



SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY
Fire Marshal's Office
Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management (FREM)
9119 Dean Ridings Lane
P. O. Box 818
Spotsylvania, VA 22553

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Guidelines for Mobile Food Units

-Mobile food preparation vehicles that are equipped with appliances that utilize open flames or produce smoke or grease laden vapors will be required to have an inspection, permit and decal annually if you operate in Spotsylvania County.

This is an annual permit- It's valid from January 1st to December 31st.

Once the permit is approved, you will be contacted within 48 hours

To schedule the inspection of your mobile food preparation vehicle.

1. Requirements to operate a mobile food unit in Spotsylvania County

- Valid Driver's License
- Current License Plates/ Registration
- Current Vehicle State Inspection/ Paperwork
- Current Vehicle Insurance Card
- Current Health Inspection
- Current Fire Marshal Inspection, Permit and Sticker- (contact the FMO to schedule an inspection)

2. VA-Statewide Fire Protection Code (VA-SFPC)

- All Mobile Food Trucks that have any commercial cooking equipment that produce grease vapors shall be required to have an Automatic fire extinguishing system. VA-SFPC: §319.5.1
- Cooking equipment that produces grease laden vapors shall be provided with a kitchen exhaust hood in accordance with NFPA 96, Annex B. VA-SFPC: §319.4
- All fire extinguishers shall be maintained and inspected on an annual basis. A fire extinguisher (minimum size of 2 A: 10 B, C) will be required. VA-SFPC: §319.5.2
- If deep fat fryers are used operators shall have and maintain a Class K portable fire extinguisher. VA-SFPC: §904.12.5
- Ventilation Control systems shall be appropriate for the cooking operations conducted. Ventilation systems shall be capable of exhausting all byproducts of cooking operations. The hood must be designed to adequately collect and exhaust fumes, smoke and vapors from the area over which it is installed. VA-SFPC: §609
- Hood systems shall be maintained and cleaned in accordance with the VA-SFPC: §319.11.1
- All fire extinguishing system shall be inspected by a certified fire protection company as required in the VA-SFPC: §319.11.2
- Any propane cylinders must be secured and meet impact protection as described in the VA-SFPC: §319.9.2
- Any compressed gas cylinders must be secured and meet impact protection as described in the VA-SFPC: §5303.5.3 & §5303.5.2

3. Hazardous Materials and Storage of Flammables

- Cooking oil storage tanks within mobile food preparation vehicles shall comply with the VSFPC §319.8.1 through §319.8.5. Cooking oil storage containers within mobile food preparation vehicles shall have a minimum aggregate area volume not to exceed 120 gallons. The storage and use of Flammable Liquids shall be in accordance with any applicable regulations under the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code Chapter 50.
- Metallic cooking oil storage tanks shall be listed in accordance with UL 142 or UL 80 and installed per manufacturer's instructions. Nonmetallic tanks shall be installed in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and listed for use with cooking oils with a capacity not to exceed 200 gallons per tank.
- Hazardous materials, liquids and/or cooking oils shall be disposed of in the proper manner. They shall not be released into any sewer, storm drain, ditch, drainage canal, creek, stream, river, lake or tidal water, on the ground, sidewalk, street, and highway, or into the atmosphere.

4. Propane and Natural Gas Handling Requirements

- Gas cooking appliances shall be secured in place and connected to fuel supply piping with approved ANSI Z21.69/CSA 6.16 connectors. Installation shall be in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- Construction and modifications of the fuel system including hoses shall be proven free of leaks by performing a pressure test in accordance with NFPA 58.
- A water and soap solution shall be applied to all connections manipulated during the replacement of fuel and observed for evidence of gas leakage.
- Liquefied petroleum gas (LP gas) systems used for cooking appliances shall comply with NFPA 58, Chapter 61 and Sections §319.9.1 through §319.9.5 of the VSFPC.
- The maximum aggregate capacity of LP-gas containers transported on the vehicle and used to fuel cooking shall not exceed 200 lbs.
- LP-gas containers shall be securely mounted and restrained to prevent movement.
- A listed LP-gas alarm shall be installed with the vehicle near LP-gas system components.
- Compressed natural gas systems used to fuel cooking appliances shall comply with the VSFPC § 319.10.1 through §319.10.4.
- Propane and natural gas tanks shall be shut off while the mobile food vehicle is in motion, unattended and/or in overnight storage.
- CNG containers shall be securely mounted and restrained to prevent movement. Containers shall not be installed in locations subject to direct vehicle impact.
- CNG containers and systems used to supply fuel for cooking shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 52.
- A listed methane gas alarm shall be installed within the vehicle in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- Mounting and placement of propane and natural gas tanks. The mounting of propane and natural gas tanks must withstand impact equal to four times the weight of the filled propane or natural gas container according to NFPA 58-6.23.3.4. Tanks must be secure (NFPA58-5.2.4) and conform with NFPA standards relating to the safe mounting of tanks as described in NFPA 58-6.23.3.3.
- Outside mounted in a semi-enclosed cabinet, with vents at the top and bottom to facilitate the diffusion of vapors, vapor-tight to the interior of the vehicle, with a weather-protected regulator and a leak indicator as described in NFPA 1192—6.4.8.
- Outside mounted, secured on top and bottom and stabilized (e.g. with a strap), vapor-tight to the interior of the vehicle, mounted no less than 28" above the ground with a weather-protected regulator.
Chassis mounted, according to NFPA 58-6.23.3.4

5. Inspections

- The Fire Official is authorized to conduct such inspections as deemed necessary to determine the extent of compliance with the provisions of all state and local codes.
- The Fire Marshal's Office requires a Mobile Food Service Vendor inspection sticker and annual inspection of the mobile food unit.
- Once the inspection is completed on the mobile food unit, an inspection sticker may be issued. Any Changes to items, processes, storage or configuration within the scope of the Fire Inspection must be approved by the Fire Marshal to maintain the validity of the inspection sticker and to prevent the loss of the permit.
- Contact the Spotsylvania County's Fire Prevention Division to schedule your inspection and to obtain your permit.

Failure to comply with the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code is a Class 1 misdemeanor, This is punishable by up to 12 months in jail and/or \$2,500.00 fine -per VA Code Section: 27-100

For more information, please contact:

*Spotsylvania County Fire Prevention Division
9119 Dean Ridings Lane 2nd floor
Spotsylvania, VA 22553*

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