



CITY OF LIMA, OHIO

David J. Berger, Mayor

**Lima /Allen County Building Department
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Policy for Erecting Tents or Temporary Structures

- Effective December 1, 2020, a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy for the erection, use and occupancy of tents or temporary structures will be required, pursuant to provisions of Section 3103 of the Ohio Building Code, unless the tent meets one of the following exceptions.
 - One Temporary Certificate of Occupancy will be issued to include multiple tents or temporary structures erected for a single event, as long as all tents or temporary structures are erected at one address.
 - Tents “only” erected on residential properties designed for less than four families are exempt from these regulations.
 - Tents “only” used for recreational camping are exempt from approval.
 - Tents or membrane structures of 400 square feet or less are exempt from approval.
 - Multiple tents or membrane structures with an aggregate area of 400 square feet or less separated from adjacent tents or other structures by at least 12 feet are exempt from approval.
 - Tents “only” 700 square feet or less that are open on all sides and are more than 12 feet from other tents or other structures are exempt from approval.
 - Multiple tents “only” open on all sides and placed side by side with an aggregate area of 700 square feet or less separated from adjacent tents or structures by at least 12 feet from other tents or structures are exempt from approval.
 - No open flame shall be used within 20 feet of a tent or membrane structure.
- There may be additional requirements from the Fire Department having jurisdiction in your area relative to the Ohio Fire Code.
- Other governmental agencies may have additional requirements that are not listed here.

Electrical and Mechanical installation not exempted in the Ohio Building Code will require approval.

Amy Harpster, Chief Building Official
Lima /Allen County Building Department

Revised 11/25/2020