

SOTH Exhibitor Safety Requirements:

Tents, Canopies and Membrane Structures - Tents used by the public are classified as a public building and are regulated under codes enforced by the Vermont Division of Fire Safety. The classification of tents includes tents, canopies and membrane structures. A permit is required to erect or operate a tent in excess of 1200 square feet.

The primary safety concerns within tent regulations focus on:

- All tent fabrics are required to be flame resistant in accordance with the code.
- Adequate exiting must be provided from any tent when there are sides to the tent.
- Where more than one tent is located at the same site there must be 10 feet between stake lines.
- The space within a tent and within 10 feet of a tent must be kept free of combustible material and vegetation except for animal bedding and fodder in quantities approved by the AHJ.
- Guy wires or ropes are not permitted to cross any means of egress at a height of less than 7'.
- The premises shall be kept free from flammable or combustible materials.
- No hay, straw, shavings, or similar combustible materials that have not been treated to make them flame retardant shall be permitted within any structure used as assembly occupancy.
- Smoking shall not be allowed in any tent or temporary membrane structure.
- Fireworks shall not be allowed in any tent or temporary membrane structure. **Flammable Liquids and Gases-** Storage and handling of flammable liquids or gases shall be in accordance with the applicable standards below:
 - NFPA 30, Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code
 - NFPA 54, National Fuel Gas Code
 - NFPA 58, Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code
- No storage or handling of flammable liquids or gases shall be permitted at any location where it would jeopardize egress from the structure.
- Refueling of equipment with liquids having flash points below 100°F (38°C) shall not be permitted within the structure.
- Containers for liquefied petroleum gases (propane) shall be installed not less than 5 feet from any tent or temporary membrane structure and shall be in accordance with the provisions of NFPA 58.
- Liquefied petroleum gas (propane) tanks shall be secured in the upright position and protected from vehicular traffic.

Fire-Extinguishing Equipment:

- Portable fire-extinguishing equipment shall be furnished and maintained in tents and temporary membrane structures by the person operating any assembly occupancy.
- Class K fire extinguishers shall be provided for hazards where there is a potential for fires involving combustible cooking media (vegetable or animal oils and fats).
- Maximum travel distance shall not exceed 30 feet from the hazard to the extinguishers.

Electrical Installations:

The electrical system shall be installed, maintained, and operated in a safe and professional manner.

- Portable electrical systems shall be inspected daily by a qualified person representing the owner, and any defects found shall be corrected before the public is admitted.
- The electrical system and equipment shall be isolated from the public by proper elevation or guarding.
- Electrical fuses and switches shall be enclosed in approved enclosures. ▪ Cables on the ground in areas traversed by the public shall be placed in trenches or protected by approved covers.

Generators:

- Generators and other internal combustion power sources shall be separated from temporary structures and tents by a minimum of 5 feet.
- Generators shall be protected from contact by fencing, enclosures or other approved means.

Food Service Operations:

- All devices in connection with the preparation of food shall be UL approved and shall be installed by manufactures specifications.
- Cooking and food-warming devices in exhibit booths shall be in accordance with Vermont fire codes.
- A portable fire extinguisher shall be provided within the booth for each cooking device, or an approved automatic extinguishing system shall be provided.
- Portable cooking equipment that is not flue-connected shall be permitted only as follows:
 - Equipment fueled by small heat sources that can be readily extinguished by water, such as candles or alcohol-burning equipment, including solid alcohol, shall be permitted to be used, provided that precautions are satisfactory to the authority having jurisdiction.
 - No candles shall be permitted on tables.
 - Listed and approved LP-Gas commercial food service appliances shall be permitted where in accordance with NFPA 58, Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code.