



Community Standards Bulletin

SPECIAL EVENTS

DEFINITION: Special Event is the term commonly used to refer to a festival, exhibition, gathering or other event type that occurs for a specific occasion or purpose. Special Events are generally open and accessible to the public, or a portion thereof, and may be held on private or public property. Auctions, 5k runs, car shows, community festivals, church festivals, and block parties are just a few examples of types of Special Events.

STANDARDS: Depending on the scope and nature of the Special Event, any number of local community standards, and sometimes State statutes, may apply. The following highlights the items of concern most commonly raised related to Special Events.



Fireworks – The Ohio Revised Code establishes the regulations applicable to the handling and display of fireworks. It is important to understand that fireworks can be very dangerous and the unauthorized display or handling of fireworks is prohibited by State law.

Alcohol – The consumption of alcohol or possession of an open container of alcohol in a public space, and the sale of alcohol, is prohibited, unless the proper liquor license has been obtained.

Parades – Parade events typically require the temporary closure of public streets to vehicular traffic and restricting access to properties along the parade route. It is important that the times and exact routes for the event be carefully considered to minimize traffic flow issues and public safety concerns.

Food Preparation – Special Events that include the handling or preparation of food items must secure a temporary food license and satisfy the required inspections to insure the safety of those handling or consuming the food.

Street Closings – The temporary closing of a public street, alley, or sidewalk requires the erection of barricades and maintenance of traffic to insure the safety of those persons using – or restricted from using – the designated area.

Open Burning – Bonfires and any other outdoor fires exceeding 3 feet in diameter or 2 feet in height, whether intended for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth, or other similar purposes, are considered open burns and are required to secure a permit prior to the burn taking place.

Public Facility Rental – Public safety considerations necessitates that event organizers execute a facility rental agreement prior to conducting an event at certain public facilities. The affected facilities include the Fountain Park Dining Hall, Hance Pavilion, and the Mote Park Community Center.



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Fire Safety – Special Events expected to draw a large number of attendees, in particular those involving the use of tents for shelter and or extension cords for temporary electric supply, must be inspected by the Fire Inspector prior to the event taking place.

Amusement Rides and Inflatable Entertainment Attractions – The Ohio Revised Code establishes the regulations applicable to operation of amusement rides and the like. All operators of such attractions must be properly licensed by the State of Ohio.

Sound Amplification – The use of a sound amplification device for the purposes of conducting an auction or commercial advertising may be authorized by the issuance of a Loud Sound Amplification Permit. All other uses of a sound amplification device resulting in volume level plainly audible to involuntary listeners may be in violation of the adopted community standards concerning what constitutes disturbing the peace.

REFERENCE:

Ohio Fire Code – Section 302.1

Ohio Administrative Code – Section 3717-1

Ohio Revised Code – Section 1711.53, 3311, 3743.54, 4303.20 – 4303.206

City of Piqua Code of Ordinances – Sections 92.03, 92.35, 94.24, 132.30, 132.31, 150.001, 154.126

CONTACTS:

TOPIC	AGENCY	PHONE	EMAIL
Temporary Use Standards	Development Department	(937) 778-2049	cschmiesing@piquaoh.org
Auctions, Parades, Advertising	City Manager's Office	(937) 778-5170	dstein@piquaoh.org
Park Facility Use/Rental	Streets and Parks Department	(937) 778-2085	dharter@piquaoh.org
Event Security; Emg. Preparedness	Police Department	(937) 778-2027	bjamison@piquaoh.org
Fire Prevention	Fire Department	(937) 778-2015	jkendall@piquaoh.org
Food License; Sanitation; Plumbing	Health Department	(937) 778-2060	awelker@piquaoh.org
Street or Alley Closings	Engineering Department	(937) 778-2044	ahavenar@piquaoh.org
Building; Electrical; Mechanical	Building Regulations Department	(937) 440-8075	rdbowman@co.miami.oh.us
Temporary Liquor Permit	Division of Liquor Control	(614) 644-3155	webliar@com.state.oh.us
Fireworks Exhibition Permit	Fire Department	(937) 778-2015	jkendall@piquaoh.org
Amusement Ride License	Division of Amusement Ride Safety	(614) 728-6280	ridesafety@agri.ohio.gov
Open Burning Permit	Regional Air Pollution Control Agency	(937) 225-4435	kaweckhl@rapca.org

Special event organizers should contact the Development Department to arrange a special event coordination meeting including representatives from all appropriate City agencies.

The Community Standards Bulletin is designed to provide a clear and concise overview of the adopted community standards applicable to a particular topic of interest. The information provided merely highlights applicable code requirements and may not be inclusive of all code provisions relevant to the subject topic. To view the codified community standards as adopted, please visit <http://www.piquaoh.org/charter.htm>.