

Excerpt below taken from 20200301-Fire-Special-Event-Guidelines-2020. For a complete document contact Fire Prevention Bureau www.vbgovcom/fire-prevention (757) 385-4228

PLATFORMS

All food vendors utilizing cooking or warming equipment will be required to have a platform when operating on the sand. Vendors or promoters that do not have platforms properly built or that do not have them at all will not be allowed to cook on the sand.

The design requirements for food vendor platforms:

- Platforms shall be constructed on the beach only after the sand has been graded and leveled.
- The platform shall have completely level working surface.
- The surface shall be strong enough to support the weight of the personnel, equipment, and tent without sagging or buckling.
- The platform shall be large enough to create a working surface for all workers and equipment without a gradient change. Platforms shall cover are cooking, food preparation, and serving areas.

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Roofing felt paper shall be used to cover the surface of the decking before cooking equipment is put in place.

Platforms that do not meet the minimum requirements will not be approved to operate. Any vendor that has concerns should complete the vendor/sponsor sheet form and submit it to the event organizer.

Fire Prevention will inspect the cooking platforms prior to use. The Fire Marshal or his/her representative shall have the final say as to if the platform is stable enough to use.

Wooden Platform Specifications

- The decking for the platform shall be a minimum of $\frac{3}{4}$ plywood sheets.
- The minimum size lumber to be used as the support structure for the plywood decking shall be 2" x 4" boards spaced on 16" centers.
- Hardware fasteners to be used for construction shall be all weather decking screws. (no nails)
- An alternative material that cooking food vendors may use is composite decking. The decking must be approved by Fire Prevention and the Health Department before use.

Composite Platform Specifications

- A specifications sheet shall be provided for all composite decking.



Wooden Decking



Composite Decking

THE FIRE MARSHAL AND/OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO STOP ANY UNSAFE OPERATION, TO INCLUDE THE REVOCATION OF ANY ISSUED PERMIT.