

## Special Events

The International Fire Code requires permits for certain special events that have been shown to present increased fire or life safety risks. These include, but are not limited to:

**1) Special amusement buildings;** Defined as a building that is temporary, permanent or mobile that contains a device or system that conveys passengers or provides a walkway along, around or over a course in any direction as a form of amusement so that the egress path is not readily apparent due to visual or audio distractions or an intentionally confounding egress path, or is not readily available because the mode of conveyance through the building or structure. Permits are required for, and inspections are performed at, special amusement buildings to ensure that they are safe and meet code requirements.

Special amusement buildings include: **carnival fun houses, haunted houses, house of mirrors, and other similar structures.** Automatic fire alarm systems are required throughout special amusement buildings and, depending on the size and configuration, a fire sprinkler system may also be required.

**2) Carnivals and Fairs** typically involve the potential gathering of large numbers of people and may take place either indoors or out. The primary issues for these events include; emergency vehicle access, evacuation pathways, carnival rides, cooking facilities and electrical wiring and generators. Pre-planning of this type of event is essential its success. Contact the fire department and the city early in the planning process.

**3) Public fireworks displays** require a permit from the State of Washington and the Northshore Fire Department. The sale, possession or use of fireworks is prohibited except by State licensed individuals with proper permits. In addition to permit issuance, the Northshore Fire Department will also inspect the display site prior to and during the event.

**4) Temporary membrane structures, tents and canopies.** A permit is required to operate an air-supported membrane structure or a tent having an area in excess of 200 square feet, or a canopy in excess of 400 square feet. The following list shows the information needed for this type of permit:

**. Prior to installation the following information shall be submitted for permit review:**

1. Indicate the name, address, and phone number of the property owner and tenant (if different).
2. Indicate the size and usage of the structure and dates of operation.
3. Submit a site plan indicating property lines structure foot print, distances to other structures, parking, and any combustibles stored within twenty feet.
4. Indicate sources of power, including site electrical services, generators, etc. that will be used for the structure.
5. Indicate any heating, cooking and open flame devices and operations.
6. Indicate location, size, and coverings for exits.
7. Indicate materials of construction and any flame-retardant treatments to be applied for the structure and contents.
8. Indicate number and type of portable fire extinguishers to be provided.

9. Indicate provisions for stand-by personnel and emergency procedures provided.

**Additional information may be required after review of application. All permits and a copy of these requirements must remain on site. Operations shall be subject to inspection at any time and may be subject to additional federal, state, and/or local regulations.**