

Basic Requirements for Patios and Tents

All signage for exits and emergency procedures must be in place.

Exits or means of egress must not be blocked.

Electrical cords and services must be properly protected.

Heaters must be 2 meters from any surface. This includes the roof of a tent or structure and 3 meters from any building. (Tent must be open on 3 sides as per AHS guidelines.)

Tents must be 3 meters from any building.

If the patrons must enter the building to escape the outdoor area the occupant load for the building and exits must be maintained. (if all the people from the patio must exit through the building the occupant load for the building takes precedence.)

Non fixed seating or fixtures must not block any aisle or means of egress.

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2.7.1.5. Nonfixed Seating

- 2) When nonfixed seats are provided in outdoor *assembly occupancies*,
 - a) aisles shall be located so that there are not more than 15 seats between every seat and the nearest aisle, and
 - b) the clearwidth of an aisle in millimetres shall be not less than the greater of 1 200 or the product of the number of seats served by that aisle and 1.8.

2.7.1.6. Maintenance

- 1) *Means of egress* shall be maintained in good repair and free of obstructions.

2.7.1.7. Exterior Passageways and Exit Stairs

- 1) Exterior passageways and exterior *exit* stairs serving occupied *buildings* shall be maintained free of snow and ice accumulations.

2.7.1.8. Free of Obstruction

- 1) Where an *exit* door leading directly to the outside is subject to being obstructed by parked vehicles or storage because of its location, a visible sign or a physical barrier prohibiting such obstructions shall be installed on the exterior side of the door.

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1.1.1.3. Temporary Use

- 1) Except for *buildings* constructed under Part 10 of Division B, the *authority having jurisdiction* may allow, for a limited time only, the erection or relocation and existence of a *building* for an *occupancy* which may, because of its nature, exist for a short time, under circumstances which may warrant only selective compliance with this Code.
(See Note A-1.1.1.3.(1).)
- 2) The following information shall be posted for the *building* allowed in Sentence (1):
 - a) the time limitations imposed under Sentence (1),
 - b) any conditions of selective compliance imposed under Sentence (1), and
 - c) the *permit*.

A-1.1.1.3.(1) **Temporary Use.** An authority having jurisdiction has the discretionary power to allow the temporary use or occupancy of a building even though the building may not comply entirely with all requirements of the NBC(AE). Exceptions to compliance with all requirements are permitted in cases where buildings are intended for use and/or occupancy for short periods of time. This reasonable approach allows tents and air-supported structures to be erected and occupied at carnivals, circuses, sideshows, auctions, religious outdoor events, etc. It also allows for more permanent structures, although still temporary in nature, to be used as school rooms, trailers on car dealer lots, storage sheds, office accommodation at construction sites, or shelters to house plants during the spring season at shopping centres. "Temporary" is usually thought of as being under three years.

A-3.3. Safety Within Floor Areas. Section 3.3. regulates safety within floor areas including rooms and other spaces within a building. The requirements are grouped according to the occupancy of the floor area, room or space, which is not necessarily the same as the major occupancy for which the building is classified. For example, a building may be classified by major occupancy as an office building; therefore, the provisions for structural fire protection and fire protection equipment for office buildings prescribed in Section 3.2. apply. However, within that building, a room or floor area may be used for mercantile, care, treatment, detention, business, residential, industrial or other occupancy. Life safety for the occupants of any floor area depends in the first instance on the use or occupancy of that floor area. The risks to the occupants occur in the early stages of a fire. These special life risks differ from one occupancy to another and, consequently, must be regulated differently. Section 3.3. regulates risks within floor areas: these requirements apply regardless of the major occupancy of the building that contains the floor areas. For example, an assembly room must comply with the requirements for assembly occupancy whether it is contained in an office building, hospital, hotel, theatre, industrial building or other major occupancy.

Since this Code regulates new construction, alterations and changes of occupancy, the construction of kiosks and similar structures in public corridors must take into consideration all the requirements that apply to the remainder of the building, including structural fire protection, construction type, finish materials, egress widths and sprinkler installations. Special activities of an occasional nature that were not contemplated in the original design of a public corridor and that represent only a temporary change in occupancy are regulated by the NFC(AE). These regulations include maintaining egress paths clear of obstructions, controlling combustible contents and providing measures to ensure quick response for firefighting.

8.2.3. Use of Streets or Public Property

8.2.3.1. Safe Passage Past Site

- 1) Except as provided in Article 8.2.3.2., provisions shall be made at all times for the safe passage of pedestrian and vehicular traffic past the site.
- 2) Material or equipment shall not be placed on any *street* or other public property except as authorized.
- 3) Except as provided in Sentence (4), where a sidewalk exists adjacent to the site it shall be kept clear of obstructions at all times.
- 4) Where construction operations necessitate the obstruction of a sidewalk, a temporary sidewalk shall be provided and it shall be kept clear of obstruction at all times.

3.1.6.1. Means of Egress

- 1) Tents and *air-supported structures* shall conform to Sections 3.3. and 3.4.

3.1.6.3. Clearance to Other Structures

- 1) Except as permitted by Sentences (2), (3) and (4), every tent and *air-supported structure* shall conform to Subsection 3.2.3.
- 2) Tents and *air-supported structures*
 - a) shall not be erected closer than 3 m to other structures on the same property except as permitted by Sentences (3) and (4), and
 - b) shall be sufficiently distant from one another to provide an area to be used as a means of emergency egress.
- 3) Tents and *air-supported structures* not occupied by the public
 - a) need not be separated from one another, and
 - b) are permitted to be erected less than 3 m from other structures on the same property provided this spacing does not create a hazard to the public.
- 4) Tents not more than 120 m² in ground area, located on fair grounds or similar open spaces, need not be separated from one another provided this does not create a hazard to the public.

3.1.6.4. Clearance to Flammable Material

- 1) The ground enclosed by a tent or *air-supported structure* and not less than 3 m of ground outside the structure shall be cleared of all flammable material or vegetation that will spread fire.

3.1.6.5. Flame Resistance

- 1) Every tent and *air-supported structure* and all tarpaulins and decorative materials used in connection with these structures shall conform to CAN/ULC-S109, "Flame Tests of Flame-Resistant Fabrics and Films."

3.1.6.7. Electrical Systems

- 1) The electrical system and equipment in a tent or *air-supported structure*, including electrical fuses and switches, shall be inaccessible to the public.
- 2) Cables on the ground in areas used by the public in a tent or *air-supported structure* shall be placed in trenches or protected by covers to prevent damage from traffic.