



Building Department Questions

Phone: 937-433-4642

E-mail: Plans@Natinspect.com

TENT REQUIREMENTS

INCLUDES REVISIONS in 2024 Ohio Building Code (in RED)

Based on 2024 Ohio Building Code (OBC) Section 3103 Temporary Structures and **Chapter 31 of the 2021 International Fire Code**.

Temporary Tents and Membrane Structures erected for a period of less than 180 days within a 12-month period.

Approval (Permit) required for tents and membrane structures. Tents and membrane structures having an area in excess of 400 square feet (37 m²) shall not be erected, operated or maintained for any purpose without first obtaining a permit and approval from the building code official. For the purpose of determining required distances, support ropes and guy wires shall be considered as part of the temporary tent or membrane structure (Section 3103.1.2 OBC).

Exceptions:

- 1.1. *Tents* used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.
- 2.2. *Tents* open on all sides that comply with all of the following:
 1. 2.1. Individual *tents* having a maximum size of 700 square feet (65 m²).
 2. 2.2. The aggregate area of multiple *tents* placed side by side without a fire break clearance of 12 feet (3658 mm), not exceeding 700 square feet (65 m²) total.
 3. 2.3. A minimum clearance of 12 feet (3658 mm) to all structures and other *tents*.

The following information is required for tents over 400 square feet:

1. **Site Plan** (Includes: lot dimensions, footprint of existing buildings and location of tent)
2. **Analysis of Structural Stability** Documentation showing that the tent will meet the **115-mph ultimate wind speed** requirements of the OBC and IFC and how it is to be anchored to meet these requirements.
3. **Flame Resistant Material Certificate** complying with NFPA 701 (**Section 3104.2 of the 2021 IFC**)
4. **Floor Plan** for tents with 50 or more people indicating means of egress, seating arrangement and location and type of any heating or electrical equipment (**Section 3103.6 of the 2021 IFC**).

Tents having a square footage of 400 or less do not require a permit but must comply with Building & Fire Codes.

An inspection is required from the Building Department when the tent is erected and ready for use.

APPROVED PLANS WITH ANCHORAGE DETAIL IS REQUIRED ON SITE.