

*Chief Alan R. Shuman*

*Barrow County Fire Department, 222 Pleasant Hill Church Road, NE,*

*Winder, Georgia 30680*

**Barrow County Fire Marshal's Office Requirements for Mobile Food Vehicles (MFV)**

**General Information**

* A special event permit for Mobile Food Vehicles (MFV) for temporary cooking operations will be permitted with in Barrow County provided the following is abided. MFV and temporary cooking operations shall be approved by the Barrow County Fire Marshal's Office before cooking operations begin. You may call 770-307-2987 should you have questions concerning the permitting process. MFV permits are submitted at the following 222 Pleasant Hill Church Rd. NE. Winder Ga. 30680
* MFV permits are for the current calendar year, from date of inspection.
* Cooking equipment used in fixed, mobile, or temporary concessions, such as trucks, trailers and the alike shall comply with these requirements.
* Responsibility for the safe operation of all cooking operations shall be that of the owner, management and operator.
* Mobile and temporary cooking operations shall not block any required exits, public way, fire department access

Roads, fire lanes, fire hydrants, fire department connections to automatic sprinkler systems and standpipes or other fire protection devices and equipment.

* Mobile and temporary cooking operations shall be separated from buildings or structures, combustible materials, vehicles and other cooking operations by a minimum of 10 feet and at least 20 feet from tents and other membrane structures.
* Liquefied petroleum gas (LP-gas) systems on MFV shall comply with the currently adopted International Fire Code (IFC) and Section 319, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 58, 61 and Chapter 120-3-16, Georgia State Modifications.
* Cooking operations that produce smoke or grease laden vapors shall provide a vent-a-hood, duct work, mechanical exhaust system and an automatic suppression system per the currently adopted IFC, NFPA 96, Chapter 120-3-3, Georgia State Modifications and International Mechanical Code.
* All deep-fat fryers shall be installed with at least a 16" space between the fryer and surface flames from adjacent cooking equipment. Where a steel or tempered glass baffle plate is installed at a minimum 8" in height between the fryer and surface flames of the adjacent appliance, the requirement for a 16" space shall not apply.
* Vent-a-hood(s) and duct work shall be cleaned to bare metal at regular intervals.
* Covers shall be installed on fryers to prevent cooking oil from spilling while the MFV is in motion.
* Cooking oil storage containers shall comply with IFC, Section 319.6 and 319.7.
* Egress/exits from the MFV shall be adequate and unencumbered by storage, appliances or design.
* Provide two scotch blocks on each side of a tire to prevent the MFV from unwanted movement while cooking operations are conducted.
* Fabric awnings, if present shall be fire rated to comply with IFC, Section 3104 and NFPA 701. Provide documentation of fire rating or remove fabric awnings.
* A working Carbon Monoxide detection system shall be installed per manufacture's specifications in the MFV.
* A no smoking sign shall be provided near the transaction counter.

MFV Requirements

**Exhaust Systems**

* Exhaust system(s) shall be operated whenever cooking equipment is turned on. Filter-equipped exhaust systems shall not be operated with filters removed.
* Cooking equipment shall not be operated while the exhaust system is impaired or non-operational.

**Automatic Suppression Systems and Portable Fire Extinguishers**

* Cooking equipment shall not be operated while the fire-extinguishing system is impaired or non-operational.
* Upon activation of an automatic fire suppression system for cooking operations, all sources of fuel and electric power that produce heat to all equipment requiring protection by that system shall automatically shut off.
* Automatic suppression system(s) and handheld fire extinguishers shall have current inspection tags.
* Automatic suppression systems shall be serviced at least every six months or after an activation.
* Fusible links of the metal alloy type shall be replaced at least semi-annually.
* Fire extinguishing equipment shall include both automatic fire extinguishing systems as primary protection and a Class I (fire extinguisher as backup. An approved placard shall be conspicuously placed near each Class I (extinguisher that states the fire protection system shall be activated prior to using the Class I< fire extinguisher.
* At least a Class I< and a 2A10BC portable fire extinguisher shall be provided. All fire extinguishers shall be serviced annually or after a discharge. Ensure needle on all extinguisher gauges are "charged" before starting cooking operations.
* Fire extinguishers shall be securely mounted to prevent unwanted movement and shall be readily accessible.

