



***Emergency Prevention Division
Austin Fire Department
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Mobile Food Vending Unit Checklist

Location of Mobile Units:

- Fixed Units shall not be closer than 20 feet away from any structure.
- All Mobile Units must remain at least 3 feet away from any fire hydrant.
- All Mobile Units shall not block access to a Fire Department Connection (FDC).
- All Mobile Units shall not obstruct any access or exit from a structure.

Electricity Issues:

- Mobile Units shall not use electricity from a nearby structure
- No excessive use of extension cords.

Design Construction/Plan Review:

- All Mobile Units shall be inspected for safety.
- Exiting of mobile units shall not be obstructed
- Plans may be required for Mobile Units

Propane Cylinders:

- A maximum of 2 – 100 lb propane cylinders is allowed. One is allowed for use and one as a spare.
- Propane cylinders need to be requalified every 12 yrs. A current date of manufacture if new or requalification stamp is required on all cylinders.

Propane Cylinder Location:

- Propane cylinders shall not be located:
 - On rear bumpers or roofs
 - Underneath the vehicle frame
 - Inside improperly vented or unvented trunks or beds of vehicles
 - Inside passenger compartments of vehicles
 - On soil

- Compartments used for the storage of propane shall be properly vented
- The relief valve discharge from the propane cylinder shall not be less than 3 ft measured horizontally along the surface of the vehicle to:
 - Openings in the vehicle
 - Propane burning appliance intake exhaust vents
 - All internal combustion engine exhaust terminations

Propane Cylinder Equipment :

- All cooking appliances shall be listed for use with propane.
- All appliances must be modified for use with propane.
- Appliances required to be vented (by the Manufacturers recommendations, usually greater than 40,000BTUs) must be converted for use with propane by a Master Plumber licensed by the Texas Railroad Commission. Documentation of proper conversion by a plumber must be provided at the time of inspection.
- Piping systems, including fittings and valves shall comply with NFPA 58
- The use of non-metallic hose is prohibited. Flexible metallic connectors are limited to 5 ft in overall length.
- Piping shall be tested annually at not less than 3 psig for 10 minutes before appliances are connected and at system pressure after connection by a licensed LPG technician. Documentation of test must be provided at time of inspection.
- Manual shutoffs are required at the point of use and at the supply.

Propane at Fixed Sites:

- A Hazardous Material Permit will be required from the Austin Fire Department for all fixed mobile food vending units using propane at one location for more than 30 days.
- Cylinder must be 10 ft from combustibles
- Cylinder cannot be within 6 ft of electric power lines over 600 V
- Cylinders awaiting use shall be secured from tampering
- The relief valve discharge on the cylinder must be 5 ft from exterior sources of ignition, openings into direct vent appliances, and mechanical ventilation air intakes

Fire Extinguishers:

- Each Mobile Unit will be required to have a proper fire extinguisher inside their vehicle (1-2A10BC fire extinguisher).
- Each fire extinguisher will need to be mounted in a conspicuous location where it can be located quickly.
- Each fire extinguisher will need to be serviced annually and maintain a current tag confirming its status.