



Vineland

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

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NJ UNIFORM FIRE CODE: COOKING AND TENT VENDOR GUIDELINES

The following are minimum guidelines for cooking, tent and vendor set up.

N.J.A.C. 5:70-2.7(a); All cooking vendors shall be required to apply for a fire safety permit issued by the Vineland Fire Prevention Bureau. All permits shall be made available to the fire official upon inspection.

****New**** N.J.A.C 5.70 - 2.7 xix State regulations now require a permit for mobile or temporary food preparation activities, where open flame or flame-producing devices or appliances are used, or grease-laden vapors are produced.

The new code requires a new permit every time the unit relocates and or setup. The Vineland Fire Prevention Bureau must follow these State statues. Fees are set up to duplicate the State fee schedule. Applications must be submitted, and fees paid 3 business days prior to the event and inspection date.

(N.J.A.C. 5:70-4.7(g) **Mobile Units.** All commercial cooking operations that produce grease laden vapors shall be equipped with a ventilating hood, duct, and automatic fire suppression system designed and comply with the applicable requirements of NFPA 96.

Mobile Food Vendor Cooking Equipment Requirements

1. The suppression system must be inspected and tested within previous six (6) months by a company possessing a valid NJ Division of Fire Safety Contractor License. (NJ registration vehicles only) The operator must have a copy of the (Report form NJFS 17A) fire suppression system inspection report in the vehicle. (Not just the cylinder tag).
2. All electric connections, wiring and circuits shall be installed in a safe manner. (604.1)
3. All cooking, gas powered, or electrically energized equipment shall meet manufacturer specifications. (NFPA 96 13.1.2.1)
4. All equipment, or system shall be listed or labeled for the use and operation. (108.7)

Mobile Food Vendor Safety Requirements

1. Operators shall check the tank, appliances, all fittings and connections for proper connection and test for leaks prior to every operation. (City ordinances)
2. Relative to Buildings- Mobile or temporary cooking operations shall be separated from the entrances and other exits of buildings or structures, combustible materials, other vehicles, and other cooking operations by a clear space distance of 10 ft. (NFPA 96 17.2.1)
3. All weather NO SMOKING signs shall posted in and around all propane storage tanks. (5706.4.8)
4. Kitchen ventilation exhaust hood and filters shall be clean of any grease residue. (904.12.5.2)
5. A minimum rated of 2A:10B:C fire extinguisher is required; all extinguishers shall have a valid service tag (within 1 year) (319.4.2)
All extinguishers shall be near an exit or outside of the cooking area.
6. A class K extinguisher is required if cooking is equipped with deep fat fryers. In addition, shall be compatible with the automatic fire-extinguishing system agent. (Wet Chemical Agents) (319.4.2)
7. Carbon monoxide and gas detection alarms shall be placed within the vehicle. (319.8.5)

Propane Safety Requirements

1. All gas fittings must be tight and free from leaks, a leak test will be performed prior to the beginning of your operation. (319.5) Do not light cooking appliances prior to the inspection.
2. Propane cylinders must be inspected for rust, damage, dents, leaks, alterations. (319.5)
3. Propane hoses, exposed portions, must be inspected for general condition and leaks. Connection between-body components shall be hard piping (no rubber hoses) all piping, including valves and fittings shall be protected from tampering or impact and vibration damage.(319.8.4)
4. All propane cylinders shall be securely mounted and restrained to prevent movement.(319.8.2)
5. ****A** listed LP-gas alarm shall be installed within the vehicle in the vicinity of LP-gas system components, in accordance with manufactures instructions. (319.8.5)
6. ****Gas** cooking appliances shall be secured in place and connected to fuel-supply piping with an appliance connector complying with ANSI Z21.69/CSA 6.16. The connector installation shall be configured in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. Movement of appliances shall be limited by restraining devices installed in accordance with the connector and appliance manufacturers' instructions. (319.10.3)

