

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- Vehicle shall not be parked in front of fire hydrants, in fire lanes, or in disabled parking spaces.
- Vehicle shall not obstruct egress from any building or prevent any emergency vehicle from accessing a building.



- Vehicle shall be parked at least 10 feet away from any building and at least 20 feet from tents or membrane structures.
- Use of temporary tents over 400 square feet or canopies over 700 square feet shall receive approval and/or permit from local Fire Department prior to installation.
- Tables and chairs, props, decorations, or other equipment shall not interfere with exits from the mobile food vehicle or access to a building. Creating an outdoor, contained assembly will be subject to egress requirements from the California Building Code.

FUEL & POWER

Electrical

- Extension cords and cables shall be approved for outdoor use. Cords shall not be frayed or worn and shall not present tripping hazards.

Generators

- Shall be placed at least 10 feet away from buildings, vehicles, tents, and other combustibles.
- Exhausts from generators shall be directed away from vehicles and structures.
- Shall be located so they are not accessible to the public.

Propane & other fuel

- Portable tanks shall be secured and in an upright position. They must be kept away from public access.
- If the propane system has been leak tested, provide documentation.
- For on-gas system piping, a flexible connector shall be installed between the regulator outlet and fixed piping system.
- Ashes from charcoal or wood BBQ's shall be placed in a metal container with a lid.



FIRE PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Mobile food vehicles that have any commercial cooking equipment which produce grease laden vapors are required to have an automatic fire extinguishing system.



All automatic fire extinguishing systems for the kitchen hood shall comply with Underwriters Laboratories Standard 300 (UL 300). These extinguishing systems shall be serviced every 6 months. Proof of service shall be visible for fire department inspection. Vehicles with kitchen hoods must also have a class K fire extinguisher.

A portable fire extinguisher (minimum size of 2A10BC) is required inside all vehicles.

All extinguishers must have a current service tag attached. Extinguishers must be visible and accessible.

These safety guidelines have been established to ensure a minimum fire and life safety standard is followed by mobile food businesses who wish to provide services within San Mateo County.

DO I NEED A PERMIT OR APPROVAL?



Each city may have their own individual requirements, so please contact the local Fire and Planning Departments prior to your event.

You may be responsible for the following:

- Obtaining a business license or a temporary permit
- Receiving an inspection by the Building or Fire Departments
- Receiving pre-approval by the Planning Department
- Providing legal documents such as a driver's license, vehicle insurance, or health inspection certificate

The San Mateo County Environmental Health Division is responsible for the inspection of various types of Mobile Food Facilities. For more information, please contact: San Mateo County Environmental Health (650) 372-6200 or visit www.smchealth.org/mobile-food

WHO WE ARE

The San Mateo County Fire Prevention Officers is a non-profit organization and section of the San Mateo County Fire Chiefs Association. Our members are comprised of fire prevention professionals within fire departments throughout San Mateo county. We strive to promote public fire safety education and ensure the protection of life and property.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Central County Fire Department (includes Burlingame, Millbrae, Hillsborough)
(650) 558-7600

Menlo Park Fire Protection District (includes Menlo Park, Atherton and East Palo Alto)
(650) 688-8425

North County Fire Authority (Daly City, Pacifica, Brisbane)
(650) 991-8138

Redwood City Fire Department (includes San Carlos)
(650) 780-7400

San Bruno Fire Department
(650) 616-7096

San Mateo Fire Department (includes San Mateo, Belmont, Foster City)
(650) 522-7940

South San Francisco Fire Department
(650) 829-3950

Woodside Fire Protection District
(650) 851-6206

Mobile Food Facilities: Safety Guidelines



San Mateo County Fire Prevention Officers Association

