

## Thurston County Development Services Temporary Structures



### Temporary Structure Permit Requirements

**1. Scope:** Tents and temporary structures having an area over 200 square feet, canopies in excess of 400 square feet. Multiple tents and temporary structures under 200 square feet individually but over 200 square feet combined, and multiple canopies under 400 square feet individually but over 400 square feet combined fall under the requirements of this document.

**2. Permit:** A permit issued by the Thurston County Development Services will be required for each tent and temporary structure. A permit application may be obtained from the permit counter at the Development Services, 2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Building 1#, Olympia. The permit application should contain the following:

- A. Complete site plan, including the location of fire apparatus access roads, hydrants, property lines, and the location of nearby structures.
- B. Specifications on the tent or structure, including certification of flame proofing.
- C. A plan for the interior of the tent, including seating arrangements and the location and type of heating or cooking equipment.
- E. Some tents or structures may require the submission of a full set of architectural plans.
- F. The time period for which the tent or structure is intended to be in place.
- G. Detailed drawings of connections.

Applications should be submitted no later than thirty (30) days prior to the erection of the tent.

#### **3. Use Period:**

Thurston County Ordinance chapter 14.32, Limits the permit to 180 days within a 12 month period on a single premises.

#### **4. Access:**

**A.** Fire and other emergency vehicles must be able to reach a point no greater than 150 feet from any portion of the exterior wall of any structure.

**B.** Emergency access roads must have an unobstructed width of 20 feet and unobstructed vertical clearance of 13 feet 6 inches.

**C.** Access roads are required to be surfaced so as to provide all weather driving capabilities and support fire apparatus.

**D.** Turning radius minimums will be determined by each venue's local jurisdiction due to

varying equipment.

**E.** Dead ends greater than 150 feet require fire department approval and verification of acceptable turning provisions.

**5. Cooking Tents:** Tents used for cooking shall not be located within 20 feet of other buildings, temporary structures, other tents, parked vehicles, or internal combustion engines.

**6. Tents Less Than 15,000 sq.ft:** Tents not used for cooking and not having an aggregate floor area greater than 15,000 square feet do not require separation.

**7. Multiple Temporary Manufactured Structures:** Multiple temporary manufactured structures can be added together provided they don't exceed the height and area permitted by the IBC Chapter 24.

**8. Flame Retardant Treatments:**

**A.** The sidewalls, drops and tops of temporary structures and tents including floor coverings, bunting and combustible decorative materials must be composed of flame resistant material or treated with a flame retardant listed by a nationally recognized independent testing laboratory.

**9. Portable Fire Extinguishers:** A 2A:10B:C portable fire extinguishers is required in all temporary structures. Additional to be determined.

**10. Occupant Load:**

**A.** Occupant load for each structure will be calculated using TCFC 14.32.

**B.** An increase over the load not exceeding 10 percent may be possible if additional exits are provided.

**C.** To determine additional exit widths, a factor of .2 inches per person will be multiplied by the occupant load to determine exit width.

**11. Means of Egress:**

**A.** Distribution of exits should be equally spaced around the perimeter.

**B.** No point inside the structure will be more than 100 feet from an exit.

**C.** Every tent and membrane structure will have a minimum of one exit.

## **Tents**

<b>Occupant Load</b>	<b>Number of Exits</b>	<b>Width of each Exit</b>
10 to 199	2	72-inches
200 to 499	3	72-inches
500 to 999	4	96-inches
1,000 to 1,999	5	120-inches
2,000 to 2,999	6	120-inches
over 3,000	7	120-inches

**G.** Exit doors will swing in the direction of egress. Aisles will be provided and lead to an exit. They will be a minimum of 36 inches in office areas with loading on one side and 44 inches with loading on both sides.

### **12. Exit Signs:**

**A.** Exit signs are required when there is an occupant load of 50 or more people inside the tent or temporary structure.

**B.** Signs may be self luminous or supplied from a power source. The power source requirements are the same as for means of egress illumination.

### **13. Sources of Ignition:**

**A.** Smoking is prohibited in or around a temporary structure or tent.

**B.** Tents and membrane structures may not be placed within the fallout zone of fireworks or other pyrotechnical displays.

**C.** All other open flames and devices capable of igniting combustibles may not be used without obtaining a hot works permit from the local jurisdiction.

### **14. Cooking and Heating:**

**A.** Cooking and heating is permitted inside tents provided the equipment in accordance with the TCFC 14.32.

**B.** LP-Gas tanks and equipment must also meet the requirements of TCFO 14.32.

**C.** All equipment must be vented to the outside and have a 12-inch clear space around vent or flue in all tents or temporary membrane structures.

### **15. Flammable and Combustible Liquids:**

**A.** Flammable liquid fueled equipment shall not be used in temporary structures or tents.

**B.** Storage of flammable or combustible liquids must be a minimum of 50 feet from any portion of a tent or temporary structure. Flammable and combustible storage must also comply with TCFC 14.32.

C. Refueling operations must take place a minimum of 20 feet from tents and temporary membrane structures.

**16. Generators:** Generators and other internal combustion power sources shall be separated from temporary membrane structures and tents by 20 feet and protected from contact with people.

**17. Housekeeping:**

A. Vegetation or other combustible materials may not be stored inside or within 30-ft of a temp. structure or tent.

B. All waste materials must be stored in approved containers until removed.

C. No combustible waste may be stored on the floor or within 30 feet of the structure.

**18. Smoke Detectors:**

A. Smoke detectors or a fire alarm system may be required.