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FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Permit Requirements for Tents, Canopies and other Membrane Structures

The City of Yonkers enforces the 2010 Fire Code of New York State which requires permits to be obtained for tents, membrane structures and canopies as defined in Section 2403 **prior to erecting or operating for any purpose**. All applications must include the following information with each tent submission. Tent applications will not be reviewed unless all of the following are provided:

- 1) Certificate of Flame Resistance:
 - a. Including name and address of the owners of the tent, canopy or air-supported structure.
 - b. Date the fabric was last treated with flame-retardant solution.
 - c. Trade name or kind of chemical used in treatment
 - d. Name of person or firm treating the material.
 - e. Name of testing agency and test standard by which the fabric was tested.
 - f. If flooring, carpeting or other covering is utilized, submit flame spread ratings of material.

- 2) Construction Documents:
 - a. Detailed site and floor plan shall be provided with each application clearly indicating details of the means of egress, seating capacity, arrangement of the seating and location and type of heating and electrical equipment.
 - b. Occupant load shall be indicated on drawings.
 - c. Provide an elevation of all tents, canopies or membrane structures.
 - d. Dimension distances between tents, heaters, cooking equipment, etc.
 - e. Documentation of structural stability of tent anchorage shall be furnished to the code enforcement official on request.

- 3) Access, Location and Parking:
 - a. Provide 20'-0" separation between structure and other tents, canopies, membrane structures, lot lines, building lines, 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 temporary membrane structure, tent or canopy.

- 4) Means of egress:
 - a. Provide the minimum number of means of egress for the estimated occupancy load as indicated in table 2403.12.2 of the FCNYS. Each exit shall be a minimum of 72" wide.
 - b. Exits shall remain open unless covered by a flame-resistant curtain. Curtains shall be free sliding on a metal support. Support shall be a minimum of 80" above the floor level at the exit. Curtain shall be of a color, or colors, that contrast with the color of the tent.
 - c. If exit doors are utilized, doors shall swing in the direction of exit travel with an opening force not to exceed 15 pounds.
 - d. Exits shall be distributed at approximate equal intervals around the perimeter of the tent. All points within the tent shall be 100 feet or less from an exit as measured along the path of travel.
 - e. Exit signs shall be provided at all exits. Signs shall be approved self-luminous or internally or externally illuminated per FCNYS 2403.12.6.1.
 - f. Guy wires, guy ropes and other support members shall not cross a means of egress at a height of less than 8 feet.

- 5) Aisles: Aisles shall be progressively increased in width to provide, at all points, not less than 1 foot of aisle width for each 50 persons served by such and aisle at that point, but not less than 44".

- 6) No smoking signs shall be provided in all tents.

- 7) Fire extinguishers shall be provided such that all points within the tent shall be 75 feet or less from an extinguisher as measured along the path of travel.

- 8) Combustible materials: Hay, straw, shavings or similar combustible materials shall not be located within any tent, canopy or membrane structure.

- 9) Open Flames, heating and cooking equipment:
 - a. Cooking and heating equipment shall not be located within 10 feet of exits or combustible materials.
 - b. Cooking tents or outdoor cooking that produces sparks or grease-laden vapors shall not be performed within 20 feet of a tent, canopy or membrane structures.
 - c. Open flame or other devices emitting flame, fire or heat or any flammable or combustible liquids, gas, charcoal or other cooking device shall not be permitted inside or located within 20 feet of the tent, canopy or membrane structure.

- 10) Additional requirements: If LP-gas, flammable or combustible liquids are utilized, or the tent shall be used for display of motor vehicles contact the Yonkers Fire Prevention Bureau for additional submittal and permitting requirements.

NOTE: Tents must be inspected by the Fire Marshal prior to use. Please provide at least three (3) days notice to the Fire Marshal for the inspection. Tent inspections may be requested Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. by calling the Yonkers Fire Department at 914.377.7525. Tent inspection performed outside normal business hours will require a City of Yonkers Fire Department Request for Services Written Authorization and may result in additional charges.