



TENTS, TEMPORARY SPECIAL EVENT STRUCTURES AND OTHER MEMBRANE STRUCTURES AND THE FIRE CODE

CHAPTER 31 TENTS, TEMPORARY SPECIAL EVENT STRUCTURES AND OTHER MEMBRANE STRUCTURES

3103.2 Approval required.

Tents and membrane structures having an area in excess of 400 square feet and tents without walls (canopies) in excess of 1200 square feet shall not be erected, operated, or maintained for any purpose without first obtaining a permit and approval from the fire code official.

Exceptions:

1. Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.
2. Tents open on all sides that comply with all of the following:
 - 2.1. Individual tents having a maximum size of 700 square feet total.
 - 2.2. The aggregate area of multiple tents placed side by side without a fire break clearance of 12 feet not exceeding 700 square feet total.
 - 2.3. A minimum clearance of 12 feet to all structures and other tents.

3103.5 Use period.

Temporary tents, air-supported, air inflated or tensioned membrane structures shall not be erected for a period of more than 180 days within a 12-month period on a single premises.

3103.9 Structural stability and anchorage required.

Tents or membrane structures and their appurtenances shall be designed and installed to withstand the elements of weather and prevent collapsing. Anchorage may be staking or concrete ballast only. **Water barrels are not approved anchorage.** Documentation of structural stability shall be furnished to the fire code official.

Contact Fire Prevention for further code guidance at 480-644-2622.