

# Crowley Fire Department

## Fire Marshal's Office

201 E. Main Street

Crowley, Texas 76036

Phone (817) 297-2201 ex: 5020 Email: [FireMarshal@ci.crowley.tx.us](mailto:FireMarshal@ci.crowley.tx.us)



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## Requirements for Temporary Membrane Structures, Tents and Canopies

*A temporary permit is required: To erect or operate an air-supported temporary membrane structure, canopy or tent having an area over 400 square feet, except for structures used exclusively for camping.*

*Exceptions: [Please read carefully to determine if a permit is required](#)*

1. Tents are used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.
2. Tents open on all sides which comply with [all of the following](#):
  - 2.1. Individual tents having a maximum size of 700 square feet (65 m<sup>2</sup>).
  - 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 m<sup>2</sup>) total.
  - 2.3. A minimum clearance of 12 feet (3658 mm) to all structures and other tents.

**When a Tent Permit is required**, the following procedures are required to pass inspection.

The applicant shall provide the Crowley Fire Marshal's Office with a site plan drawing referencing information listed below. Fees shall be submitted to the City of Crowley 201 E. Main Street Crowley, Texas 76036. Attach the receipt to this application and submit it to the Crowley Fire Department. The electronic PDF format may be emailed to [FireMarshal@ci.crowley.tx.us](mailto:FireMarshal@ci.crowley.tx.us)

Per the International Fire Code (IFC) 2015, the following fire code requirements must be addressed.

- The application shall include a copy of the fire retardant certificate.
- Period of the intended use of the Temporary membrane structures tents and canopies. The maximum used for not more than 180 days within 12 months on a single premise.
- Fire apparatus access shall be provided.
- Temporary membrane structures, tents, and canopies shall not be located within 20 feet of property lines, buildings, temporary membrane structures, other tents and canopies, parked vehicles, or internal combustion engines.

***Exception:*** Separation distance between temporary membrane structures, tents, and canopies, not used for cooking, is not required when the aggregate floor area does not exceed 15,000 square feet.

To determine required distances, support ropes and guide wires shall be considered as part of the temporary membrane structure, tent or canopy.

Temporary membrane structures, tents and canopies, and their appurtenances shall be adequately braced and anchored to prevent weather-related collapse.

Air-supported and inflated structure design and construction of the fabric envelope, the method of anchoring, and inflation systems for air-supported and air-inflated structures, shall be per the Building Code.

The sidewalls drop, and tops of temporary membrane structures, tents and canopies shall be composed of flame-resistant material or shall be treated with a flame retardant in an approved manner.

Floor coverings, bunting, combustible decorative materials, and effects, including sawdust used on floors or passageways, shall be composed of flame-resistant material or shall be treated with a flame retardant in an approved manner.

**Applicant's initials:** \_\_\_\_\_

Temporary membrane structures, tents or canopies shall have a permanently affixed label bearing the following information:

1. Identification of temporary membrane structure, tent or canopy, size, and fabric or material type.
2. For flame-resistant materials, the necessary information to determine compliance with the National Fire Protection Association (N.F.P.A) Standard 701.
3. For flame-retardant-treated materials, the date that the temporary membrane structure, tent or canopy, and other combustible materials were last treated with an approved flame retardant.
4. The trade name and type of flame retardant utilized in flame-retardant treatment.
5. The name of the person and firm that applied the flame retardant.

A minimum of one portable fire extinguishers shall be provided and one additional fire extinguishers for every 3000 square feet.

Occupant load requirements shall be per the Crowley Building official.

Seating in temporary membrane structures, tents, or canopies shall be per the area of assembly requirements.

Exits shall be spaced at approximately equal intervals around the perimeter of the temporary membrane structure, tent or canopy and shall be located such that all points are 100 feet or less from an exit. Every tent and temporary membrane structure or usable portion thereof shall have at least one exit and not less than the number of exits required.

Exit openings from tents shall remain open unless covered by a flame-resistant curtain, provided:

1. Curtains shall be free sliding on a metal support. The support shall be a minimum of 8 feet above the floor level at the exit. The curtains shall be so arranged that, when open, no part of the curtains obstructs the exit.
2. Curtains shall be of a color, or colors, which contrasts with the color of the tent.

Smoking shall not be permitted in temporary membrane structures, tents, and canopies or in adjacent areas where hay, straw, sawdust or other combustible materials are stored or used. NO SMOKING signs shall be conspicuously posted.

**Applicant's initials:** \_\_\_\_\_

Fireworks, open flames, and devices capable of igniting combustible materials shall not be used in or adjacent to a temporary membrane structure, tent or canopy unless otherwise approved.

Cooking and heating equipment, tanks, piping, hoses, fittings, valves, tubing, and other related components shall be approved or per the Mechanical Code.

**Exception:** Operations such as warming of foods, cooking demonstrations, and similar operations, which do not present an ignition hazard.

Cooking and heating equipment shall be vented to the outside air by approved means. Where vents or flues are used, all portions of the temporary membrane structure, tent, or canopy shall be no less than 12 inches (305 mm) from the flue or vent. Solid-fuel-burning equipment shall be equipped with spark arrestors having openings not exceeding 1/4-inch

Cooking and heating equipment shall not be located within 10 feet of exits or combustible materials.

Tents, where cooking is performed, shall be separated from temporary membrane structures, other tents, and canopies by a minimum of 20 feet.

Outdoor cooking that produces sparks or grease-laden vapors shall not be performed within 20 feet from a temporary membrane structure, tent or canopy.

Flammable-liquid-fueled equipment shall not be used in temporary membrane structures, tents, or canopies.

Flammable and combustible liquids shall be stored outside in an approved manner not less than 50 feet from temporary membrane structures, tents, and canopies. Storage shall be per Article 79.

Refueling shall be performed in an approved location not less than 20 feet from temporary membrane structures, tents, and canopies.

Generators and other internal combustion power sources shall be separated from temporary membrane structures, tents, and canopies by a minimum of 20 feet and be isolated from contact with the public by fencing, enclosure, or other approved means.

Combustible vegetation shall be removed from the area occupied by a temporary membrane structure, tent or canopy and from areas within 30 feet of such structures.

**Applicant's initials:** \_\_\_\_\_

Hay, straw and similar combustible materials shall not be stored inside or within 30 feet of a temporary membrane structure, tent or canopy being used for cooking or public assembly.

Applicant understands and abides by all requirements listed previously, as well as any other safety specifications required verbally or in writing, by any city department or official, to protect the applicant, employees, and patrons.

**Fees: \$60.00 per Tent**

- 1. Inspection fees must be paid in advance. ALL fees are paid at City of Crowley Permit Office located at 201 E. Main Street Crowley, Texas 76036 - Phone # 817-297-2201 ex: 3000.

Name and/or Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Temporary Structure \_\_\_\_\_

Origination Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Dismemberment Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department staff to complete:	Person Issuing Permit: _____
Date of Issue: _____	Renewal Date: _____
Logged By: _____	Permit Number: _____