



**Cherokee County Fire & Emergency Services  
Community Risk Reduction Division  
Fire Marshal's Office  
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## **Cherokee County Fire Marshal Requirements for Fair, Carnivals and Amusement Buildings, 2012 International Fire Code®**

**Amusement buildings.** An operational permit is required to operate a special amusement building.

**Carnivals and fairs.** An operational permit is required to conduct a carnival or fair.

### **Special amusement buildings.**

Special Amusement Building 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 arranged so that the egress path is not readily apparent due to visual or audio distractions or an intentionally confounded egress path, or is not readily available because of the mode of conveyance through the building or structure. An approved automatic smoke detection system shall be provided in special amusement buildings in accordance with this section.

**Exception:** In areas where ambient conditions will cause a smoke detection system to alarm, an approved alternative type of automatic detector shall be installed.

Special Amusement Building Alarm. Activation of any single smoke detector, the automatic sprinkler system or any other automatic fire detection device shall immediately sound an alarm at the building at a constantly attended location from which emergency action can be initiated, including the capability of manual initiation of requirements in Section 907.2.11 .2.

System response.The activation of two or more smoke detectors, a single smoke detector with alarm verification, the automatic sprinkler system or other approved fire detection device shall automatically:

Cause illumination of the means of egress with light of not less than 1 foot-candle (11 lux) at the walking surface level;

Stop any conflicting or confusing sounds and visual distractions; and

Activate an approved directional exit marking that will become apparent in an emergency.



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Such system response shall also include activation of a prerecorded message, clearly audible throughout the special amusement building, instructing patrons to proceed to the nearest exit. Alarm signals used in conjunction with the prerecorded message shall produce a sound which is distinctive from other sounds used during normal operation.

The wiring to the auxiliary devices and equipment used to accomplish the above fire safety functions shall be monitored for integrity in accordance with NFPA 72

Automatic sprinkler system. Special amusement buildings shall be equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1 .1. Where the special amusement building is temporary, the sprinkler water supply shall be of an approved temporary means. **Exception:** Automatic sprinklers are not required where the total floor area of a temporary special amusement building is less than 1,000 square feet (93 m<sup>2</sup>) and the travel distance from any point to an exit is less than 50 feet (15 240 mm).

**Temporary membrane structures, tents and canopies.**

An operational permit is required to operate an air-supported temporary membrane structure or a tent having an area in excess of 200 square feet , or a canopy in excess of 400 square feet .

**Exceptions:**

Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.

Fabric canopies open on all sides which comply with all of the following:

Individual canopies having a maximum size of 700 square feet . The aggregate area of multiple canopies placed side by side without a fire break clearance of not less than 12 feet shall not exceed 700 square feet total. A minimum clearance of 12 feet to structures and other tents shall be provided.

**Inspection authorized.** Before a new operational permit is approved, the fire code official is authorized to inspect the receptacles, vehicles, buildings, devices, premises, storage spaces or areas to be used to determine compliance with this code or any operational constraints required.

**Overcrowding** Overcrowding or admittance of any person beyond the approved capacity of a building or a portion thereof shall not be allowed. The fire code official, upon finding any overcrowding conditions or obstructions in aisles, passageways or other means of egress, or



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upon finding any condition which constitutes a life safety hazard, shall be authorized to cause the event to be stopped until such condition or obstruction is corrected.

**“No Smoking” signs.** The fire code official is authorized to order the posting of “No Smoking” signs in a conspicuous location in each structure or location in which smoking is prohibited. The content, lettering, size, color and location of required “No Smoking” signs shall be approved.

**Public Safety Plan** The public safety plan, shall address such items as emergency vehicle ingress and egress, fire protection, emergency medical services, public assembly areas and the directing of both attendees and vehicles (including the parking of vehicles), vendor and food concession distribution, and the need for the presence of law enforcement, and fire and emergency medical services personnel at the event.

## **Firewatch**

Fire Watch temporary measure intended to ensure continuous and systematic surveillance of a building or portion thereof by one or more qualified individuals for the purposes of identifying and controlling fire hazards, detecting early signs of unwanted fire, raising an alarm of fire and notifying the fire department.

Fire watch personnel. When, in the opinion of the fire code official, it is essential for public safety in a place of assembly or any other place where people congregate, because of the number of persons, or the nature of the performance, exhibition, display, contest or activity, the owner, agent or lessee shall provide one or more fire watch personnel, as required and approved, to remain on duty during the times such places are open to the public, or when such activity is being conducted.

Duties Fire watch personnel shall keep diligent watch for fires, obstructions to means of egress and other hazards during the time such place is open to the public or such activity is being conducted and take prompt measures for remediation of hazards, extinguishment of fires that occur and assist in the evacuation of the public from the structures.

## **Fire Apparatus Access Road**



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**Marking.** Where required by the fire code official, approved signs or other approved notices shall be provided for fire apparatus access roads to identify such roads or prohibit the obstruction thereof. Signs or notices shall be maintained in a clean and legible condition at all times and be replaced or repaired when necessary to provide adequate visibility

**Dimensions.** Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 20 feet (6096 mm), except for approved security gates in accordance with Section 503.6, and an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 13 feet 6 inches

**Required water supply.** An approved water supply capable of supplying the required fire flow for fire protection shall be provided to premises upon which facilities, buildings or portions of buildings are hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction.

**Membrane structures.** Emergency power shall be provided for exit signs in temporary tents and membrane structures in accordance with Section 2403.12.6.1. Standby power shall be provided for auxiliary inflation systems in permanent membrane structures in accordance with the *International Building Code*.

**Power supply.** Extension cords shall be plugged directly into an approved receptacle, power tap or multiplug adapter and, except for approved multiplug extension cords, shall serve only one portable appliance.

**Grounding.** Extension cords shall be grounded when serving grounded portable appliances.

**Commercial cooking systems.**

The automatic fire-extinguishing system for commercial cooking systems shall be of a type recognized for protection of commercial cooking equipment and exhaust systems of the type and arrangement protected. Preengineered automatic dry- and wet-chemical extinguishing systems shall be tested in accordance with UL 300 and listed and labeled for the intended application. Other types of automatic fire-extinguishing systems shall be listed and labeled for specific use as protection for commercial cooking operations. The system shall be installed in accordance with this code, its listing and the manufacturer's installation instructions. Automatic fire-extinguishing systems of the following types shall be installed in accordance with the referenced standard indicated, as follows:



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1. Carbon dioxide extinguishing systems, NFPA 12.
2. Automatic sprinkler systems, NFPA 13.
3. Foam-water sprinkler system or foam-water spray systems, NFPA 16.
4. Dry-chemical extinguishing systems, NFPA 17.
5. Wet-chemical extinguishing systems, NFPA 1 7A.

**Exception:** Factory-built commercial cooking recirculating systems that are tested in accordance with UL 71 0B and listed, labeled and installed in accordance with Section 304.1 of the *International Mechanical Code*.

**Class K portable fire extinguishers for deep fat fryers.**

When hazard areas include deep fat fryers, listed Class K portable fire extinguishers shall be provided as follows:

For up to four fryers having a maximum cooking medium capacity of 80 pounds each: One Class K portable fire extinguisher of a minimum 1.5 gallon capacity.

For every additional group of four fryers having a maximum cooking medium capacity of 80 pounds each: One additional Class K portable fire extinguisher of a minimum 1.5 gallon capacity shall be provided.

For individual fryers exceeding 6 square feet in surface area: Class K portable fire extinguishers shall be installed in accordance with the extinguisher manufacturer's recommendations.