7. **** Fuel-gas piping systems installed on the vehicle shall be inspected annually by an *approved* inspection agency, to ensure that system components are free from damage, suitable for the intended service and not subject to leaking. (319.10.3**
8. LP-gas containers installed on vehicles shall be inspected annually by an *approved* inspection agency or a company that is registered with the U.S. Department of Transportation to requalify LP-gas cylinders.
9. Maximum propane tank size is 120 lbs. Maximum aggregate capacity shall not exceed 200 pounds propane capacity per vehicle. (319.8.1)
10. Propane cylinders must be attached to the vehicle-Propane containers and regulators must be installed on the outside of the vehicle, unless in a cabinet that is vapor tight to the inside of the vehicle, accessible only from outside the vehicles, and properly vented to the exterior of the vehicle. (319.8.3)
11. Piping materials used must be approved for LP-Gas service. Piping must be underneath the floor in a protected location, fastened and protected from vibration, abrasion, and damage. NFPA 58 (6.26.5.1)
12. Propane cylinders must be attached to the vehicle-they may not be free standing, even if properly secured. (319.8.2) and (NFPA 58-6.21.3.4)
****New requirements 2024-25**

Alternate fuels not listed above will be regulated in accordance with the NJ Fire Code and other applicable standards.

Generator Safety requirements

1. All gasoline-powered generators shall be maintained a minimum of 10 feet from all combustibile materials, building openings and/or LPG tanks. (103.2 1)
2. Generator exhaust shall not create excessive smoke or directed towards building openings. (103.2)
3. Refueling shall be from an approved safety can. In addition, in area away from the public. (103.2 1)
4. The generator must be shut off when refueling. (103.2 1)
5. Generators shall be located at least 10 ft. from mobile or temporary cooking operations. (NFPA 96 17.5.2.1)

Canopy Tents or Booth requirements

1. Tents greater than 900 sq ft will require a Type 1 permit per event. N.J.A.C. 5:70-2.7
2. Outdoor assembly events with concession stands or booths using electrical equipment and temporary wiring for electrical power or lighting shall comply with the applicable provisions of the Electrical Subcode of the *Uniform Construction Code* and Sections 3106.6.1 through 3106.6.3. (3106.6)
3. Cooking appliances or devices that produce sparks or grease-laden vapors or flying embers (firebrands) shall not be used within 20 feet (6096 mm) of a tent or temporary structure. (3106.5.1) Contact Fire Official for specifics.
4. Occupant load factors. The occupant load allowed in an assembly structure, shall be determined in accordance with Chapter 10. (3107.11)
5. Smoking shall not be permitted in *tents* or *membrane structures*. *Approved* "No Smoking" signs shall be conspicuously posted in accordance with Section 310. (3107.3)
6. Tents shall have a permanently affixed label bearing the identification of size and fabric or material type. An affidavit or affirmation shall be submitted to the *fire code official* and a copy retained on the premises on which the tent or air-supported structure is located. The affidavit shall attest to all the information relative to the flame propagation performance criteria of the fabric. (3104.3 & 3104.4)
7. Tents or membrane structures shall not be located within 5 feet of lot lines, buildings, other tents, 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 structure / tent. (3103.8.20)
8. Generators shall be installed not less than 10 feet (3048 mm) from combustibile materials and shall be isolated from the public by physical guard, fence or enclosure installed not less than 3 feet away from the internal combustion power source. (3106.6.2)

403.12.2 Public safety plan for gatherings. Where the *fire code official* determines that an indoor or outdoor gathering of persons has an adverse impact on public safety, the *fire code official* shall have the authority to order the development of or prescribe a public safety plan that provides an *approved* level of public safety and addresses the following items:

Outdoor assembly event. For the purposes of this chapter, an outdoor assembly event shall include a circus, carnival, tent show, theater, skating rink, dance hall or other place of assembly in or under which persons gather for any purpose. (3103.3)

Open flames, candles, fireworks etc, shall not be associated with tent or public events without obtaining permit approvals prior to the event.

Permit Penalties Shall be enforced in accordance with NJ Fire Code N.J.A.C 5:70- 2.12

- i. Failure to obtain a required permit prior to commencing the operation, process, or activity for which the permit was required- a maximum penalty of double the amount of the application permit fee.
- ii. Failure to obtain a required permit after being ordered to do so while continuing the operation, process, or activity a maximum of \$5000.00 per day during which the operation continues.