



RUMNEY FIRE DEPARTMENT
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TENT PERMITTING

Ever since the circus tent collapse in Lancaster the State of New Hampshire has required tents being used for wedding, parties, concerts/shows and other gatherings be inspected by the local Fire Department. The following is a list of the more common Fire and Life Safety Code requirements that mandate an inspection:

Tents used as Places of Assembly **for more than 50 people require an Assembly Permit.** In order to issue this, we will need to know the layout of the tent (tables and chairs, just chairs, a dance floor) and its size.

Tents used as **Places of Assembly must have emergency lighting** if used after sundown. This lighting must be operational without any human intervention such as throwing a switch.

Tents used as Places of Assembly **and set up with sidewalls must have exits clearly marked by signs.** Signs are not required if walls are not used. Generally, there must be two marked exits from the tent at opposite ends, and these cannot be blocked by chairs, tables or anything else.

If more than 200 chairs are used, they must be fastened to the floor or each other. If fastened to each other, at least three (3) and no more than seven (7) chairs are to be attached to each other.

A maximum of 14 chairs can make up a row between aisles. The aisles must be at least 44 inches wide.

Open flame cooking of any type is NOT ALLOWED under or within 20 feet of a tent.

This is only a partial list. Call Chief David Coursey at the above number or 715-4675 with any questions and/or to arrange an inspection.