**LP-Gas Systems**

Liquefied petroleum gas (LP-gas) systems on MFV and temporary cooking operations shall comply with the currently adopted IFC, Section 319.8 and Chapter 61, NFPA 58 and Chapter 120-3-16.

* All LP-gas cylinders shall be DOT approved and be re-qualified after 12 years from their manufacture date. ASME tanks are exempt from being re-qualified.
* MFV shall not exceed 200 pounds of LP-gas.
* LP-gas containers installed on the vehicle shall be securely mounted and restrained to prevent movement.
* LP-gas containers shall not be stored on roofs or inside the cooking compartment.
* LP-gas containers shall be manufactured in compliance with the requirements of NFPA 58.
* Weather protection shall be provided for cylinders that are located on the outside of a vehicle.
* Piping shall be installed in accordance with 6.11.3 of NFPA 58.
* LP-gas system piping, including valves and fittings, shall be adequately protected to prevent tampering, impact damage, and damage from vibration.
* A listed LP-gas alarm shall be installed within the vehicle in the vicinity of LP-gas system components, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions per IFC, Section 319.8.5.
* Shutoff valve shall be readily accessible and identified with a sign permanently affixed to the vehicle in reflective decal material with letters a minimum of 2 inches.

**Generators**

* + Shall be in safe working condition and properly grounded.
  + Non-permanently mounted generators shall be located at least 25 feet from combustibles or public gathering areas.
  + Shall not be refueled when generator is in operation or within 20 feet of MFV.
  + Shall not be operated within 20 feet of tents or other membrane structures.
  + Should generator(s) be installed in a storage compartment on the MFV, it must be vented to the exterior to prevent fumes from entering the MFV.

**Maintenance of Systems**

**IFC, Section 319.10.3 Fuel gas systems. LP-gas containers installed on the vehicle and fuel-gas piping systems shall be inspected annually by an approved inspection agency or a company that is registered with the U.S. Department of Transportation to requalify LP-gas cylinders, to ensure that system components are free from damage, suitable for the intended service and not subject to leaking.** CNG containers shall be inspected every 3 years in a qualified service facility. CNG containers shall not be used past their expiration date as listed on the manufacturer's container label. **Upon satisfactory inspection, the approved inspection agency shall affix a tag on the fuel gas system or within the vehicle indicating the name of the inspection agency and the date of satisfactory inspection.**

For your convenience, I have provided an email address to locate approved inspection companies that are registered with the U.S. Department of Transportation to requalify LP-gas cylinders. The address is:

https://portaI.phmsa.dot.gov/rinlocator

**Adopted Codes for MFV**

* + NFPA 10, Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers, current adopted edition
  + NFPA 17A, Standard for Wet Chemical Extinguishing Systems, current adopted edition
  + NFPA 58, Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code, current adopted edition
  + NFPA 61, Standard for the Prevention of fires and Dust Explosions in Agricultural and Food Processing Facilities, current adopted edition
  + NFPA 96, Standard Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations, current adopted edition
  + NFPA 701, Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Flame Propagation of Textiles and Films, current adopted edition
  + International Fire Code, current adopted edition and Section 319, Mobile Food Preparation Vehicles
  + Chapter 120-3-16, Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner, current adopted edition
  + Chapter 120-3-3, Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner, current adopted edition

Appropriate action may be taken with the owner, management, operator of the MFV and the event coordinator by the Barrow County Fire Marshal's Office should a fire safety violation be observed. This may include asking the MFV to leave the property and/or issuing a court summon(s)