

INFORMATION BULLETIN

PROPANE HEATER GUIDE – COMMERCIAL USE

Code Reference:

California Building Code (CBC), 2001 Edition
California Fire Code (CFC), 2001 Edition

A propane heater permit shall be required when the use of any gas fired portable heater(s) are to be used in outdoor assembly occupancies. Propane heaters shall be used under the following conditions, and in accordance with the California Building Code (CBC), and California Fire Code (CFC).

General Requirements

- Heaters shall display a U.L. listing number or other nationally recognized standard.
- Heaters shall be used in **open-air areas only**. Indoor use is not permitted. (CFC 2501.17, 1108.8, 8203.2.1.1, 1103.3.2.6)
- Heaters shall be equipped with a safety tilt shut-off switch.
- Heaters shall be set upon a firm and level foundation.
- Permit shall be kept on site for assembly occupancies. (CFC 2501.3)

Specific Use Requirements

- Placements of heater(s) **shall not** be closer than 5' from buildings. (CFC 8204.3 and Table 8204-A)
- Heaters **shall not** obstruct the clear path of exits. (CFC 1203)
- Heaters shall maintain a minimum of 3-foot clearance from any combustible material. (CFC 1107.1)
- Heaters **shall not** be stored or used within any structure. (CFC 1103.3.2.6)
- The storage location of a **spare** cylinder shall be approved by the Fire Department.
- Heaters shall be located at least 7 feet from any fire sprinkler head.

Safety Rules

In the event a gas leak should occur, take the following steps:

1. Immediately shut off gas valve.
2. Never test for a leak using an open flame. Use soapy water.
3. Eliminate all possible sources of ignition
4. Should the leak continue, contact Redding Fire Department (9-1-1).



Redding Fire Department personnel may perform periodic on-site inspections. Should any of the above conditions be in violation, the annual propane use permit **shall be** revoked, and the immediate removal of heater(s) will be required. (CFC Article 105)

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