

## **HAUNTED HOUSE POLICY**

### **BUILDING INSPECTION AND FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Revised 10/20/2020

In order to operate a Haunted House in the City of Garland the following must be met to obtain a Temporary Activity Permit prior to opening date of the event.

- I. A Temporary Activity Permit (14 days) will be required from Building Inspection.
- II. A complete set of floor plans shall be submitted to Building Inspection for review no less than two weeks prior to the time that the Haunted House is to open. These plans shall consist of:
  - A. A complete floor plan showing the route of the "Haunted House tour".
  - B. The exit routes from within the rooms, passage ways, etc. to a place of safe discharge on a public way.

**Note:** An emergency exit must be provided every twenty (20) feet in all temporary passage ways or corridors.
- III. Truck trailers or other similar types of containers that would create a vault-like atmosphere when subjected to fire, smoke, or toxic fumes may not be used for public assembly areas.
- IV. Each tour shall have a minimum of two guides, and each guide must have an operable flashlight. During the approved hours of operation, no required exit may be locked and each door shall open from the interior of the structure without the use of a key or without requiring any special knowledge or effort to open it. All exits must open in the direction of egress or be locked in an open position during the hours of operation.
- V. All employees shall be schooled in:
  - A. Emergency exiting procedures.
  - B. Locations and operation of the manual "shut-offs" for the air conditioning units.
  - C. Location and proper use of fire extinguishers.
- VI. If walls or tunnels are constructed out of or covered with paper, plastic, or cloth, a Certificate of Flame Spread or approval by the Fire Marshal's Office will be required.



# GARLAND

FIRE

Fire Marshal's Office  
1500 Highway 66  
Garland, TX 75040  
(972) 781-7148  
Fax; 972-781-7142

- VII. Approved fire extinguishers one (1) per each 3,000 gross square feet of floor area. It must be situated so an approved fire extinguisher of **2A:10BC or an exit is within 75 feet** travel distance from anywhere in the structure are required.
- VIII. Smoke detectors will be required at the following ratio:  
One (1) smoke detector for every 1,000 square feet or fraction thereof – a minimum of two (2) smoke detectors is required.
- IX. **No** open flames will be allowed.
- X. “No Smoking” signs are required, by Order of the Fire Marshal.
- XI. All new electrical, plumbing, or air conditioning work performed must meet the current codes as adopted by the City of Garland.
- XII. All applicable inspections must be approved by the required departments, prior to the issuance of the Temporary Activity Permit and the operation of the Haunted House.

Building Inspection: Donna Fields  
972-205-2747  
Fire Department: 972-781-7148

**For items not listed refer to 2015 IFC, 2015 IBC, local amendments, and any material deemed applicable by the Fire Marshal or Building Inspections for the COG.**

<http://www.garlandtx.gov/312/Fire-Prevention>

**This list is provided as an aid for submittals only, and is not intended to cover every code requirement.**