



ANN ARBOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

111 North Fifth Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104-1405

(734) 794-6961 - a2gov.org/fire

Serving Our Citizens Since 1889

2023 ART FAIR

FIRE CODE REQUIREMENTS

1. BOOTHS & TENTS:

All booth and tent material, tarps and other coverings shall be fire-retardant or fire resistant. All roofs, walls, panels, flooring, coverings, and tents are required to be fire retardant or resistant to meet or exceed NFPA 701 per [International Fire Code 2015 Edition (herein IFC), Ch. 31, Section 3104.2]. A manufacturer tag or paperwork certifying this is acceptable. Tags with flammability information should not be removed [IFC 2015 Edition, Ch. 31, Section 3104.3]. Consumer applied products may also be acceptable if it complies. Straw, grasses, and flammable materials should not be used to decorate the booths, tents, or display areas even if they are treated for resistance.

All booths and tents shall be adequately roped, braced and anchored to withstand the elements of weather and prevent against collapsing [IFC, Ch. 31, Section 3103.9]. Fire Marshal's division reserves the right to reject dangerous temporary structures or require additional security measures to be taken. Support and anchoring components will not extend into fire aisles or lanes or create a public safety hazard.

A tent sized greater than 400 square feet will require a permit from Building Dept.

A fire extinguisher is required for the following tents:

- Cooking tents
- Sized greater than 400 square feet
- Any group of more than 7 tents together (700 square feet) without a fire break

2. VEHICLE FIRE LANES:

Shall not contain storage or any other obstructions. All lanes shall be a minimum of 20 feet. No AWNINGS, chairs, tables, art, sculpture, umbrellas, boxes, music stands, plants, bags, wagons, generators, light stands, lights, cash registers, or any item which obstructs or blocks free and clear passage of the street fire lanes. [IFC, Ch. 5, 503.2.1 and 503.4]

3. INTERSECTIONS:

Shall remain completely free and clear to the far side of pedestrian crosswalks. They are to remain open and unobstructed to provide clear turning and operations radius for emergency apparatus, or evacuation routing, if required. [IFC, Appendix D]



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4. **FIRE AISLES:**

For every 70 lineal feet of booths on streets, a 12-foot unobstructed aisle is required. These are walk-through connectors from the street to the sidewalk. They act as access lanes to and from streets, sidewalks, and businesses, providing emergency egress from buildings to the street. They are not to be used for any type of storage or artist seating. No chairs, tables, art, sculpture, umbrellas, boxes, music stands, plants, bags, wagons, generators, light stands, lights, cash registers, or any item which obstructs or blocks free and clear passage of the sidewalk-street connection.

5. **SIDEWALKS:**

Shall have a six (6) foot clear passageway. This shall create a continuous aisle on the sidewalk – NO SNAKING. No chairs, tables, art, sculpture, umbrellas, boxes, music stands, plants, bags, wagons, generators, light stands, lights, cash registers, or any item which obstructs or blocks free and clear passage.

6. **ADA (Americans with Disabilities) RAMPS:**

Shall not contain storage or obstructions of any kind. NO EXCEPTIONS.

7. **FIRE HYDRANTS:**

Shall be accessible. There shall be 3 feet unobstructed clearance around all sides of the fire hydrant [IFC, Ch. 5, Section 507.5.5], with open access provided to the fire hydrant. Fire hydrants may not be hidden or covered [IFC, Ch. 5, Section 507.5.4].

8. **FDC (FIRE DEPARTMENT CONNECTIONS):**

No booths, tents, canopies, or displays may block a buildings FDC.

9. **OPEN FLAMES:**

Are not allowed. No candles, torches, incense, fire jugglers, and other open flames allowed in the street, sidewalk, and walk-through sidewalk-street connection or in artist booths. [IFC Ch. 3, Section 308] Food booths may have propane (see #10) and limited open flames (steno fuel to heat food pans).



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10. FOOD BOOTHS:

- Fire extinguishers are required in food booths & fair information booths. The extinguisher must be easily accessible. The extinguisher must be charged and in good working condition. [IFC, Ch. 9, Section 906]
- All propane cooking shall be inspected by the Fire Department. No cylinders over 100 lbs. are allowed. 1:1 – (one in use: one in storage) only. Tanks shall be secured. No cylinders are allowed in booths without Fire Department approval. [NFPA 54]
- Charcoal cooking fires are not permitted. [Local Rules & IFC, Ch. 31, Section 3104.7]
- No deep fryers under or within 20 feet of a tent. [IFC, Ch. 31, Section 3104.15.6]
- K-class extinguishers required for all food trailers with deep fryers [IFC, Ch. 9, Section 906.4] with current inspection labels attached.

NOTE: Food preparations are governed by the Washtenaw County Environmental Health Department. There are specific licensing requirements for booths serving food and beverages. Each vendor is responsible for all Environmental Services permits. Contact the Health Department directly for more information.

11. BARRICADED VEHICLE ACCESS:

PVB's must be used. (No hard closures). Vehicles are not permitted within the barricades during fair hours. No unattended vehicles are permitted in the fair areas that block fire aisles of fire lanes. During the Art Fair, ALL vehicles must be clear of the barricaded areas by 10:00 AM. Vehicles parked outside of barricades must not block the fire lane or hydrants. *This rule is strictly enforced.* [IFC, Ch. 5, Sections 503.4 and 503.5]

12. TEMPORARY ELECTRICAL WIRING:

Must meet Building Department regulations. All temporary Electrical wiring and cords will be inspected for safety and code compliance. Wires and cords located in the public access areas must be elevated 13.5 feet above ground or covered appropriately.

13. GENERATORS:

No gasoline, kerosene, or motor oil generators are allowed in the fair area. Generators shall be 20 feet from all tents and be isolated from the public [IFC, Ch. 31, Section 3104.19]. Gasoline cannot be stored next to the generator and shall be stored a minimum of 50 feet from all tents in approved safety containers [IFC, Ch. 31, Section 3104.17.2].

Generators require approval from the Building Department Inspection.



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ART FAIR FIRE CODE REQUIREMENTS

PROPANE:

No cylinders greater than 100 lbs.
One back-up and one in use → 1:1
All tanks must be secured at all times

BOOTHS:

All roof and side coverings shall be of flame-resistant materials. All Fabric materials should be labeled as meeting the standards for flame resistance. The acceptable standard to meet is NFPA 701. Materials that meet the State of California Fire Marshal flame resistance standards are also acceptable.

FOOD BOOTHS:

Material must be fire-resistant
ABC extinguisher with current inspection labels attached.

HYDRANTS:

Maintain a 3 ft. radius clearance.

FDC (Fire Department Connection):

Maintain a 3ft. clearance to each side and no obstructions between FDC and street.

FIRE LANE:

20ft. minimum clearance.

SIDEWALKS:

A minimum 6-foot clear passageway is required. No snaking within a block. Each fair should determine where they establish the 6-foot clearance, whether it will be from the buildings toward the curb, or from the curb toward the buildings. Planters, drinking fountains, bicycle racks, etc., cannot be within this 6-foot clearance.

OPEN FLAME ACTS:

Open flame acts are strictly prohibited at the Art Fair.