



TOWN OF BROOKLINE

Massachusetts

FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION
PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

350 Washington Street
Brookline, MA 02445
www.brooklinema.gov

Liquid Propane (LP) Outdoor Patio Heating Appliance Use and Storage Policy

The Brookline Fire Department's policy for the use and storage of LP (Propane) Fueled Appliances utilized for heating commercial outdoor dining spaces is outlined below, in addition to the application process and requirements. Local businesses participating in the LP Outdoor Patio Heating Program are also be required to comply with all licensing and permitting requirements established by the Select Board's office for the Town's [Outdoor Dining Program](#).

This process does not cover the requirements of the use of electric heat or natural gas appliances that are hard piped. These permits must be applied for through the building department. It also does not involve the use of portable cooking appliances, candles, open fire pits, or any other fire related uses. These other items may be subject to different permitting.

Local entities seeking to use patio heaters with portable propane fuel gas must adhere to the all applicable provisions of the MA Comprehensive Fire Safety Code (2015). You may also follow this link to the MA Fire Code: <https://www.mass.gov/regulations/527-CMR-100-massachusetts-comprehensive-fire-safety-code>. The following specified code citations are provided for your convenience.

1. Code §§ 10.10.1-10.10.2
2. Code §§ 10.10.6.3-10.10.6.3.6
3. Code §§ 10.10.7
4. Code §§ 10.10.10
5. Code §§ 20.1.5.6
6. Code §§ 69.3.11 – 69.3.11.2.8

In order to use outdoor patio heaters fueled by LP, entities must apply and provide documentation for a permit to use and/or store LP. The Brookline Fire Department will review and grant permits in accordance with Code §§ 1.12.8.43 and Code §§ 69.1.2. Any inquiries can be brought to the attention of Deputy Chief Todd Cantor @ tcantor@brooklinema.gov or by calling 617-730-2270.

Permits are required to be renewed on an annual basis and will expire in December of each year. When applying for an outdoor seating permit, the use of LP must be indicated

through the application process with the select board. The entity must also then apply for the previously mentioned permit.

The permit applications can be found on the Town's website by visiting <https://www.brooklinema.gov/Permits-and-Licensing>, registering and/or logging into an account. Please select "Open Accela" once logged in and go to the Fire tab and create an application. Find the drop down menu labelled Fire and select LP Gas Use and Storage. Along with filling out this application and the payment of the \$75.00 fee, the following documentation is necessary and shall be uploaded:

- A. Measured Diagram of the seating indicating
 - a. Table locations including the number of seats
 - b. Proposed heater locations
 - c. Egress paths (Code compliant)
 - d. Sidewalk
 - e. Exits from the fixed building (No less than 5 feet away)
 - f. Any overhangs from the building (No closer than 10 feet with a closed flame)
- B. LP Appliance
 - a. Must be UL Listed
 - b. Must be Commercial Grade
 - c. Manufacturers Specification Sheet to be uploaded
 - d. Must have a UL Listed Electronic ignition
- C. Proposed storage area
 - a. UL Listed LP tank cage
 - b. If within 10 feet, no more than 6 tanks can be stored
 - c. No more than 10 can be on the property at any one time
- D. Letter of Permission from the property owner
- E. Letter acknowledging allowed method of storage
- F. Location of storage
- G. Location of "No Smoking Signage"

Please note that strict adherence is mandatory to minimize public safety hazards, and violations of the provided rules is subject to the revocation of the permit. Violations will be brought to the attention of the Select Board's Licensing Office.

Rules:

1. Equipment must be maintained in good working condition
2. Must adhere to the language in the application and the permit
3. Safety signage instructing patrons not to move propane patio heaters must be prominently displayed on all propane patio heaters.
4. Heaters must be allowed to cool for no less than 30 minutes
5. Heaters that are not working as though they are new shall be removed from use
6. Refueling must be done with the utmost of care and common sense
7. Propane leaks must be brought to the attention of the Fire Department by calling 911

8. Tanks cannot be stored in the heating appliances overnight. They must be moved to the storage if there is any amount of propane remaining.