

Fire Safety Tips for Mobile Cooking Operations

General

- Does your jurisdiction require a license or permit to operate (e.g. local fire/health department)?
- Is cooking equipment attended at all times?
Are all required ventilation openings open during cooking operations?
- Is the cooking hood/ventilation system free from grease?
- Is the vehicle parked at least 10 feet from buildings, other vehicles, or combustibles?
- Is the vehicle parked so as not to block fire hydrants, fire lanes, fire department connections, exits, etc.?

Training

- Are employees trained in proper use of cooking equipment?
- Are employees trained in how to shut off fuel sources (e.g. propane, generators)?
- Are employees trained in how to notify the local fire department in an emergency?
- Are employees trained in proper storage, handling and fueling procedures?
- Are employees trained in how to perform a leak test and when one is needed?
- Are workers trained in the proper use of portable fire extinguishers and hood extinguishing system?

Fire Protection

PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

- Are portable fire extinguishers charged, not obstructed, and in operating condition?
- Are portable fire extinguishers located near the cooking appliance, solid fuel storage, and any portable energy source (e.g. generator)?

HOOD FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM

- Is the hood fire suppression system charged and in operating condition?

Fuel and Power Sources

PROPANE

- Is the propane system inspected prior to use?
- Are the propane tanks secured in an upright position?
- Are the propane tanks within their hydrostatic test date?

- Is the propane system in good condition (i.e. no leaks, rust)?
- Has the propane system been leak tested?
- Has a leak test been performed when a new tank is installed, or has a modification to the system been made?
- Is documentation available for any leak test?
Is the main shut-off marked, in plan view and easily assessable?
- Is the fuel supply shut off when not in use and while in transit?
- On gas system piping, is a flexible connector installed between the regulator outlet and the fixed piping system?

ELECTRICAL

- Is the electrical system and other equipment in good working condition?
- Are extension cords in good condition?
- Is the electrical system, including extension cords in accordance with the electrical code?

GENERATORS

- Are generators placed at least 10 feet from buildings, structures, vehicles and combustibles?
- Are generator exhausts directed away from mobile cooking vehicle, vehicles, buildings, structures, exits and openings?
- Are generators protected from contact by the public?
- Are fuel supplies properly stored?
- When refueling, are the generators shut down, engine cooled and then refueled?

SOLID FUEL

- Is combustible solid fuel stored properly and away from combustibles or heat producing appliances?
- Are ashes, cinders and other fire debris removed at the end of the day and stored in a proper container away from the vehicle, buildings and combustibles?

This tip sheet provides some safety information to help advance safety of mobile and temporary cooking operations. It is not intended to be a comprehensive list of requirements for mobile and temporary cooking operations. You should check with your local jurisdiction for specific requirements. This tip sheet does not represent the official position of the NFPA or its Technical Committees. The NFPA disclaims liability for any personal injury, property or other damages of any nature whatsoever resulting from the use of this information.

For more information go to nfpa.org/foodtrucksafety.