

CARNIVAL & FESTIVAL SAFETY

The following regulations were established In order to provide a safe environment for the thousands of people who attend, and those who work, at the festivals and other special events Geneva offers each year. Not all of these regulations may apply to your operation, but you should make yourself familiar with them. A user friendly explanation is provided below each ordinance.

- 316.1** General: Concession stands, festivals, carnivals and other specialty events shall be conducted in such a manner as to be safe to the public and in accordance with the Municipal Code of the City of Geneva and all applicable State and County regulations.

Unsafe conditions may be present which, while not specifically covered by these ordinances, require correction. If an inspector finds an unsafe condition, he/she will bring it to your attention.

- 316.2** Tents, temporary buildings or structures and enclosed open areas which have an occupant load of more than twenty persons shall provide not less than two remote exits from the enclosed area. All required gates and doors shall be readily operable at all times without the use of a key or special knowledge.

Areas enclosed by tents, fences, ropes or other structures require two exits remote from each other. Even when the potential of a fire may be small, if a crowd panics, people can be trampled trying to exit. The exits cannot have locks or other obstructions which could inhibit using them. If alcohol is being served, the Police Department will require you to post security personnel at each exit.

- 316.3** Compressed gas cylinders, bottles and tanks, in use or storage, shall be secured to a stationary object.

Pressurized tanks, bottles and cylinders, including propane, carbon dioxide and helium can explode or become lethal missiles when damaged. Pressurized containers, in use or in storage, must be chained or tied to a post or other stationary object to prevent being knocked over.

- 316.4** Refrigerators, freezers and coolers shall be locked or secured to prevent entry when unattended.

These are attractive to children as a place to play or hide. Once inside, a child can suffocate in a matter of minutes. A hasp latch or chain with a pad lock will keep them out when responsible adults aren't around.

- 316.5** All electrical circuits in wet locations, including tents, garages, open air stands and stages shall be protected with ground fault interrupters in accordance with the Geneva Electric Code.

Ground Fault Interrupters (commonly called GFI protected) are designed to cut off electric power to an outlet before a lethal amount of current is delivered. You may have them in your

kitchen or bathroom at home. GFI outlets or circuit breakers are required for any electrical equipment used outside or other wet/damp locations. If you run an extension cord from an outlet inside of a building, the INSIDE outlet must be GFI protected.

- 316.6** All electrical equipment shall be maintained in a safe condition and grounded in accordance with manufacturers specifications.

Electrical equipment should be maintained in good condition and not pose a hazard to the user. Equipment electric cords should be inspected for nicks and frays and plugs inspected for damage to the prongs.

- 316.7** Only grounded electrical extension cords of the proper amperage rating for the load shall be used. Cords shall not be installed as to be subject to physical abuse or to pose a tripping hazard. Cords shall be inspected for damage prior to use and damaged cords removed from service.

Only grounded extension cords may be used and the cord should be rated for the device being powered. If, for example, a freezer uses fifteen amps of power, a minimum fourteen gauge cord must be used. Cords should be inspected before use and any cords found to be damaged or spliced thrown away.

- 316.8** All cooking and/or other heat producing devices shall be maintained and operated in a safe manner and in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

A safe distance to bystanders and combustibles must be maintained. Propane gas lines should be checked with a soapy solution to assure there are no leaks.

- 316.9** Cooking devices which utilize wood, charcoal or other materials likely to produce harmful smoke or gasses shall not used within tents, buildings, enclosed or semi-enclosed spaces. Exception: Devices which are vented directly to the exterior of the enclosed space in a manner approved by the fire official.

Wood and charcoal produce heavy amounts of carbon monoxide and are not intended for use within enclosed areas unless provided with a vent or chimney approved by the inspector.

- 316.10** Fire extinguishers shall be provided in all locations where cooking or other heat producing devices are present and in locations as specified by the fire official.

A minimum 2 ½ pound class ABC fire extinguisher is required wherever cookers, steamers, warmers, heaters or other fuel or electric heating devices are used. The extinguisher must be in a visible, easy to reach location.