

Guidelines for Temporary Tent Structures Used in Health Care Facilities Non-Inpatient Use

Please consider the following items before setting up a temporary tent structure:

1. Ensure temporary tent structure is set up exactly as described in your emergency plan.
2. Ensure multidisciplinary team risk assessments complete and followed.
3. Will this temporary drive-thru tent impact patient care and flow negatively or positively?
4. Is it possible to provide safe and effective service/care on this temporary site?

If you decide to install a temporary tent structure for non-inpatient use, consider reviewing the following with your state fire marshal and/or local fire marshal (fire official):

1. Review your plan with the fire official. You must comply with any fire official requirements.
2. Tent material must be flame retardant.
3. Smoking is not permitted in tents.
4. No open flames within 20 feet unless approved by the fire official.
5. Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided as required by the fire official.
6. Areas in and around the tent should be kept clear of combustibles.
7. If you have a generator for the tent, it should be at least 20 feet away and surrounded by fencing or other approved means.

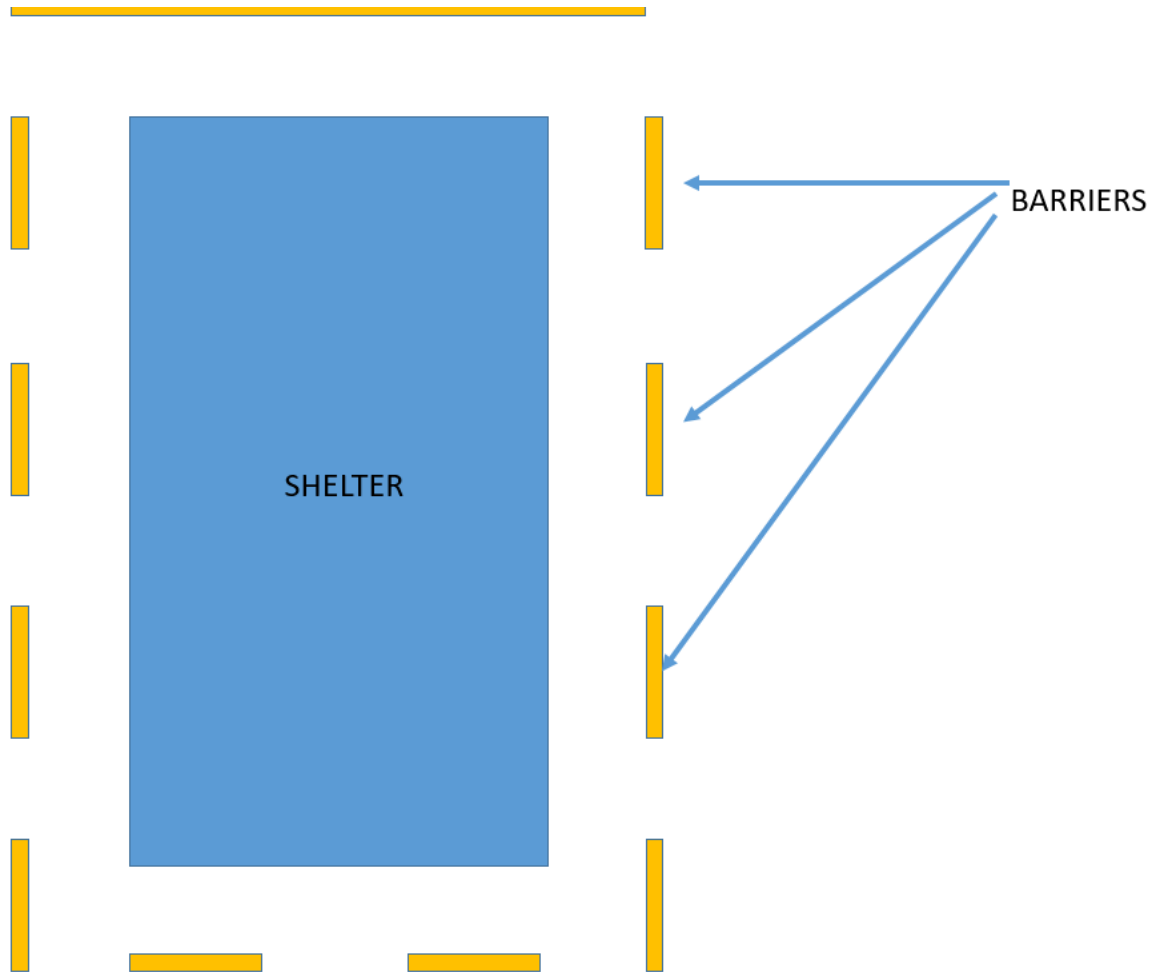
Other items to consider:

1. Surfaces must be smooth, non-absorbent and cleanable.
2. If using forced air ventilation, heat must be indirect fired.
3. Observe required separations for air intakes.
4. Review security concerns discussed with the interdisciplinary team during the risk assessment.
 - a. What security mechanisms are in place?
 - b. Is the location safe and convenient for staff and patients?
 - c. Review force protection posture and risk assessment with security team.
 - d. Barriers/bollards should be installed to protect occupants from inadvertent vehicle acceleration (see figure below. Note that this is only an example).
5. Prepare an extreme weather plan (snow, high winds, thunderstorms, etc.). Tents shall be adequately roped, braced and anchored to withstand the elements of weather and prevent collapse. Documentation of such should be kept on hand by the facility.

Be aware this is not a complete list and your risk assessment should have brought many other items for consideration. This list was created as a guide to help start the conversation.

Please direct questions to health.healthcareengineers@state.mn.us.

GUIDELINES FOR TEMPORARY TENT STRUCTURES USED IN HEALTH CARE
FACILITIES NON-INPATIENT USE



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