



ONTARIO FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE PROTECTION STANDARD

FIRE SAFETY STANDARD FOR SMOKING LOUNGES

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PURPOSE:

To establish consistent guidelines for the safe operation of smoking lounges, this may include Hookah cafes or lounges.

AUTHORITY:

2016 California Fire Code (CFC) Chapter 3 section 308 and the 2016 California Mechanical Code.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Adequate ventilation is required when heating coals. A mechanical exhaust hood system shall be installed to provide adequate ventilation.
2. The mechanical exhaust hood fans shall be running at all times while coals are being prepared.
3. Whenever hot coals are removed from the preparation area, they shall be placed in a ceramic, metal or other non-combustible container. Open mesh containers shall not be used.
4. Coal containers shall not be placed on combustible materials, such as tablecloths or furniture. All devices used to transfer coals from the preparation area to the hookah pipe shall be of non-combustible materials.
5. Hookah pipes shall be securely fastened in place to prevent overturning. An approved clasp or hook may be used to secure the pipe to the table or other stationary object. A shield or other approved device shall be applied to the top of the pipe to prevent accidental contact of patrons to exposed coals.
6. Used coals shall not be discarded in a manner that could cause ignition of combustible materials. Used coals shall be removed and placed into a sealed metal or ceramic container with a lid (no openings other than the lid). The container shall be labeled "Hot Coals Only." The container shall not be placed within ten feet of combustible materials, such as combustible storage, walls and partitions, on combustible floors or within two feet of building openings. Hot ashes shall be thoroughly cooled (at least 24 hours) before being discarded.
7. The occupant load of a business shall be determined by the Ontario Fire and/or Building Department. If the occupant load is 50 or more, all requirements of an assembly occupancy shall be met. Assembly occupancies requirements include multiple exits, illuminated exit signs, panic hardware, and flame retardant treated decorative materials. These materials include curtains, tablecloths and all materials hung from ceilings and/or walls. Flame retardant application services and certifications must be obtained from a California State Fire Marshal licensed company.
8. Minimum 2A10BC fire extinguishers shall be installed in approved locations with one being installed adjacent to the coal preparation area.