



Dexter Area Fire Department

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TELEPHONE: (734) 426-4500

FIRE CHIEF
DOUGLAS ARMSTRONG

May 16, 2023

Michelle Aniol
Dexter Community Development Manager
3515 Broad Street
Dexter, MI 48130

Ms Aniol,

The Dexter Area Fire Department has concerns about the safe operation and use of Mobile Food Service Units (MFSU) and supports their operation at special events throughout the Dexter area provided the following process is followed.

To ensure the safety of the staff and public, the following requirements have been developed. These are based on the International Fire Code (IFC) and modeled after the requirements implemented by many Michigan communities. Washtenaw County Fire Chiefs have started discussing the possibility of county-wide requirements and/or partnering with neighboring counties to be consistent. Our requirements are subject to change as larger regional initiatives are developed.

- Each Mobile Food Service Units (MFSU) (including hand carts utilizing fossil fuels) operating within the Dexter Area Fire Department (DAFD) jurisdiction must complete an annual inspection and be permitted prior to operating
- The owner / operator of a MFSU must attend a safety class relevant to the hazards, safe operation, and compliance specific to Mobile Food Service Units and provide DAFD with a copy of an attendance certificate. The class must be repeated at least every 3 years
- All MFSU must have a current Washtenaw County Health Department permit
- Mobile Food Service Units that use vegetable oil or animal fats in the cooking operation must have an operational automatic fire suppression system
- Food trucks must be located completely off the roadway (unless a road closure permit has been approved) and separated by at least 10 feet from each other or from any structures

SMOKE DETECTORS SAVE LIVES

- Generators must be less than 70dB at 15 feet when running and may not be refueled when the truck is in operation or before the generator has completely cooled following shutdown. Additional generator requirements are listed on the inspection sheet
- Operators must submit the Mobile Food Service Unit Registration form to the Dexter Area Fire Department at least 3 business days prior to the planned event and must arrange for any needed inspections prior to the planned start of operations
- Staff who have not attended an approved safety class or using an MFSU that has not received a successful safety inspection shall not operate within the DAFD coverage area. DAFD will honor a documented inspection from a mutually approved organization

The department is prepared to partner with MFSU operators to protect their staff, their customers, the public and the units themselves. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Armstrong". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "D" being particularly large and stylized.

Doug Armstrong
Fire Chief

Cc/

Dexter City Mayor

Shawn Keough