



EULESS FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

EFD-FMO 5-4

2015 Edition
International Fire
Code As Amended
Building Code As
Amended

INFORMATION LINE:

Parade Floats

Rev. 11/12

Fire Chief Wes Rhodes

Fire Marshal Paul Smith

NFPA Standards
Adopted

INSPECTION OF FLOAT

The Fire Marshal or his designated representative will conduct an inspection of the float prior to the parade event. Unless special conditions exist, the float will be inspected the day of the event at the designated staging area. Parade entrants are usually requested by the event coordinator to arrive at the staging area a minimum of two (2) hours prior to parade time. Upon arrival, a representative of the float is responsible for checking in with the Fire Marshals representative. In special situations, the float inspection may be conducted at the preparation or float construction site. Special situations would include floats that have moving mechanical parts, contains special effects or has extensive decorative materials. These conditions need to be coordinated with the Fire Marshal in advance. The rule here is to contact the Fire Marshal if there is a doubt.

Upon completing the review, an inspection form will be issued and an inspection tag will be secured to the float. No float considered unsafe will be allowed to participate in the event. All lawful orders outlining the rules and regulations for fire safety of the float and, if it is being occupied, the life safety of the occupants shall be followed as directed.

GENERAL SAFETY RULES AND REGULATIONS

Gasoline powered generators, use of:

Consideration shall be given to the use and the placement of power generators so as not to create a fire hazard.

Fuel tanks for the power generators should be topped off prior to arrival at the staging area. The storage of portable gas cans on the float is not allowed. Fill your generators before you arrive at the staging area.

Generators **MUST** be located in a safe and stable location a minimum of three feet from combustibles and must be outside of any passenger compartment of a float or vehicle.

Open flame devices, candles, etc.:

The use of open flame devices is prohibited. The use of sparklers, flares and similar items are prohibited.

Decorative Lighting, use of:

Lighting and strand decorative fixtures are to be UL approved and rated for outdoor use. Wiring must be in good condition and free from splices. Consideration should be given to attachment locations to the float or decorative structure to prevent the possibility of a short occurring or an electrical shock hazard. Consideration should also be given to the wattage and type of light fixture and its proximity to combustible materials.

Smoking:

The use of smoking materials on the floats is prohibited.

Portable Fire Protection:

Each float is required to have a portable fire extinguisher readily available. The size of the fire extinguisher is dependent on the size of the float. Small floats, those less than three hundred (300) square feet in size, are required a two and one half (2 ½) pound (1A-10BC rated) dry chemical fire extinguisher. Larger floats may be required to have a five (5) pound (2A-108C) rated fire extinguisher. **CHECK THE GAUGE ON YOUR EXTINGUISHER BEFORE YOU ARRIVE AT THE STAGING AREA TO BE SURE IT SHOWS A FULL CHARGE.**

Decorations:

Float decorations can vary based on parade theme and seasonal objectivity. Consideration should be given to the type of materials being used, its placement on the float and the flammability of the material. Fire retardant or non-combustible materials should be used where possible. In some cases, a spray on fire retardant application may be necessary to provide fire protection. Contact the Fire Marshal at 817-685-1600 if there is a question concerning the use of decorations.

Inverters:

Do not overload your DC to AC inverters. A fire or damage to your vehicle electrical system can result.