



## River Forest Fire Department General Requirements Mobile Food Trucks

In the Village of River Forest, food truck vendors may be required to apply for a number of permits as well as undergo inspections by both the Health and Fire Departments.

Each registered truck requires a Village of River Forest permit for open burning/cooking. Special Event permits for those Food Trucks that do not regularly operate in River Forest may be obtained by submitting an application and having an inspection approved.

A fuel storage permit is required for all diesel or propane not fueled directly from a vehicle fuel tank. (Gasoline generators with a separate fill are not allowed).

**No mobile food vehicle may carry more than 40 pounds of total propane. This standard will be judged by the rated capacity of the propane tank(s). Vehicles may carry either one 40-pound tank or two 20-pound tanks. The same regulations also apply to Natural Gas tanks. Vehicles that do not meet this requirement will not be permitted to operate at the event.**

Generator and LPG storage compartments located on the exterior of the vehicle must be enclosed. These compartments must have venting to the exterior and must not allow any venting to the interior of the vehicle. No storage or use of LPG cylinders or tanks within the vehicle will be allowed at any time.

If an LPG storage compartment is added on the rear of the truck, the bumper shall extend beyond the compartment to provide added impact protection.

Belly tanks shall be installed according to Illinois Department of Transportation standards and located within the truck body frame for additional structural protection.

A commercial kitchen ventilating (CKV) hood and extinguishing system are required for any vehicle with a grill, stove or deep fat fryer or any other cooking appliance that may produce grease laden vapors in accordance with NFPA 17A and NFPA 96. When a grill, stove and fryer are adjacent to each other, there shall be an 8 inch steel or tempered glass baffle plate between the fryer and surface flames from adjacent cooking equipment as required by NFPA 96 or a 16" space must be provided.

Hood and exhaust systems shall be inspected in accordance with the requirements of the 2004 edition of NFPA 96 and the current version of the International Code Councils (ICC) International Fire and Mechanical Codes as adopted by the Village of River Forest.

At the time of inspection, the commercial hood & exhaust systems must be clean and the hood shall have the appropriate, dated sticker attached by a Certified Commercial Hood and Duct Cleaning Contractor.

All piping, interior gas appliances and commercial kitchen hood suppression systems must be professionally installed and permitted.

A "Flex pipe" is allowed from the LPG tank to the regulator. The regulator to the appliance must be "hard piped" by a licensed plumber. Copper pipe or tubing will not be approved.

One (1), 1.5 gallon (6 liter) Class K extinguisher and One (1), 3A:10BC extinguisher shall be mounted within the egress path.

When parked on Village streets, vendors are required to obtain a Village of River Forest Parking permit for 3 spaces. This ensures clear area in the front and rear of the truck.

During festivals or Special Events, trucks shall maintain a minimum spacing no closer than 10 feet from the front and rear bumpers of other trucks.

**The following must be met so that fire code and life safety concerns are met:**

### **1. Requirements for Portable Fire Extinguishers**

- All On-Street Mobile Food Trucks must have a minimum of a 4A:60B:C type portable fire extinguisher mounted conspicuously and the portable fire extinguisher must have had an annual test by a qualified technician. (NFPA 10 1-6.3)
- Portable fire extinguishers shall be maintained by a qualified technician at intervals not more than one year. (NFPA 10 4-1.2(3), NFPA 10 4-4.1)
- Where a fire suppression system is installed, an additional 1.5 gallon (6 liter) Class K portable fire extinguisher shall be located in the cooking area with a tamper seal intact and a current dated tag must be prominently displayed on the fire extinguisher.

### **2. Requirements for Class 2 Compressed Gas Cylinders**

- All Class 2 compressed LPG gas cylinders shall be firmly secured to protect the cylinder from valve damage and falling over.
- Cylinders shall not be stored in an exit or access to exit.
- Propane cylinders shall not be stored inside the Food Truck.

### **3. Requirements for Cooking Equipment used in Processes Producing Smoke or Grease-laden Vapors**

- Concession hood, duct and fire suppression systems must be in conformance with NFPA 96 and meet the UL 300 Standard for Commercial Cooking.
- All Cooking Appliances must be covered by the Hood and Fire Suppression system and installed to the manufactures specifications.
- All hoods, ducts and filters must be cleaned on a regular basis so as not to allow a grease build-up.
- The fire suppression system must be serviced by a qualified technician every 12 months.
- A tamper seal must be intact and a current dated service tag displayed prominently on the pull station.
- The system must be interconnected to an electrical contact and/or fuel shut off, so if the system is discharged the gas valve will close and the electricity or fuel to the appliances will be shut off.
- Appliance shall have a clearance of 450mm (18") from combustible materials.
- Staff shall be trained on the operation of the Fire Suppression System, and the use of the fire extinguishers.

#### **4. Requirements for Open Flames**

- Flaming meals or drinks shall be ignited only at the location of service.
- Refueling of equipment used for flaming meals or drinks or for warming food shall be performed outside the serving area, and away from ignition sources.
- Devices having open flames shall be securely supported in non-combustible holders and shall be located or protected so as to prevent accidental contact of the flame with combustible materials.
- Smoking and open flame devices shall not be permitted in an on-site mobile food truck.

#### **5. Requirements for Extension Cords**

- Extension cords and GFCI devices shall be used in accordance with NFPA 70, the National Electrical Code.
- Extension cords shall be a minimum of 14 gauge and rated for outdoor use.
- Extension cords shall be used so as not to create a tripping hazard nor impede any means of egress.

#### **6. Requirements for Emergency Planning**

- All staff members shall be instructed in emergency planning including:
- Locations of exits, fire extinguishers, gas shut off valves, fire extinguishing system manual activation devices
- Usage of fire extinguishers, fire extinguishing system manual activation devices, gas shut off valves
- Procedures to be followed in case of an emergency
- Instructions to be given to the public in case of an emergency.
- Emergency notifications IE: calling 911

To request a River Forest Fire Department Food Truck Inspection or if you have additional questions, call the River Forest Fire Prevention Office at 708-714-3562.