

# 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.**

**Payments can be made with check or money order payable to WCESD#3 or online with a credit card at [Huttofirerescue.org](http://Huttofirerescue.org), click on Fire Marshal payment portal.**