

ARTICLE X. – SPECIAL EVENTS AND TEMPORARY USES

The purpose of this Article is to establish regulations and a permitting process for special events and temporary uses because of their potential to create traffic control, crowd control, public safety, sanitation and/or other public health, safety, and welfare issues of a nature sufficient to require review by the City.

Section 3.10.1. Special Events

- A. A special event is a planned short-term or promotional event held on City-owned property, including public right-of-way, for a period of two-weeks or less, which is not within the normal and ordinary use of that public premises or place or which by nature of the event, may have a greater impact on City services or resources than would have occurred had the event not taken place. City-owned property includes public parks, public facilities (e.g., park, meeting hall, shelter, street right-of-way, parking lot, etc.), and public right-of-way.
- B. Special events include athletic events, car shows, concerts, expos, gatherings, festivals, fairs, and parades, and other similar events as approved by the City Manager.
- C. Special events including fireworks sales and vehicle sales are prohibited; tent sales not associated with an arts/craft fair, festival or parade, or athletic events are also prohibited.
- D. An application for a special event permit shall be submitted to the Parks and Recreation Department at least 30-days in advance of the event start date, accompanied by all required supporting documentation.
- E. The application shall include a narrative, site plans, required insurance certificates and proof of safe construction and materials, including but not limited to the submittal of flame spread certificates for tents. All electric and special features such as cooking areas, fireworks, stage shows, and bonfires will be specified on the site plan, and inspected by the Building Department and Fire Rescue.
- F. If building permits are required, applicable fees and inspections for review of building codes, electrical, and fire safety shall be payable at time of the building permit issuance.
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- H. For any events that require road and/or sidewalk closure, a temporary traffic plan shall be included and must be approved by the Public Works Department. All traffic control signage, barricades, etc. are at the expense of the organizer.
- I. The City Manager or designee may approve signage on city-owned property that is consistent with the size and scope of the event.
- J. The City Commission shall consider on a case-by-case basis special events for which the costs of City fees and or resources are subsidized through a specially funded account. For funding consideration, the event must be held in the City of North Port and meet the criteria for special events described herein and in the [Special Event Program Guidelines](#). A special event permit is not required at the time of application for assistance. However, an issued special event permit is required for the event and shall follow the guidelines for the special event permitting process. To be eligible for funding any North Port based entity or organization may apply to the program if the following apply:
 - (1). Event must be open to the public;
 - (2). Admission must be free to the public. Fees may be charged for participants, such as competitors or vendors;
 - (3). Event must demonstrate primary benefit to the community at large; and
 - (4). Event estimated attendance must be a minimum of 100 people to be eligible for the program;

Section 3.10.2. Temporary Use Permits

- A. A temporary use is defined as any structure or event held on private property that is of a non-permanent nature. An application for a temporary use permit shall be submitted to the Development Services Department per the requirements in [Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2.2.20.F.](#) of this ULDC. A temporary use permit may be authorized for up to 90-days from the date of issue.
- B. **Allowable Temporary Uses.** Uses similar in nature to the ones listed below, that are not prohibited herein, may be authorized when determined appropriate in the zoning district by the ULDC Administrator.
- (1) Temporary religious or revival activities in tents in districts permitting such activity.
 - (2) Commercial circuses, carnivals or fairs, festivals, flea markets, tournaments, concerts, battles of the bands, expos, pony rides, car shows, fireworks display, petting zoos, boat shows, and other similar activities.
 - (3) Seasonal sales such as pumpkins or Christmas trees.
 - (4) Tent sales only by merchants occupying the premises on which the sale is conducted and having a valid certificate of occupancy and occurring no longer than seven consecutive days once every three months.
 - (5) Automobile and boat sales.
- C. **Signage.** Any signs associated with a temporary use will be limited to Limited Duration or Temporary signs as applicable pursuant to Chapter 5 of this ULDC.
- D. **Exemptions.** The following temporary uses do not require a temporary use permit, provided they comply with the limitations listed and are not located in the City right-of-way or easement.
- (1) Garage or yard sales, for no more than three consecutive days, four times a year;
 - (2) Construction trailer on a property with an active building permit;
 - (3) Storage containers, as indicated below. The owner and operator of any site on which a storage container is placed shall be responsible for ensuring that the container is in good condition, free from evidence of deterioration, weathering, discoloration, rust, ripping, tearing or other holes or breaks. When not in use, containers shall be kept locked. Containers shall not be vertically stacked. The owner and operator of any site on which container is placed shall also be responsible that no hazardous substances are stored or kept within the container.
 - a. Short-Term Storage Containers (Portable Storage Units or PODs) shall be permitted as follows:
 1. In all districts.
 2. Duration: Once per year for a duration of no more than 30-days.
 3. Maximum Size: 8-feet wide, 16-feet long, 8-feet high.
 4. All short-term storage containers (portable storage units) shall be removed immediately upon the issuance of a hurricane warning by a recognized government agency.
 - b. Storage Containers on active construction sites shall be permitted as follows:
 1. In all districts.
 2. Duration: As needed with active building permits and active, ongoing construction.
 3. Number: One per homesite or small commercial project; maximum of three for subdivision projects.

4. Maximum Size: 10-feet wide, 25-feet long, 8.5-feet high, or 40-foot long if a combination office/storage container is utilized.

E. Prohibited Temporary Uses

- (1). Businesses operated in a temporary location in a motor vehicle, tent, or trailer or open air.
- (2). Fireworks sales or manufacturing.
- (3). Incinerators.