

# SPARTANBURG COUNTY BUILDING CODES

## HAUNTED HOUSE/TENT/TRAIL SAFETY REGULATIONS

**DEFINITION:** The term Structure *shall* apply to any and all building, tents, or covered trails.

### **CONSTRUCTION:**

1. Building to be used must be structurally sound. (Frame, Ceiling, Stairs, Porches, Floors, etc...) Manufactured housing shall not be used.
2. The second floor of a two (2) story building or basement may not be used, and access must be securely blocked off, unless there are two (2) approved means of egress, per International Building and/or International Fire Codes, 2006 edition, from the second floor or basement.
3. All framing for temporary walls or ceiling must be securely built and braced, without any trip hazards, and must be coated with fire retardant paint, be covered with a fire retardant cloth material, or be constructed of non- combustible materials.
4. No plastic's or any type of cloth that has not been flame retardant treated by a licensed company, or by the operator, per manufactures instruction, can be used on or for walls, ceiling, or floors within structures or on trails. All labels from cans of paint, liquids, or sprays, plus the Material Safety Data Sheets, (MSDS), shall be maintained by the operator at the site.
5. All exits doors on structures or trails must swing in the direction of travel, and be operable with one (1) movement. Any security door, which is used as an exit door, must be opened and locked in the opened position during operational hours.
6. Exit discharge landings, shall be a minimum of 3 ft. by 3ft., securely built landing. If stairs are required they shall be a minimum of 3 ft. wide, securely built, with handrails on both sides.

## **ELECTRICAL:**

1. All exits must be marked with lighted exits signs, equipped with battery back-up power.
2. Structures and trails must be equipped with emergency lighting.
3. A control room/area which has control of all lighting will be manned at all times. This room or area will be capable of turning on all light in case of emergency.
4. All wiring within eight (8) feet of the floor or ground shall be protected from physical damage by conduit.
5. All wiring not in conduit shall be properly fastened to walls, ceiling, or supporting poles.
6. All switches and receptacles shall be in junction boxes, and properly mounted to walls, ceiling, or supporting poles.
7. All wire splices shall be in junction boxes, and properly connected with wire nuts or other approved connectors.
8. All switches, receptacles, junction and panel boxes shall have proper cover plates.
9. All switches, receptacles, junction boxes and conduit used outdoors shall be weather tight and approved for such use and be properly mounted to walls or supporting poles. All wire used outdoors and not in conduit must be approved for such use and properly secured to walls or supporting poles.
10. The use of electric extension cords is prohibited, except as governed by the International Fire Code; Chapter 6, 2006
11. All electric lighting must be securely fastened to wall or ceiling in structures or supporting poles on trails.

## **FIRE SAFETY:**

1. Proper size and type portable fire extinguishers must be installed in every room of the Structure or every fifty (50) feet of trail.
2. Smoking will not be permitted within the structure or on the trail at anytime. No Smoking signs shall be posted at all entrances and exits.
3. No open flames or candles will be permitted or used within the structure or trail.
4. No gas or liquid fueled heating or lighting devices will be allowed within fifty (50) feet of the structure or trial.
5. All structures shall have at least one (1) working smoke detector on each level and all covered trails shall have a working smoke detector every fifty (50) feet of travel.
6. Covered trails, or trails with side walls, shall be no more than one thousand (1,000) feet in length with clearly marked exits every one hundred (100) feet of travel.
7. Combustible materials shall not be used inside structures or covered trails: (IE hay, brush, trees, ECT.) unless such materials has been fire retardant treated with a approved retardant material. The operator of the facility shall supply, to the Fire Inspector approved paper work for all fire and/or smoke retardant materials.
8. No storage of Flammable Liquids inside the structure or within twenty five (25) feet of the structure or trail.

## **GENERAL:**

1. Tour guides must accompany all patrons at all times. No tour guide shall leave his/her group unattended at any time
2. Patrons must be grouped together, in groups of no more than five (5) patrons per tour guide and no more than ten (10) patrons per tour.
3. All tour guides must be at least sixteen (16) years of age.
4. All tour guides and workers at the structure or trail must be completely familiar with the structure or trail, and the locations of all exits, portable hand lights, and portable fire extinguishers. Tour guides must also be trained on proper use.
5. All tour guides must have a working flashlight or lantern with them at all times. Wands or covers on flash lights or lanterns must be of the snap on/off type. In addition there shall be one operable flash light or lantern in every room used or every fifty (50) feet along the trail.
6. All hallways/pathways, in the structure or on the trail shall be a minimum of thirty six (36) inches of clear width, and free of any objects that might impede travel.
7. There shall be no dead end corridors that exceed twenty (20) feet, within the structure, or on the trail.
8. Exit Access, Exit, and Exit Discharge, shall be kept clear of obstructions and ready for immediate use at all times. The Exit Discharge shall be lighted by a minimum of a 15 Watt clear or 25 Watt Colored light.
9. In addition to the required lighted exit signs at all exit door, reflective exit signs shall be located at all change of directions along the path of travel. These signs shall be no more than eight (8) inches above the floor, equipped with directional arrows indicating the direction of exit, and shall be unobstructed.  
Also, reflective tape shall be placed every ten (10) feet along the path of travel indicating the direction to the nearest exit.
10. A permit shall be obtained from Spartanburg County Land Development and Building Codes Department, and a safety inspection conducted, before opening a Haunted House, tent, or trail.