

Mobile Food Vending Unit Inspection Requirements

Location of Units:

- All Mobile Units shall not be closer than 20 feet to any structure.
- All Mobile Units must remain at least 3 feet away from any fire hydrant.
- All Mobile Units shall not block access to a Fire Department Connection (FDC).
- All Mobile Units shall not obstruct any access or exit from a structure.
- All Mobile Units shall not encroach on a fire lane. (If applicable)

Electricity Issues:

- Mobile Units shall not use electricity from a nearby structure.
- No excessive use of extension cords.
- Only devices with surge protectors are allowed to power multiple appliances.
- Breaker boxes and junction boxes must be in good working condition, be labeled, and have the proper cover.
- Improper use of electrical accessories and overloading of circuits is prohibited.

Design Construction/Plan Review:

- All Mobile Units shall be inspected for safety.
- Exiting of mobile units shall not be obstructed.
- Plans may be required for Mobile Units.

Propane Cylinders:

- A maximum of 2 – 100 lb. propane cylinders are allowed. One is allowed for use and one as a spare.
- Propane cylinders need to be re-qualified every 12 years. A current date of manufacture, if new or a requalification stamp is required on all cylinders.

Propane Cylinder Location:

- Propane cylinders shall not be located:
 - On rear bumpers or roofs
 - Below the lowest part of the vehicle frame
 - Inside improperly vented or unvented trunks or beds of vehicles
 - Inside passenger compartments of vehicles
 - On soil
- Compartments used for storage of propane shall be properly vented.
- The relief valve discharge from the propane cylinder shall not be less than 3 ft. measured horizontally along the surface of the vehicle to:
 - Openings in the vehicle
 - Propane burning appliance intake exhaust vents
 - All internal combustion engine exhaust termination

Propane Cylinder Equipment:

- All cooking appliances shall be listed for use with the propane.
- All appliances must be modified for use with propane.
- Appliances required to be vented (by the manufacturer's recommendations, usually greater than 40,000 BTU's) must be converted for use with propane by a master plumber

- licensed by the Texas Railroad Commission. Documentation of proper conversion by a plumber must be provided at the time of inspection.
- Piping systems, including fittings and valves shall comply with NFPA 58.
 - The use of non-metallic hose is prohibited. Flexible metallic connectors are limited to 5 feet in overall length.
 - Piping shall be tested annually at not less than 3 psi for 10 minutes before appliances are connected and at system pressure after connection by a licensed LPG technician. Documentation of test must be provided at time of inspection and must include: pressure and duration of test, name, address, and phone number of the technician performing the test, and license plate number of mobile vending unit.
 - Manual shutoffs are required at the point of use and at the supply.

Propane at Fixed Site:

- Cylinder must be 10 feet from combustibles.
- Cylinder cannot be within 6 feet of electric power lines over 600 v.
- Cylinders awaiting use shall be secured from tampering
- The relief valve discharge of the cylinder must be 5 ft. from exterior sources of ignition, openings into direct vent appliances, and mechanical ventilation air intakes.

Fire Extinguishers:

- Each Mobile Unit will be required to have a proper fire extinguisher inside their vehicle, minimum one 3A:40 BC fire extinguisher (5 pound ABC). In addition to 1 type K fire extinguisher for units with frying capabilities or cooking that emits grease laden vapors. This includes all newly purchased extinguisher(s).
- Each fire extinguisher will need to be mounted in a conspicuous location where it can be located quickly.
- Each fire extinguisher will need to be serviced annually and maintain a current state certified tag confirming its status.
- All gas, liquid, or solid fuel burning inside the vending unit must be vented to the outside with an approved venting system and spark arrestor.

Generators:

- Fuel powered generators must be 10 feet or more away from vending unit while in operation.
- Generators shall not be operated inside of any enclosure.
- No fuel is permitted on site for refueling of generators.
- Generators should have fuel tank capacity to power the generator for the duration of the event.

Exhaust Hoods

Mobile food preparation vehicles that are equipped with appliances that produce smoke or grease laden vapors shall be equipped with a kitchen exhaust hood and that kitchen exhaust hood shall be protected by an automatic fire extinguishing system.

Fee for Inspection:

\$60.00 inspection fee (annually) or \$20.00 for a single event is required for every food vendor and **shall be paid prior to, or at the time of inspection or the vendor will not be allowed to open for business.**

The only accepted forms of payment are check or money order payable to WCESD#3.

No credit card or online payments accepted.

