



# Clinton Township & Lebanon Borough

## Bureau of Fire Safety Office of the Fire Marshal

### COOKING VENDOR GUIDELINES

The following are the minimum guidelines for each cooking vendor at festivals, carnivals, events etc.

A site plan may be required by the Fire Official prior to event.

**FIRE SAFETY PERMIT:** Cooking vendor permits – a permit application shall be submitted through the Fire Marshal's Office for each vendor for every event.

N.J.A.C. 5:70-2.7(a); All cooking vendors shall be required to apply for a fire safety permit

All permits shall be made available to the fire official upon inspection.

N.J.A.C. 5:70-2.7(f); The fire official upon inspection may deny or revoke a permit at any time; this can be due to failure to meet the permit conditions, unabated fire code violations or unsafe conditions.

#### FIRE EXTINGUISHER REQUIREMENTS:

- All cooking vendors shall supply their own fire extinguishers.
- All fire extinguishers shall comply with NFPA 10. With a valid dated inspection tag.
- Minimum Size shall be a 2A:10BC. Typically a 5lb fire extinguisher. **Kitchen type, BC Extinguishers, and 1A10BC extinguishers will not be acceptable.**
- Class K portable fire extinguishers are required for cooking with vegetable, animal oils and fats.
- Class K portable fire extinguishers are required for cooking with solid fuel.
- Class K portable fire extinguishers required for deep fat fryers.

#### PROPANE TANK REQUIREMENTS:

- Propane tanks shall be secured, to prevent falling over.
- Propane tanks and equipment shall comply with NFPA 58.
- Propane tanks shall not be taken into buildings/tents
- All appliances shall be listed and labeled and approved by the fire code official. (No homemade appliances).
- No vehicles shall be parked within 5 feet of tents or canopies.
- Suitable barricades shall be provided to maintain a distance of 5 feet between the heat producing appliance and the public.
- Propane tanks between 4 and 40 lbs. shall have an Overfill Protection Device for filling in NJ.
- Propane tanks shall be hydro tested every 12 years, and not dented or have comprising rust.
- Regulator shall be in good condition and the relief valve shall face away from the public areas.
- All plastic type protective caps shall be removed from all propane tanks before operating.
- Hoses shall not be frayed or cracked, and there shall not be any type of tape on the hose.
- Hoses shall not be covered with grease and shall not be swollen.
- Hoses shall not create a tripping hazard.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

- Only approved lighter fluid shall be used for charcoal grills.
- Sterno warmers may be used provided the fuel containers are properly protected from being knocked over and if the fuel containers are properly enclosed within the warmer units.

**MOBILE CANTEENS & COOKING TRAILERS:**

**\*\*See Food Truck Guidelines Form\*\***

**TENTS/CANOPIES**

- Any tents used shall be fire retardant/inherently fire resistant and bear a label identifying such.

**\*\*See Tent, Canopies and Membrane Form\*\***

*I attest that the above duties are understood and understand that an inspection will be verifying compliance with this document and all referenced codes that may not be contained in this document. I am aware that in the event a violation of the fire code is discovered that changes may have to be implemented.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Agent Name/Vendor Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**FAQS:**

**Q: This is a lot of information and is overwhelming, what should I do?**

A: The information contained in the Fire Code is a lot, however it is there for some very important reasons. We recommend your organization assigning a person(s) to review or walk the grounds prior to the event; communicate with the Fire Code Official prior to the event occurring to prevent any hold ups during or right before the event. We created this form with a checklist to make the code clear and easy to follow and reduce any significant changes prior to the start of the event.

**Q: We have never had to do this before, and this may affect my standard set up, why now?**

A: The requirements listed above are life safety and property protection based and not doing it in the past should never be a reason to not implement the safety requirements. Our objective is to educate and improve set ups to meet the law regardless of events in the past. Our office understands that there may be complications and we will actively offer suggestions or recommendations to achieve a code compliant environment as well as meeting the needs of the event staff. The Fire Code was updated in 2018, which includes additional requirement as well as sponsored education programs which address fire code regulations, which have notified local authority having jurisdiction of the new and existing requirements that pose risks. Historical incidents have highly influenced these code changes that will protect life and property. Some accidents are not preventable however, it is important to understand that this also will reduce claims of negligence, litigation, civil or criminal related offenses in the event an accident does occur.