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PLI's Guidelines for Temporary Structures
During COVID

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PURPOSE: The following document outlines PLI's temporary policy for the use of temporary structures in effect during Pennsylvania Governor Wolf's emergency Green Phase order. **This policy is intended to provide guidance for property owners, applicants, contractors and trade license holders.**

PLI'S GUIDELINES FOR TEMPORARY STRUCTURES DURING COVID

1. Applicability: This policy applies for structures to be erected for **180 days or less** during Pennsylvania Governor Wolf's emergency Green Phase order and to occupied structures erected on private property or in the public right of way.

NOTE: Structures in the right of way also require review and approval from the Department of Mobility and Infrastructure (DOMI). Please refer to DOMI's "[Guidance For Winter Outdoor Dining and Retail in the City of Pittsburgh](#)" for additional information.

2. Other Guidelines: Unless modified under this policy, the permit process for temporary structures shall follow the process outlined under current "[External Guidelines For Temporary Outdoor Occupancies](#)" including:
 - a. Application Submission
 - b. Application Review
 - c. Permit Issuance
 - d. Permit Inspection
 - e. Permit Completion
3. Application Type: Structures erected for 180 days or less shall require submission of a PLI "Occupancy Only" permit. Structures erected for more than 180 days shall require submission of a building permit.

4. Documentation and Installation Requirements: The following standards shall apply based on structure type and size as identified below:
- a. Tents and canopies 150 square feet or less: Tents and canopies 150 square feet or less in area shall require:
 - i. Submission: The applicant shall provide site plan as documented in “[DCP-PLI External Guidelines For Temporary Outdoor Occupancies](#)” and identify the type and location of all proposed heating devices.
 - ii. Installation: These tents or canopies shall be ballasted at each corner with 700 pound weights or securely staked/fastened to the ground below or ballasted per the tent manufacturers' requirements.
 - b. Tents and canopies over 150 square feet: Tents and canopies over 150 square feet in area shall require:
 - i. Submission: Applicant shall provide:
 - 1. A site plan as documented in “[DCP-PLI External Guidelines For Temporary Outdoor Occupancies](#)” and identify the type and location of all proposed heating devices.
 - 2. A structural report from a PA licensed architect or engineer recommending appropriate anchorage and/or ballast per design loads of 90 MPH design wind speed and 30 PSF ground snow load.
 - ii. Installation: These tents or canopies shall be ballasted and/or anchored per PLI approved structural report.
 - c. Multiple Tents and canopies: Multiple tents or canopies that are not separated by a least 3 feet shall be considered a single tent for determination of permit requirements.
 - d. All other Structures: All other structures, including but not limited to enclosed structures such as domes, igloos, and greenhouses, shall require:
 - i. Submission: Applicant shall provide:
 - 1. A site plan as documented in “[DCP-PLI External Guidelines For Temporary Outdoor Occupancies](#)” and identify the type and location of all proposed heating devices.
 - 2. A structural report from a PA licensed architect or engineer confirming said structure can withstand design loads of 90 MPH design wind speed and 30 PSF ground snow load and recommending appropriate anchorage and/or ballast.
 - ii. Installation: These structures shall be ballasted and/or anchored per PLI approved structural report.
5. Heating Devices: Proposed heating devices shall be documented on the submitted site plans. Installation shall comply with standards outlined in DOMI’s “[Guidance For Winter Outdoor Dining and Retail in the City of Pittsburgh](#)”.