



HAUNTED HOUSES AND OTHER AMUSEMENT TYPE EVENTS IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS BUILDING & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

The City of Rancho Cucamonga would like to encourage residents to review the outlined regulations adopted and enforced by the City prior to creating or constructing a seasonal or holiday amusement or attraction, or any kind of fun house or escape room. These rules and regulations are for the protection of persons and property. Such attractions include haunted houses, Halloween mazes, fun houses, and any other similar amusement where the exit is obscured, or the special effects are intended to create confusion, anxiety, or disorientation.

-If you are planning to decorate your home and construct or develop “props” to create an amusement of this nature, the following are items or conditions that need your attention:

- *Plugs and cords for lighting fixtures and electrical devices and decorations*
- *Sound producing devices such as portable sound systems and amplifiers*
- *Draping fabrics and combustible theatrical materials*
- *Mood producing props, fog machines, flashing lights, or low light conditions*

Amusements with these and similar effects may be used and enjoyed when they are entirely on private property and electrical devices are listed for the use and connected to original or approved power sources. Amusements and attractions may not be set up or constructed on public property or private trails.

-If you plan to construct walls, dividers, or “maze type” arrays, and want to avoid required construction permits, remember to keep the wall height to 5’9” or less in height, and do not install a cover or ceiling of any type which exceeds 120 square feet in area. Also, extension cords must be listed for the use and plugged into approved sources. If the electrical devices are in the garage or outside of the house, the power source must be GFCI protected.

-Even for temporary construction, a Building Permit will be required to construct walls or partitions more than 5’9” high, to construct a ceiling or fabric cover more than 120 square feet, or to install electrical wiring. Plans and details of construction methods will need to be submitted at least 30 days before the event and approval is not guaranteed.

Also, refer to Standard 4-3 on the Rancho Cucamonga Fire District website for additional information about fire and life safety requirements at <https://www.cityofrc.us/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=6584>.

The Engineering Department has valuable information available on the City’s website regarding temporary street and lane closure permits at https://www.cityofrc.us/cityhall/engineering/forms_applications_n_handouts.asp.

Please remember: construction without permits is a violation of the City’s Municipal Code and enforceable civilly or criminally. If anyone is injured on your property or as a result of your activity, and there are no permits, additional liability may accrue to the responsible parties.

The City of Rancho Cucamonga desires that you have a safe and fun event or holiday celebration and would like to be sure you are informed concerning local regulations.

Please contact us if you have any questions concerning information in this flyer at (909) 477-2710 x4227