



Alameda County Fairgrounds Fire Code Rules and Regulations for Events

Permits

Promoter shall obtain permit at least one month prior to the event. Applications for permit can be obtained from County Fire Prevention by calling 925-833-3473 or emailing countyfp@acgov.org. You can send completed applications to countyfpplanchecks@acgov.org. Included with application shall be a site plan including locations of booths, buildings, fire department emergency vehicle access roadways, tents, and interior layout of booths/displays inside of buildings. Event permit application shall include any tent permit(s) including tent layout (exits, fire extinguishers, no smoking signs, etc.).

Buildings

- Aisles must have a minimum of 8-foot walkways or more depending on expected attendance.
- Booths and Displays are prohibited to have overhead coverings in any sprinkled buildings, this includes umbrellas. Tents/canopies with overhead covings are prohibited in any sprinkled buildings.
- Exits must not be blocked or obstructed in anyway.
- Open flames of any type are prohibited in all buildings. (Sec 308 CFC)
- Electrical cords are prohibited from extending across walkways.
- Propane tanks of any size are prohibited in all buildings, tents & canopies on the Fairgrounds.
- Fueled equipment including, but not limited to Motorcycles, mopeds, lawn-care equipment, portable generators and portable cooking equipment, shall not be stored, operated or repaired within building

Seat Stability:

In places of assembly with greater than 200 seats, the seats shall be fastened together in groups of not less than three (this can be accomplished with plastic tie wraps), or the seat securely fastened to the floor.

AC FIRE DEPARTMENT

CODE FOR AUDITORIUM SEATING

Type of Facility	Number of Seats	Requirement	Example
Ramped or Tiered	200 Seats Maximum	No Fastening Required	Amphitheater may have 200 additional seats unfastened
Not Ramped or Tiered – Flat Floor	Under 200 Seats	No Fastening Required	
Not Ramped or Tiered – Flat Floor	Over 200 Seats	Fasten in Groups of 3 or More	
Not Ramped or Tiered – Flat Floor	Seating at Tables	No Fastening Required	

Electrical Cords

- Electrical Cords must be labeled in accordance with UL 817
- Heavy Duty (12 gauge or higher) cords must be used.
 - ** Lightweight Extension cords (primarily used for residential purposes) are prohibited in all booths.
- If you require multiple electrical outlets, you must use a power strip with a surge protector. Each power source must be plugged directly into the power supply (i.e. wall outlet, or fairgrounds provided power receptacles). Daisy Chain (Running in Series- one cord to another cord to the power supply) are prohibited.
- Approved extension cords, shall serve only one portable appliance only (i.e. fridge, freezer) Except for approved multi-plug extension cords
- Multi-plug adapters, such as cube adapters, unfused plug strips or any other device not complying with the UL498A shall be prohibited.(2022 CFC 603.5)
- Extension cords shall be maintained in good condition without splices, deterioration, modification or damage.
- Extension cords should not be under carpet- must be tapped down
- Extension cords marked for indoor use shall not be used outdoors. Extension Cords rated for home use shall not be used.

Autos in Building CFC (sec 314.4)

- The maximum amount of fuel contained shall be no more than ¼ tank or 5 gallons per vehicle, whichever is less.
- Fuel tank doors must be locked, or caps taped shut
- Any vehicle with any type of leak will not be permitted to be displayed.
- Vehicles may not be started except for move-in.
- There shall be no refueling of vehicles inside the building.
- Batteries must be disconnected at all times while in the building except for move-in and move-out.
- There shall be no repair work done on vehicles while inside the building.
- There shall be an adequate amount of fire extinguishers in and around the area where the vehicle is being displayed.
- Vehicle keys must at all times be readily available to the Alameda County Fair Association Management
- Vehicles should not be blocking fire access (CFC 503.4)

Fire Extinguishers

- Fire extinguishers must be visible and accessible at all times. Please do not block fire extinguishers with displays, products, or curtains. Fire extinguisher must be mounted with signage in all tents with three or more sides, or canopies over 400 square feet.
- All extinguishers must be serviced annually or bought within the past twelve months. Documentation shall be required to verify compliance (receipt, servicing tag, etc.)
- Fire extinguishers with a minimum rating of 2A-10BC shall be provided as follows: one extinguisher for tents and canopies up to 500 square feet in floor area, two extinguishers for 501 to 1,000 square feet and one extinguisher for each additional 2,000 square feet of floor area or fraction thereof. (2022 CFC 906)

- Maximum travel distance to an extinguisher is 75 feet.
- Any tent with electrical will need a fire extinguisher
- Acceptable fire extinguishers:
2A-10BC Dry Chem. Fire Extinguisher (tents with electrical/no cooking)
K-Extinguisher (for deep fat, oil or grease cooking- creating grease laden vapors)

Tents

Definitions: **Tent** - A structure, enclosure or shelter, with or without sidewalls or drops, constructed of fabric or pliable material supported by any manner except by air or the contents that it protects.

Membrane Structure – An air-inflated, air supported, cable or frame-covered structure as defined by the International Building Code and not otherwise defined as a tent.

