



Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department

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OPEN FLAME SEPERATION REQUIREMENTS

This document summarizes separation requirements for open flame devices based on the 2025 California Fire Code (CFC), 2025 California Building Code (CBC), California Code of Regulations Title 19, and City of Livermore and City of Pleasanton Planning and Building Department considerations. This document is intended as a user-friendly reference for applicants, event coordinators, and business owners. Final approval is subject to review by LPPD.

PERMIT REQUIRED for open flame use in commercial buildings and public assembly events. To obtain a permit completed the following Steps:

1. Complete and Online Fire Code Permit Application
2. Submit following Supplemental Documents:
 - a. Submit Site Plan
 - b. Submit business license
 - c. Complete Tent Fire-Resistant Certification
 - d. Tent Manufacturer Fabric Affidavit
 - e. City Planning Approval
 - f. Property Owner Approval Letter

Temporary Event Cooking Separation

Equipment Type	Typical Separation	Notes	Code Reference
Propane BBQ / grill	10 ft from tents or structures	Unless approved with fire protection	CFC Ch.31 / Ch.41
Deep fryer	10 ft from public seating	Requires K-class extinguisher	CFC §906
Food booth cooking	10 ft from booth walls unless protected	Layout required during permit review	Title 19
Outdoor LPG cooking equipment	10 ft from buildings, exits, and combustibles		
Generator supporting cooking	10 ft from tents / combustibles	Must be secured	CFC Ch. 31

LPG Cylinder Reference (Water Capacity)

Cylinder Size	Typical Water Capacity	Common Use	Notes
20 lb cylinder	~4.7 gallons	BBQ grills	Most common vendor cylinder
30 lb cylinder	~7 gallons	Food booths	Limited quantities typically allowed
40 lb cylinder	~9.4 gallons	Commercial cooking	Subject to LPFD approval
100 lb cylinder	~23.6 gallons	Large cooking equipment	Often restricted at events

Open Flame Separation Quick Reference

Open Flame Use / Scenario	Minimum Typical Separation	Key Code References	Local Planning / Building Considerations
Open flame devices near combustible materials	Minimum 3 ft clearance from combustibles unless listed otherwise	CFC §308.1.4	Applies to candles, heaters, decorative flames in occupancies.
Candles or decorative flame in assembly occupancies	3 ft from combustibles; must be secured or protected	CFC §308.3	Common during events, restaurants, and banquet spaces.
Open flame in tents / membrane structures	Generally prohibited unless approved	CFC Ch. 31, Title 19	Temporary event permits are required.
Outdoor LPG cooking equipment	10 ft from buildings, exits, and combustibles	CFC Ch. 61	Food vendor plans are required.
Portable patio heaters	Per manufacturer listing (typically 3–10 ft)	CFC §308	Often reviewed during outdoor dining permits.
Portable generators supporting cooking	Minimum 10 ft from tents and structures	CFC §603	Must be shown on event site plan.
Commercial open-flame cooking equipment	Separation from public areas; hood protection if grease cooking	CFC §4104.4	Required for food trucks and commercial kitchens.
Ceremonial fire pits / public flames	25 ft from structures and combustibles	CFC §307 / §308	Permit required

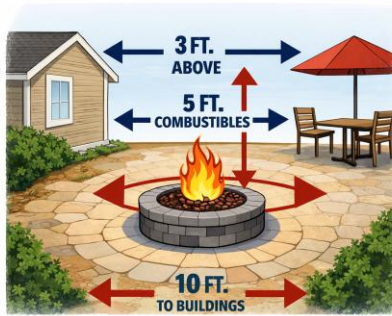
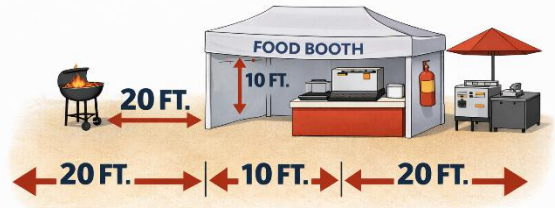
LPPFD Site Plan Review Checklist

- Site plan showing tents, booths, and structures
- Cooking equipment location
- LPG cylinder locations
- Generator placement
- Fire extinguisher locations
- Emergency access / fire lanes
- Public seating separation from cooking
- Electrical and fuel connections
- Exit pathways and crowd circulation

Setup and Setback Diagrams

Food Booth Cooking Separation

The following diagram illustrates typical safety spacing used during fire prevention plan review.



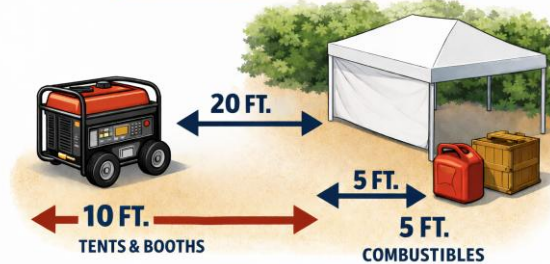
Open Flame Clearance

The following diagram illustrates typical safety spacing used during fire prevention plan review.

Generator Setback and Fuel Clearance

The following diagram illustrates typical safety spacing used during fire prevention plan review.

Generator Setback



Event Layout & Fire Lane Access



Event Layout and Fire Lane Access

The following diagram illustrates typical safety spacing used during fire prevention plan review.

For final approvals and site-specific requirements, contact the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department Prevention Bureau.