



Frank H. Edwards  
Chief

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

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March 17, 2010

Beulahfest  
Attn: Beau Rodrique  
6400 West Nine Mile Rd.  
Pensacola, FL 32526

***Re: Fire Suppression Requirements for Cooking Operations***

Dear Mr. Rodrique:

Per your request I have reviewed the code requirements for the food vendors utilizing cooking operations that generate grease-laden vapors and determined that the following sections of the 2007 Florida Fire Prevention Code (FFPC) apply. The 2007 FFPC, which consists of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Uniform Fire Code NFPA 1 (2006), and the Life Safety Code NFPA 101 (2006) contain additional references to NFPA 96 (2004) Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations. These requirements will be enforced for any future activities conducted in conjunction with the Beulahfest event.

NFPA 1 (2006 Edition)

**1.1.1** The scope includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- (1) Inspection of permanent and temporary buildings, processes, equipment, systems, and other fire and related life safety situations
- (9) Regulation and control of special events including, but not limited to, assemblage of people, exhibits, trade shows, amusement parks, haunted houses, outdoor events, and other similar special temporary and permanent occupancies

**10.15.2** The AHJ shall be permitted to regulate all outdoor events such as carnivals and fairs as it pertains to access for emergency vehicles; access to fire protection equipment; placement of stands, concession booths, and exhibits; and the control of hazardous conditions dangerous to life and property.

**10.15.8 Cooking.** Concession stands utilized for cooking shall have a minimum of 10 ft (3 m) of clearance on two sides and shall not be located within 10 ft (3 m) of amusement rides or devices.

**50.1.1\*** The design, installation, operation, inspection, and maintenance of all public and private commercial cooking equipment shall comply with this chapter and NFPA 96, *Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations*.

**50.2.1.9\*** Cooking equipment used in fixed, mobile, or temporary concessions, such as trucks, buses, trailers, pavilions, tents, or any form of roofed enclosure, shall comply with this standard unless all or part of the installation is exempted by the AHJ. [96:4.1.9]

NFPA 96 (2004 Edition)

**10.1.1** Fire-extinguishing equipment for the protection of grease removal devices, hood exhaust plenums, and exhaust duct systems shall be provided.

**10.1.2\*** Cooking equipment that produces grease-laden vapors and that might be a source of ignition of grease in the hood, grease removal device, or duct shall be protected by fire-extinguishing equipment.

**10.2.1** Fire-extinguishing equipment shall include both automatic fire-extinguishing systems as primary protection and portable fire extinguishers as secondary backup.

Therefore, based on the aforementioned code sections all temporary cooking facilities in operation are required to have a proper suppression system installed and provide a portable (class K) extinguisher when operating during any future Beulahfest events. This requirement shall not apply to the tent operations that have site built grills. However these operations shall provide adequate portable extinguishing equipment and a method for the safe shut down of all electrical and gas supplies used within the cooking area as approved by the Fire Marshal's Office.

Should you or any vendor have any additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at my office (850) 941-6008 or on my cell phone (850) 393-0680.

Sincerely,

Stephen P. Rinaldi  
Escambia County Fire Marshal