



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY
John J. Barthelmes, Commissioner



Division of Fire Safety
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
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INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN 2011-01

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CARNIVALS, FESTIVALS & FAIRS

BLEACHERS AND GRANDSTANDS:

The construction, location, protection, and maintenance of grandstands and bleachers, folding and telescopic seating, shall meet the requirements of the NH State Fire Code and the NH State Building Code, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Wood bleachers must be at least 10 feet away from any building.
- For wood bleachers or grandstands exceeding 10,000 square feet. Contact the local fire chief or the state fire marshal's office for the requirements.
- Areas below bleachers must be kept free of flammable and combustible material, including any storage, vending operations and vehicles.
- Guards and railings must be installed where the bleachers are more than 48" above finish grade.

TENTS AND MEMBRANE STRUCTURES:

Tents and membrane structures shall be constructed and occupied in accordance with the NH State Fire Code and the NH State Building Code, including but not limited to the following:

- There shall be a minimum of 10 ft (3050 mm) between stake lines on two sides of the tent for those tents that are occupied by the public.
- Adjacent tents used as a place of assembly shall be spaced to provide an area to be used as a means of emergency egress. Where 10 ft (3050 mm) between stake lines does not meet the requirements for means of egress, the distance necessary for means of egress shall govern.
- All tent and membrane structure fabric shall meet the flame propagation (flame retardant) performance criteria contained in NFPA 701, Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Flame Propagation of Textiles and Films.
- A certificate shall be provided to the authority having jurisdiction showing proof of compliance with the requirements of NFPA 701.
- Air supported structures shall have a minimum of 2 blower units powered by continuous-rated motors at maximum power required.
- Air supported structures shall have a fully automatic standby power system capable of operating continuously for 4 hours.
- LPG containers shall be secured in an upright position and located no closer than 60" to a tent or membrane structure.
- Fire extinguishers with a minimum rating of 2A:10-BC shall be installed in all tents and membrane structures in accordance with NFPA 10.

- The refueling of any equipment inside any structure is prohibited.

PLUMBING REQUIREMENTS:

All Potable (drinking/cooking/cleaning) water and all waste water, other than self contained waste systems, will be installed in accordance with the International Plumbing Code, 2009 edition.

- No water to water or water to waste cross connections will be allowed.
- All individual water connections are required to have backflow preventers.
- All hoses used for potable water must be listed (NSF 61) for potable use. For example R.V. grade (white) hose.
- Hot water shall be provided to all sinks.
- All hot water tanks, temporary or permanent, must be installed in accordance with the International Plumbing Code.
- All plumbing work, except self contained mobile units and hooking up potable water hoses, must be done by a licensed NH plumber.

COOKING REQUIREMENTS:

All commercial cooking operations will be installed and operated and maintained in accordance with the NH State Fire Code, and NFPA 96, including but not limited to the following:

- Residential cooking equipment used in commercial operations will be considered commercial equipment
- Cooking equipment used in fixed, mobile, or temporary concessions, such as trucks, buses, trailers, pavilions, tents(see exception below)* or any form of roofed enclosure, shall comply with NFPA 96.
- Cooking equipment used in processes producing smoke or grease-laden vapors shall be equipped with an exhaust system that complies with all the equipment and performance requirements of NFPA 96.
- Cooking equipment that produces grease-laden vapors and that might be a source of ignition of grease in the hood, grease removal device, or duct, shall be protected by fire-extinguishing equipment.
- All solid fuel cooking equipment served by hoods and duct systems shall be separate from all other exhaust systems.
- Solid fuel cooking appliances that produce grease-laden vapors shall be protected by listed fire-extinguishing equipment.
- A type K fire extinguisher is required in all cooking areas

EXCEPTIONS

- Tents that are open on all sides, not occupied by the public, that house cooking equipment are not required to have hoods or extinguishing systems.
- Outside cooking shall not be required to have hoods or extinguishing systems.

LP GAS INSTALLATIONS:

All LP gas installations shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 54 and NFPA 58 and shall include but not be limited to the following:

- No storage of unused LP cylinders or tanks will be permitted in any vehicle.
- Fuel gas delivery systems will be approved by the Authority Having Jurisdiction.
- All LP tanks and containers not permanently attached to a vehicle will be a minimum of 10 feet

from any ignition source.

- All LP tanks and containers not permanently attached to a vehicle will be secured in an upright position.
- All fuel gas piping, tanks, and containers shall be protected from damage, tampering and vehicular traffic in accordance with the requirements of NFPA 54, The National Fuel Gas Code.
- All LP gas appliance and piping installations, other than self contained units, shall be completed by a NH licensed gas fitter.

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS:

All electrical installations shall be installed in accordance with the NH State Fire Code and, the most currently adopted edition of NFPA 70 National Electrical Code, and include, but not be limited to, the following:

- All extension cords shall be of sufficient size to carry the calculated load and must contain an equipment ground unless otherwise permitted (double insulated).
- Extension cords cannot have any splices, cuts or repairs.
- Any receptacle or equipment available to the general public must be GFCI protected as required by the NEC
- Generators shall be grounded in accordance with NEC article 250.
- Generators above 10kw shall be inspected by a NH licensed electrician prior to use.
- In accordance with NEC 525.32, the continuity of the grounding conductor system...shall be verified each time that portable electrical equipment is connected.
- All electrical work including repair, alteration, and maintenance for heating, lighting, or power purposes shall be performed by a NH licensed Master Electrician.