



Mobile Food Vending Unit Checklist

***Food Preparation (Cooking) *Fixed Site (Carnival / Event) *Frying Foods**

Location of Mobile Units:

- Mobile Units shall not be closer than 20 feet away from any structure.
Exception: The unit may be permitted to be closer than 20 feet if an on-site inspection of the location is completed by the Sam Bas Fire Prevention Division. In addition, a letter from the property owner stating his or her permission to allow the mobile unit to be closer than 20 feet but not closer than 5 feet to the structure must be provided to a fire inspector at the time of the inspection. The area around the unit and structure must remain open and NOT block or impede any exits access.
- All Mobile Units must remain at least 15 feet away from any fire hydrant, shall not block access to a Fire Department Connection (FDC), and shall not obstruct any access or exit from a structure.

Electricity Issues:

- **Extension cords are only for temporary use, not part of the unit's wiring.**
- No multiplug adaptors may be used unless surge protected.
- Mobile Units shall not permanently connect to electricity from a nearby structure. If a proper gauge extension cord and outlet from the structure are used, temporary use shall be permitted.
- All wiring must be contained in approved junction boxes (all splices, outlets and light fixtures).

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.
Exception: The mobile unit may connect to the onsite natural gas with a quick connect/breakaway connection. However, **proper paperwork from a licensed plumber verifying that all the connections have been tested and meets the applicable natural gas regulations.**
- Propane cylinders need to be re-qualified every 12 years. A current date of manufacture, if new or a 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 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
 - Any structure or any other combustible items.

Propane Cylinder Equipment:

- All cooking appliances shall be listed for use with the propane.
- All appliances must be modified for use with propane.
- Appliances required to be vented (by the manufacturer's recommendations, usually greater than 40,000 BTU's) must be converted for use with propane by a master plumber licensed by the Texas Railroad Commission. Documentation of conversion by a plumber must be provided at the 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 feet in length.
- Piping shall be tested annually by a **licensed LPG Technician** at not less than 3 psig for 10 minutes before appliances are connected and at normal operating system pressure after connection. **ANNUAL PRESSURE TEST DOCUMENTATION OF TEST MUST BE PROVIDED AT INSPECTION.**
- Manual shutoffs are required at the point of use and at the supply.

Propane at long-term Site:

- Cylinder must be 10 feet from combustibles.
- Cylinder cannot be within 6 feet of electric power lines over 6 00 v.

- Cylinders awaiting use shall be secured from tampering
- The relief valve discharge of the cylinder must be 5 ft. from exterior sources of ignition, openings into direct vent appliances, and mechanical ventilation air intakes.

Fire Extinguishers:

The Sam Bass Fire Dept. is under the 2018 International Fire Code, the hood systems must meet this code. Main section 319 for the Exhaust hoods.

- Each Mobile Unit will be required to have a proper fire extinguisher inside their vehicle **(1 – 3A:40 BC fire extinguisher)**. In addition, 1 type, 1.5-gallon **Class K Fire Extinguisher**, for units with frying capabilities or cooking that emits grease latent vapors.
- Each fire extinguisher must be **mounted** in a conspicuous location where it can be accessed quickly.
- Each fire extinguisher will need to be serviced annually and maintain a current **STATE FIRE INSPECTION TAG**, with date and company name, confirming its status.

Sam Bass Fire Dept.:

- All Mobile Units/trailers must have a current state vehicle registration to pass the fire inspection.

For operating in the Sam Bass Fire Dept. area you must have a Fire Inspection to get your Wilco or City of Austin Food Permit and Maintain Both to Operate annually. You must have a Fire Inspection for Cooking, Frying, and/or Fix Site / Event Setup.

For more information or to schedule an inspection, contact The Sam Bass Fire Prevention Division at **512-255-0100**.