



TOWN of BROOKLINE

Massachusetts

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Daniel F. Bennett
Building Commissioner

Semi-Permanent Outdoor Dining Structure Guidance

Outdoor Dining Program applications must contain information on ground level platforms, perimeter walls, roof structures, tents & canopies and electrical installations as applicable. A plan/sketch must be submitted with application for all roofed structures. These guidelines shall be used with the Outdoor Dining Program Regulations and Guidelines issued by the Town effective April 1, 2022. All installations must be performed by licensed contractors/tradesmen. These guidelines may be amended from time to time without notice at the Town's discretion. This document is to be used as guidance only and does not imply code compliance.

Ground Level Platforms:

- Max height to meet curb
- Must provide handicapped access from sidewalk per AAB/ADA
- Must be constructed to support tables, chairs, customers and staff

Perimeter Walls:

- Max height 42" – measured from street grade or top of platform if applicable
- Must be located within curb edge and DPW jersey barriers
- Walls must be secured such that they do not move, blow over, or cause damage in severe weather or high winds
- Interior walls shall be covered by a smooth surface. No open framing.

Roof Structures:

- Roof height shall be a minimum of 7ft. and a maximum of 8ft.
- Posts shall be a minimum of 4x4, secured to platform and be fitted with 45 degree brackets to roof beams at perimeter. Perimeter walls shall be used as bracing at post locations
- All framing (beams, joists) shall be a minimum of 2x8 16" O.C. construction – all beams double 2x8 – purlins may be a minimum of 2x6
- All structural assemblies shall be equipped with suitable wood connections and fastening systems
- Roof material shall be noncombustible and comply with Bldg. Code interior finish materials.
- Roof material shall be fastened to roof structure per manufacturer's instructions and specifications to prevent uplift
- Structure must be secured such that it does not move, blow over, or cause damage in severe weather or high winds

Tent & Canopies:

- Tents and canopies greater than 120 sf. require a permit from the Building Dept.
- Indicate size
- Flame Spread Certificate – must match tent
- Floor plan/occupancy
- Method of securing

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Electrical Installations to adhere to 527 CMR 12.00 2020 Massachusetts Electrical Code:

- Maximum of two 120 volt, 15 amp or 20 amp GFCI protected circuits for temporary power. Sub panels not permissible, as they would require a ground rod at the temporary structure.
- Weather resistant GFCI receptacles installed in weather resistant boxes utilizing extra duty in use “bubble covers” attached to building’s structure.
- Use outdoor rated extension cords overhead to outdoor dining structure.
- Weather resistant boxes with weather resistant single pole switches hardwired to type UF or type SJO cords. Wiring to be overhead feeding remote located weather resistant boxes with WR/GFCI receptacles with extra duty in use “bubble covers.”
- GFCI protection for personnel located at circuit breaker or at exterior receptacle.
- Power should either be unplugged or shut off by switches when the restaurant is closed for business. Power to temporary structure energized only when restaurant is open for business.
- Overhead installations shall maintain 10’ clearance over sidewalk accessible only to pedestrian traffic. Vegetation not to be used as support for supply wiring. Town Light poles shall not be used as support. Use guy wire or strain relief over sidewalk.
- All equipment to be energized shall be installed to manufacturer’s specifications. Cords and lighting must be listed and suitable for its purpose.
- Electrical contractors to obtain an electrical permit to perform electrical work with the Town of Brookline. Call and request inspection – 617-730-2100
- 527 CMR 12.00 Massachusetts Electrical Code references:
 - 230.24 (B) 1. Vertical Clearance for Overhead. 10 feet.
 - 230.10. Vegetation as Support. Vegetation such as trees shall not be used for support of overhead conductors.
 - 250.32 (A) Buildings or Structures Supplied by a Feeder or Branch Circuits. Shall have a Grounding Electrode at structure. (8’ Ground rod driven into earth)