

Halifax County Inspections
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Fire Code Requirements for Fairs, Carnivals, and Festivals

For Fairs, Carnivals or Festivals conducted in Halifax County by any City, Town, Municipality, individual or group (Profit or Non-Profit), an Operational Permit is **mandatory** from the Halifax County Fire Marshal. The Operational Permit must be obtained from the County Fire Marshal prior to the event. The City, Town, Municipality, individual or group requesting the permit must provide a site plan. Upon review and approval of the plan, the Fire Marshal will issue the required permit(s). In addition to the Operational Permit, there must be an additional permit for each tent that is over 400 square feet and/or every canopy that is over 400 square feet. The onsite coordinator for the event must have, at all times, all permits on hand for the duration of the event.

Emergency vehicles(Fire, EMS and Law Enforcement) shall be shown on the site plan and shall have access to the entire site for the duration of the event.

Tents, canopies and air-supported structures shall be adequately anchored to withstand elements of weather and to prevent against collapsing. All tents, canopies, and air supported structures shall be of a flame resistant material or shall be treated with a flame retardant in accordance with NFPA701. This applies to tents over 400 square feet and canopies over 400 square feet. Proof of a flame retardant shall be provided either by a label or a certificate. Tents connected together will be treated as one tent and must meet the same requirements.

Smoking shall be **PROHIBITED** in tents, enclosed canopies and air supported structures. Approved "**NO SMOKING**" signs shall be conspicuously posted in each structure or location.

Tents where cooking is performed under the tent, shall be separated from other tents, air-supported structures and canopies by a minimum of 20 feet. Outdoor (open air) cooking that produces sparks or grease-laden vapors shall not be performed within 20 feet from a tent, air-supported structure or canopy. Cooking equipment involving any amount of vegetable or animal oils or fats that produce grease-laden vapors or smoke shall have a "Class K" rated fire extinguisher **OR** a 3A-40BC Dry Chemical Fire Extinguisher within 30 feet of cooking equipment. All fire extinguishers being used shall have a current service certification tag on the extinguisher.

Fire works shall not be within 100 feet of tents, canopies and air-supported structures. ****Additional requirements must be met for fireworks display****

Generators shall be separated from tents, canopies and air-supported structures by a minimum of 20 feet and shall be isolated from contact with the general public by fencing, enclosure or other approved means.

Upon completion of set-up, the Fire Marshal shall inspect premises before **ANY** operations begin.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Halifax County Fire Marshal at the number or address listed above.

Updated 05/2017

A List of Some Non-Hazardous Foods That Do NOT Require a Food Service Permit from the Local Health Department

1. Funnel Cakes
2. Candied Apples
3. Boiled Peanuts
4. Cotton Candy
5. Popcorn
6. Pork Rinds
7. Wheat Pellets
8. Dip or Scoop Ice Cream
9. Flavored Shaved Ice Products
10. Baked Goods

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture regulates non-hazardous baked goods operations, home canned goods, and other foods not regulated under by the local health department.

A potentially hazardous food requiring a Food Service Permit would have a pH level ≥ 4.6 OR a water activity value of ≥ 0.85 .