



**Department of Emergency & Safety Services**  
**Bureau of Fire Safety**  
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## **Fire Safety Fact Sheet**

### **Propane Pedestal Heaters**

As COVID-19 has led to an increase in restaurants offering outdoor dining there has been a look into outdoor dining extending into colder months. We have assembled this list to aid in your restaurant's decision to use these heaters safely. Please use this fact sheet as a guide but please also refer to the manufacturer's instructions for safe maintenance and operation.

- Fuel burning appliances, such as these, are for outdoor use only, with attention to the clearances listed below. They cannot be used under canopies or tents.
- The fuel burning appliance must be commercially rated.
- Locations during use:
  - Maintain clearance of at least five feet horizontally from structures and overhangs.
  - Maintain a clearance of three feet vertically and two feet horizontally from combustibles or as per manufacturer's specification and as per Fire Official approval.
  - Maintain a clearance of twenty feet from all tents and canopies.
  - Do not block egress ways or sidewalks
- Locations for storage:
  - Ensure that storage of the heaters is secure when not in use
  - Indoor storage of propane cylinders shall be approved by the Fire Official.
  - Indoor storage of cylinders may not be in a basement.
  - Cylinder storage must be at least five feet from an exit door.
  - Cylinder storage may be required to be in a rated enclosure.



Prior to approval the following must be submitted to the Fire Marshal's office:

- Permit application completed on-line and submitted (Open Flame – Heating)  
<https://princeton.seamlessdocs.com/f/OpenflameHeatingApp>
- A drawing of the proposed layout of heaters, tables and canopies
- The specifications of the heating unit(s)
- The proposed cylinder storage enclosure and location

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Princeton Bureau of Fire Safety for assistance.