May 10, 2017

Alaska State Fair Vendors

The Office of Alaska State Fire Marshal strives to provide a safe environment for the public to enjoy the experience of the 2017 Tanana Valley State Fair. The following requirements shall be met by all vendors prior to business with the public.

Fire / Fire Extinguishers

1. Smoking shall not be permitted in or around booths; except in those designated areas set forth by the Alaska State Fair management.

2. Trash containers 40 gallons or greater shall be constructed of metal or other non-combustible material. Trash containers shall be emptied often as needed and at the end of each day. Trash containers 40 gallons or greater shall have a lid.

3. Each booth is required to have at a minimum of one 2:A-10:BC rated fire extinguisher. The State Fire Marshal may require additional fire extinguishers depending on the size and activity associated with the booth, tent or exhibit.

4. All fire extinguishers shall be tagged for annual service within the last 12 months by an approved fire extinguisher permit holder and not expire during fair operations. Tags shall be attached to fire extinguishers.

5. Fire extinguishers shall be in a conspicuous location, not obstructed, and shall be easily accessible.
Tents

6. Tents, Canopies and Membrane Structures shall be treated with an approved flame retardant and shall have a permanently affixed tag or label.

7. The side walls, drops, awnings and tops of booths, membrane structures, canopies, and tents shall be composed of flame resistant material or shall be treated with an approved flame retardant. The use of non-treated polyethylene tarps and “Blue Tarps” during the hours of the public use is prohibited.

8. An unobstructed passageway (public way) or fire break of not less than 12 feet shall be maintained free from guy ropes or other obstructions.

COOKING VENDORS

9. All cooking vendors shall have a minimum of two 3:A-40:BC rated fire extinguishers.

10. Cooking vendors using deep fat fryers are required to have at least one additional type “K” fire extinguisher. NO EXCEPTIONS

11. Cooking vendors who have more than 3 cooking appliances (grills, deep fat fryers, char broilers, etc.) shall have 1 additional 3:A-40:BC or type “K” fire extinguisher for every two additional appliances.

12. All compressed gas cylinders shall be secured to prevent tipping.
13. All liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cylinders shall have current certification. 12 years from date of manufacture, every five years additional. (example: LPG cylinder manufactured in 2000. In 2012 the cylinder was required to be recertified. In 2017 the cylinder is required to be recertified.)

**Electrical**

14. All electrical equipment, appliances, power strips, and extension cords shall be labeled by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, i.e., UL, FM or NRTL.

15. Extension cords and flexible cords shall not be a substitute for permanent wiring. Extension cords and flexible cords shall not be affixed to structures, extended through walls, ceilings or floors, or under doors or floor coverings, nor shall such cords be subject to environmental damage or physical impact. Extension cords shall be used only with portable appliances.

16. Extension cords and re-locatable power taps shall be rated for heavy-duty use, a minimum 14 gauge, polarized, grounded type, 3 prong plug.

17. Re-locatable power taps shall not be plugged into another re-locatable power tap. All re-locatable power taps must have an internal circuit breaker.

18. Extension cords for refrigerators, freezers, or microwave ovens are to be a minimum 12 gauge, polarized, grounded type, with a 3 prong plug that is intended for heavy duty use. These items shall be plugged directly into the nearest permanent outlet.

**Heaters**

19. Only listed and labeled portable, electric space heaters shall be used.

20. Portable, electric space heaters shall not be operated within 3 feet of any combustible materials. Portable, electric space heaters shall be operated only in locations for which they are listed.

21. Portable, electric space heaters shall be plugged directly into an approved receptacle.

22. Portable, electric space heaters shall not be plugged into extension cords.

The Alaska State Fire Marshal's and/or their designee is authorized, at anytime, to stop the use of any unsafe cooking or booth immediately. Failure to comply with the minimum requirements listed above shall result in the vendor booth being closed by the State Fire Marshal's until they have complied.

**Starting in 2018, the following requirements will be required for cooking vendors at the Tanana Valley Fair:**
Cooking vendors that produces grease laden vapors shall have a Type-I hood, without fire suppression, installed over the cooking appliance. (If a vendor is unsure if their cooking produces grease laden vapors, contact the Alaska State Fire Marshal's at: 907-269-5637.)

Cooking vendors who's booth require a Type I hood shall have a non-combustible backing that is smooth, cleanable and nonabsorbent installed between the hood and the wall that extends a minimum of 18 inches in all directions from the hood.

No cooking will be permitted in a tent or under readily combustible materials.

All cooking vendors will be required to attend a fire safety/fire extinguisher class. A two year certificate will be issued to those completing the class. The class will be offered before the event opens.

Sincerely,

David L. Tyler

Department of Public Safety / Division of Fire and Life Safety

Division Director / State Fire Marshal

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