- **Tents & Membrane structures cannot exceed 400 square feet in floor area if it has one or more walls and 700 square feet if it has no walls without a permit obtained by the Fire Department. (2022 CFC 3103.2)**
- A 12ft fire break is required between the next group of tents (section 3103.2.2)
- A tent may not be erected on any site for more than 180 days in any 12-month period. (2022 CFC 3103.5)
- All tent fabric and interior decorative materials used in tents or canopies is required to be flame retardant in accordance with NFPA 701. Documentation is required, wither sewn into the tent fabric or in the form of a paper certificate (2022 CFC 3104.1)
- Tent must be 20ft away from a vehicle. (2022 CCFC 3103.8.2)
- Tents are required to have proper anchorage to withstand elements i.e. weights, sandbags or water barrels (2022 section 3103.9)
- Hay or Straw is prohibited under tents

Concession Stands, Booths and Spaces

- Spacing requirements are based upon the activity of each concession stand, booth or space. The following guidelines shall be followed.
 - Concession stands, booths, and spaces with no open flame and/or heat producing devices may be placed side by side providing that the aggregate square footage does not exceed 15,000 sq. ft. Each grouping shall be separated by a minimum of 20 feet.
 - Cooking appliances shall be outside and separated a minimum of 20 feet from the closest concession stand, booth, tent or space. Each grouping shall be separated by a minimum of 20 feet.
- All fabric or membrane covered booths must be certified flame retardant and have a State Fire Marshal seal attached.
- Tents used for outdoor food service must meet booth 2022 CFC and Health Department requirements.

Cooking Equipment for Tents: 2022- CFC 3107.12

- **Open Flame is prohibited on the Fairgrounds. All open flame is restricted to barbeque pits**
- Propane cooking Fryers & open flame cooking are prohibited under tents (only electric cooking allowed) (2022 CFC 3107.12.6)
- Cooking tents must be 20ft from own & neighboring tents (2022 CFC 3107.12.5)
- Open flame or other devices emitting flame, fire or heat or any flammable or combustible liquids, gas, charcoal or other cooking device or any other unapproved devices shall not be permitted inside or located within 20 feet (6096mm) of the tent or membrane structures while open to the public unless approved by the fire code official. (2022 CFC 3107.12)
- Fires used for preparation of food shall be limited to clean fire wood or commercially produced briquettes.
- The device shall not be placed within the fire apparatus access roadway or a public access way. (2022 CFC 503.4)
- All fires shall be constantly attended and extinguished when no longer needed. (2022 CFC 307.5)
- Only electrical starter or charcoal lighter fuels are permitted to start fires. Fuel may not be stored in booth.
- Flammable and combustible liquids shall not be stored in or within 50 feet of tents and canopies. (2022 CFC 3107.14)
- Propane tanks must have pressure regulators, and hoses have appropriate fittings

Generator use:

- **Portable generators not permitted in tents or canopies at any time. Must be 20 ft from ALL tents**
- Generators shall be isolated from contact with the public by physical barrier. (2022 CFC 3107.16)
- Generators shall have the fuel capacity to operate uninterrupted for the event operating hours. If refueling is required, it shall be performed in an approved location not less than 20ft from other tents or structures. (2022 CFC 3104.17.3)
- All cords from generators must not create a tripping hazard or cross fire lanes unprotected.

Cylinders and tanks:

- All flammable liquid/gas fueled appliances shall be equipped with an accessible on/off valve.
- Spare compressed gas cylinders shall be limited to one 5 gal/ 20lb cylinder for each cooking appliance. Spare tanks shall not be stored in the booth.
- All compressed cylinders shall be secured in an upright position. (i.e. 5-gallon/ 20Lb sized tanks in milk crates at all times & larger tanks secured to a barricade outside of tent) Turn off cylinders when not in use.
- Flammable liquid/gas fueled appliances shall have the fuel capacity to operate for the entire day. Refueling in the booth or space is prohibited.
- Fuel supply lines shall be in good condition without splices, deterioration or damage. All fuel lines shall be approved for the intended use and pressure regulator shall be attached to pressurized lines.

Electrical Equipment:

- Extension cords shall be U.L. listed for their use, located so they do not present a tripping hazard and are placed out of foot traffic areas. Secure cords as necessary with tape or ties (not under carpet).
- Single plug extension cords must be plugged directly into an approved receptacle and shall serve only one appliance/ device.
- Extension and appliance cords shall be in good condition without splices, deterioration, modification or damage.
- Extension cords may not be run in series (Daisy Chain). They must be plugged into a direct outlet.

Fire Extinguishers:

- Booths with cooking shall provide a minimum 2A-10BC rated fire extinguisher. If cooking activity is located outside booth, the 40BC extinguisher shall be in addition to the 2A-10BC required above. All extinguishers shall be certified for year of use and have a current CA State Fire Marshal certification tag attached.
- All extinguishers shall be visible and accessible at all times, preferably mounted near a point of egress.
- When a generator is used, one 40BC fire extinguisher must be located within 50 feet of the generator's location and it must be readily accessible.

I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to adhere by the Alameda County Fairgrounds-2022 California Fire Code. Authority having jurisdiction will be checking booths, during the duration of the Event. If you cannot abide by the above regulations and ensuring continued compliance, you will be asked to close your booth.

Company Name

First, Last Name

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

DATE mm/dd/yy