



GARLAND

FIRE

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

Temporary Tents and Membrane Structures

Revised 10/02/2020

This policy outlines the provisions established by the Fire Marshal's office to provide guidance for the safe use of temporary tents and membrane structures. This policy applies to all places of assembly outlined in the 2015 IFC 3103.3, and any other occupancy deemed as high risk by the Fire Marshal's office.

General Requirements:

3103.2 Approval required. Tents and membrane structures having an area in excess of 400 square feet (37 m²) shall not be erected, operated or maintained for any purpose without first obtaining a permit and approval from the fire code official.

3103.3 Place of assembly. For the purposes of this chapter, a place of assembly 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.

3103.6 Construction documents. A detailed site and floor plan for tents or membrane structures with an occupant load of 50 or more shall be provided with each application for approval. The tent or membrane structure floor plan shall indicate details of the means of egress facilities, seating capacity, arrangement of the seating and location and type of heating and electrical equipment.

3104.2 Flame propagation performance treatment. Before a permit is granted, the owner or agent shall file with the fire code official a certificate executed by an approved testing laboratory certifying that the tents and membrane structures and their appurtenances are composed of material meeting the flame propagation performance of NFPA 701 or shall be treated with a flame retardant in an approved manner and that such flame propagation performance criteria are effective for the period specified by the permit.

906 Portable Fire Extinguisher. All portions of the structure must be within 75 feet of a fire extinguisher. The fire extinguisher needs to be at a minimum 2A:10B:C rating, and hung with the top no more than 5 feet above the floor and the base with no less than 4 inch clearance above the floor.



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To obtain permit the following will be needed:

1. Permit application.
2. Purpose of tent.
3. Size of tent (length and width).
4. Site plan of property indicating where the tent will be placed (show dimensions from lot/property lines and distance from any structures).
5. If tent is being placed in the parking lot the site plan must indicate the tent location and the fire lanes.
6. Depending on tent size and capacity other items may be required per the code.

For full code requirements refer to chapter 31 of the 2015 IFC.

For items not listed refer to 2015 IFC, local amendments, and any material deemed applicable by the Fire Marshal.

<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.