shall not be erected within 20 feet of any other tent and/or structure not performing cooking operations.
- All tents and shade material utilized for cooking operations shall have flame propagation performance criteria of NFPA 701. If there is no proof of such criteria available on the material, operations may be suspended until criteria can be met.
- All cooking equipment used within each tent shall have the protection of at least one serviced and tagged, 1.5-gallon Class K fire extinguisher per tent.
- All cooking equipment, utilizing combustible oils or solids, shall have a non-combustible lid of sufficient size to cover the cooking well/container completely.
- All cooking equipment shall be placed on a non-combustible surface to prevent fire spread and environmental damage.
- All portable LP-gas containers being used during cooking operations shall no longer be allowed under tents. The minimum distance from combustibles and other structures shall be 10 feet.
- Per NFPA 58, all portable LP-gas containers being used during cooking operations shall be under 12 years of age from stamped date of manufacture, or shall be hydrostatically requalified, as verified by the Fire Marshal. Tanks with illegible date stamp markings may be disqualified from service.
- Fire apparatus access roads to include parking lots and access from parking lots shall be a minimum of 20 feet wide.