



Hurst Fire Department

"Making the Difference"

Tents/Membrane Guidelines

All Tent and Membrane Structures for the purposes of this guideline and any other guidelines or requirements of the Fire Department shall conform to the 2015 International Fire Code, as adopted and amended by the City of Hurst.

When Required:

A permit is required when the tent or membrane structure has an area in excess of 400 sq. ft. per the *2015 International Fire Code* Section 105.6 and 105.7 or if cooking is performed under tents or membranes of any size as provided for within the *International Fire Code Chapter 31*.

Definitions:

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 or canopy.

Tent: A structure, enclosure or shelter constructed of fabric or pliable material supported by any manner except by air or the contents that it protects.

Requirements:

1. A minimum of 20 ft. clear width shall be provided around the tent, and shall be no closer than 20 ft. to lot lines, buildings, other temporary structures, vehicles. Support ropes and guy wires are not included.
2. The structure shall not be located within a fire lane or public street.
3. Fire apparatus access roads shall be provided.
4. Smoking, cooking or use of open flames in the tent shall not be permitted.
5. Approved "No Smoking" signs shall be conspicuously posted.
6. Exits, with a minimum width of 6ft. each, shall be provided and kept clear at all times. The number of exits shall be determined by the occupant load and Table 3103.12.2. Exit signs shall be self-luminous or shall be internally or externally illuminated.
7. A minimum of a 12 foot "fire break" shall be provided around the exterior of the tent/membrane structure that is free of guy ropes or other obstructions.
8. **Exceptions:** To the 400 square foot limitation.
 1. Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.
 2. Funeral tents and curtains, or extensions attached thereto, when used for funeral services.



Hurst Fire Department

"Making the Difference"

Tents/Membrane Guidelines

3. Tents and awnings open on all sides, which comply with all of the following:
 - 3.1. Individual tents shall have a maximum size of 700 square feet (65 m²).
 - 3.2. The aggregate area of multiple tents placed side by side without a fire break clearance of not less than 12 feet (3658 mm) shall not exceed 700 square feet (65 m²) total.
 - 3.3. A minimum clearance of 12 feet (3658 mm) to structures and other tents shall be maintained.

9. Certification or affirmation of the following shall be provided from the manufacturer or providing agency:
 - a. Fire resistance rating provided.
 - b. Date last treated.
 - c. Type of chemical.

10. Hay, straw, shavings or similar combustible materials shall not be located within any tent or air-supported structure. Open flame or other devices emitting flames, fire or heat or any flammable or combustible liquids, gas, or charcoal shall not be permitted under the tent or located within 20 ft., unless specifically approved and permitted.

11. Warming of foods and similar operations using solid flammables or other similar devices that do not pose a fire hazard, shall be permitted.

12. At minimum, one 2A-10BC (5#) is required within tents or membranes. Additional extinguishers and type of extinguishers may be required.

13. If heating and cooking devices are approved, they shall not be located within 10 ft. of an exit or combustible materials. For cooking underneath a tent, the tent shall have a fire rating tag affixed to the tent by the manufacturer indicating compliance with **NFPA 701**. All frying processes shall include a "K" Class Fire Extinguisher. A minimum of 3 ft. clearance shall be provided from the inside material of the tent, canopy or membrane structure and the interior contents.

All applicable requirements of Chapter 31, Tents and Membrane Structures shall be met.

To expedite the plan review and inspection processes, please refer to the information listed below.



Hurst Fire Department

"Making the Difference"

Tents/Membrane Guidelines

TENT/MEMBRANE STRUCTURE

Submittal Requirements:

A detailed site and floor plan shall include the following information:

1. Indicate details of the means of egress.
2. Seating or occupancy capacity.
3. Exits and exit pathways indicated on the floor plan.
4. Use of the tent or membrane structure.
5. Will cooking or heating devices be within or near the tent? If so, information regarding the cooking operation shall be submitted concurrent with the permit review.
6. Locations of fire extinguishers.
7. Fire Department access route and nearest fire hydrants.
8. Additional information based upon use and hazards.

Submittals that do not conform to the minimum above requirements will not be approved.

General Requirements.

1. Installation, fabrication or otherwise construction of the system is prohibited without approved plans and permit.
2. Each submittal shall have a completed application form.
3. Plans approved by the Fire Marshal's Office give authorization for construction. Final approvals are subject to field verification.
4. Any approval issued by the Fire Marshal's Office does not release the contractor or property owner from the responsibility of full compliance with all applicable codes and ordinances relating to the event.
5. All installations must concur with the approved plans. Any deviation from the approved plans requires a re- submittal to the Fire Marshal's Office.
6. All fire department inspection forms and permits shall be kept in a permit packet on the job site until final inspection.



Hurst Fire Department

"Making the Difference"

Tents/Membrane Guidelines

Inspection Requirements

1. The permit shall be valid only for the dates specifically requested and indicated on the issued permit.
2. Verification of compliance and inspection by the Fire Department shall be required PRIOR to use.
3. All required exits shall be available and kept clear.
4. Fire extinguishers must be kept in place and operable.
5. Fire resistance label legible and affixed to the tent by the manufacturer.
6. No combustibles, heating, or cooking devices within the tent, unless specifically requested, approved and permitted by code.
7. Additional inspections based upon the use and hazards.