



Modesto Fire Department
FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

409 12th Street
Modesto, California 95354
PO Box 642 95353

Tel: (209) 571-5553 Fax: (209) 544-1652

FOOD VENDOR USING PROPANE GUIDELINES

These guidelines are a summary of some of the regulations found in the 2016 California Fire Code, 2016 California Building Code, and Modesto Municipal Code. They are not a complete reiteration of those Codes. All requirements of the California Fire Code, California Building Code, Modesto Municipal Code, and other pertinent Codes, regulations, and policies shall be complied with.

1. Food vendors cooking with charcoal, wood, or electricity do not need a *Food Vendor Using Propane Permit* from Modesto Fire Department (MFD). (However, other public agencies may require their own permit.)
2. A MFD *Food Vendor Using Propane Permit* is required to use or store LPG (e.g. propane and butane) in a commercial setting for cooking purposes (whether with or without a tent). (This does not apply to self-propelled motor vehicles that have LPG cooking appliances or to LPG cooking appliances that are permanently mounted on a trailer.)
3. If in conjunction with a larger event, the event organizer shall submit to MFD a consolidated list of all food vendors using LPG together with a copy of their current individual *Food Vendor Using Propane Permit*.
4. Food vendors wishing to use LPG who do not have a current *Food Vendor Using Propane Permit* shall submit a *Food Vendor Using Propane Permit Application* directly to MFD at least seven full calendar days before the day of the event. Food vendors who do not have a current *Food Vendor Using Propane Permit* issued BEFORE the day of the event will not be allowed to use LPG during the event.
5. LPG equipment used for cooking (such as appliances, containers, piping, hoses, fittings, valves, tubing, and other related components) shall be approved and in accordance with 2016 CFC Chapter 61 and with the 2016 California Mechanical Code. (2016 CFC 3104.16.1) A currently tagged 2A10BC fire extinguisher is required.
6. Containers of LPG used for cooking shall be located outside the tent if a tent is used. The appliance using LPG may be located inside the tent if allowed in the manufacturer's instructions. Manufacturer's instructions for placement and installation of LPG appliances shall be exactly followed. Safety release valves shall be pointed away from the tent. LPG containers shall have a minimum separation between the container and tent of not less than ten (10) feet. The container(s) shall be adequately secured in an upright position to prevent damage and unauthorized or accidental movement. (2016 CFC 3104.16.2.1; 2016 CFC 3104.16.3; see also CFC Chapter 61)
7. Containers of LPG used for cooking shall not be manifolded. An individual LPG container shall total no more than five (5)-gallons unless approved by the fire official in writing. No more than an aggregate total of fifteen (15) gallons of LPG shall feed appliances in a tent. (MMC 3-1.232)
8. Ignition sources shall be kept a least five (5) feet away from LPG containers, lines, and connections. (2016 CFC Table 6104.3 footnotes e3 and e4)