Requirements for Tents

All tents over 120 square feet require a **building permit** and possibly an **electrical permit** if using electric.

**What Code is used to regulate tents?**

Tents must comply with the 2015 Building code.

**What information is needed to apply for a building permit for a tent(s)?**

The **date of installation and removal** shall be provided. (No tent shall be erect for more than 180 days.)

A drawing indicating:

- Location of tent(s) on the property.
- Include all structures and improvements. (No tent shall be located closer than 5 feet minimum of another structure.)
- Detail the layout of sides, stage and furniture, if any.
- Show proposed anchors i.e., water barrels, concrete weights etc. (No stakes shall be used on City-owned sidewalks or parking lots.)
- Anticipated occupant load.

**Are inspections required before the tent is occupied?**

The tent must be inspected and approved before use, including **Building, Fire, Mechanical and Electrical** as required.

For additional concerns, please contact the East Lansing Fire Department at (517) 319-6965.