

Attention Food Truck Operators:

Below is a message from fire marshals from throughout the western region of Virginia. In order to help food truck operators keep up with new statewide regulations, and make inspections convenient, fire marshals are offering inspection events throughout the month of March. Details and dates are in their letter below.

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The State of Virginia has adopted the 2015 edition of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC) and it is currently in effect. This is a normal process that occurs every three years, however, there are significant changes that now regulate mobile food preparation vehicles (MFPV). A MFPV is defined as: vehicles and enclosed trailers able to be occupied by persons during cooking operations that contain cooking equipment that utilize open flames or produce smoke or grease laden vapors for the purpose of preparing and serving food to the public.

The previous edition of the SFPC did not have specific regulations that addressed a MFPV, with very few exceptions that included how close they were to a building, parking in a fire lane, and the safe use of propane in liquefied petroleum gas systems (LP-gas systems). With the adoption of the 2015 edition, Section 319 has been added and addresses numerous safety regulations for a MFPV. A few of the more significant regulations are:

- 319.4 – cooking equipment that produces grease laden vapors shall be provided with a kitchen exhaust hood in accordance with NFPA 96, Annex B.
- 319.5.1 – Cooking equipment shall be protected by automatic fire extinguishing systems in accordance with Section 904.3.
- 319.5.2 – Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in accordance with Section 904.12.5.
- 319.7 – Cooking oil storage containers within a MFPV, shall have a minimum aggregate area volume not to exceed 120 gallons and shall be stored in such a way as to not be toppled or damaged during transport.
- 319.9 and 319.9.1 – LP-gas systems have to be in compliance with NFPA 58 and shall not exceed a 200 pound capacity.
- 319.9.5 – A listed LP-gas alarm shall be installed within the vehicle in the vicinity of the LP-gas system components, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Obviously these new requirements could change the way you currently operate. To make this process easier for you, the Fire Officials from the City of Roanoke, Roanoke County, City of Salem, Town of Christiansburg, Town of Blacksburg, City of Lynchburg, Pittsylvania County, City of Danville, City of Martinsville, Henry County, Town of Pulaski, Town of Dublin, Franklin County, and the Fire Officer from Virginia Tech have joined together, in consultation with the State Fire Marshal's Office, to assist you in

becoming code complaint. We realize that most of you operate within multiple jurisdictions and we want to stream line the process.

Listed below is a schedule listing when you can come and receive your 2019 inspection. During this inspection, we will inspect to ensure that your MFPV meets the requirements of Section 319 of the SFPC and issue you a compliance decal that needs to be displayed on your MFPV. This does not limit visits throughout the inspection year but should reduce the time that an inspector is at your MFPV knowing that you were previously in compliance. Items that may be verified during spot visits are: the fire protection system is in service and properly inspected, fire extinguishers are in service and properly inspected, leak testing is being performed on components of your LP-gas system, the exhaust hood is free of excessive grease build up, and so forth.

- March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.:
  - Henry County Emergency Training Center  
1024 DuPont Road  
Martinsville, VA 24112
  
  - Danville Community Market  
629 Craghead Street  
Danville, VA 24521
  
- March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.:
  - Pulaski Fire Department Maintenance Building  
117 North Jefferson Avenue  
Pulaski, VA 24301
  
- On March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.:
  - Lynchburg City Stadium (Football Field)  
3180 Fort Avenue  
Lynchburg, VA 24501
  
- On March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.:
  - Roanoke Civic Center  
710 Williamson Road, NE  
Roanoke, VA 24016

Knowing that it could take an extended period of time to come into compliance with the new regulations, the Fire Officials from the localities mentioned above, have agreed to give owners of an MFPV until May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 to come into compliance. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact one of the Fire Officials listed below:

- City of Roanoke – David Guynn – (540)853-2795
- Roanoke County – Brian Simmons – (540)777-8721
- City of Salem – Mike Perdue – (540)375-3080
- Town of Christiansburg – Billy Hanks – (540)382-4388, ext.8000

- Town of Blacksburg – Wayne Garst – (540)443-1476
- City of Lynchburg – Thomas Goode – (434)455-6349
- City of Danville – Shelby Irving – (434)799-5226
- Pittsylvania County – Chris Slep – (434) 432-7939
- City of Martinsville – Andy Powers – (276) 403-5205
- Henry County – Lisa Garrett – (276)340-8003
- Town of Dublin – Robbie Cecil – (540)616-6533
- Town of Pulaski – Todd Garwood – (540)440-0156
- Franklin County – Jay Mason – (540)483-3091
- State Fire Marshal’s Office (Division 6) – Joey Bona – (540) 561-7033

Sincerely,

Fire Officials, Western Region