



Madison Fall, Winter & Spring Streatery FAQs

OUTDOOR SEATING GUIDANCE FOR PRIVATE PROPERTY LOTS

The City of Madison has extended its Streatery Program to April 14, 2021. This will provide both an opportunity and a challenge for Restaurants and Taverns to be able to continue to serve patrons in a physically distanced arrangement in accordance with [Public Health Madison Dane County \(PHMDC\) orders](#). The City wants to encourage the extension of the outdoor dining season as much as is practical. However, it is important to note that meeting all heating, tent and electric code requirements during the coldest winter months, and during heavy snowfall, may be infeasible.

Permits Required:

All new outdoor dining areas created under the Streatery Program were initially permitted until October 25, 2020. If a Restaurant/Tavern would like to continue operations past October 25, they will have to re-submit their already approved site plan with additional elements as needed for cold weather operations to City Zoning. Upon approval of this plan, the Streatery Extension of Premises Alcohol License will continue. [Email plans to City of Madison Zoning](#).

Structures

Temporary outdoor structures, including tents, are allowed on private property under the following regulations:

1. Temporary outdoor structures that hold multiple parties must have at 100% of the sides open to allow air flow, or it will be considered an indoor space and subject to indoor space requirements from PHMDC.
2. Use of tents/structures may be deemed unsafe and prohibited during severe weather events (wind, snow, etc.)
3. Fire Safety Guidance for Streatery Tents, Canopies, Dining Domes, and other Membrane Structures:
 - [Tents and other membrane structures under 400 Square Feet](#).
 - [Tents over 400 Square Feet will require a permit and site plan approval](#).
 - **Greenhouses, domes, and other structures** – may require a building permit and must meet building codes, not limited to: wind, foundation, accessibility, energy, electricity and other applicable building and fire codes.

Heating & Lighting Elements

Heating & Lighting Devices are allowed but must meet the following operational regulations:

1. **Heating Devices – general requirements:**
 - Heating equipment must be shown on site plans submitted with the permit application
 - Heating equipment should be unplugged or disconnected for secure/locked overnight storage, and employees should be trained in proper installation of fuel tanks and in detecting leaks
 - Establishments should maintain clearance between heaters and all other objects, including tent sides. Required minimum clearance distance depends on the heating device; five feet is recommended.
 - Operators should abide by any recommended safety guidelines issued with a specific product (see the product's operations manual)
2. **Propane Heaters:** [Please see specific propane heater requirements from the Fire Department](#).
 - A tank storage plan must be approved by the Fire Department and Vending Coordinator.
 - Propane may not be stored indoors.
 - Any devices fueled with propane are only allowed in open, uncovered areas.
3. **Electric Heaters:** Electric heaters are encouraged when there is no availability to store propane outside.
 - This will likely require an electrical upgrade by a certified Electrician and/or building inspection to assure that there is enough electrical capacity to maintain safety.
 - Electrical heating equipment must be marked "UL listed" or "UL classified."
4. **Lighting:** Lighting must be marked "UL listed" or "UL classified."

Snow Removal - Private lots will still need to be privately maintained for snow, as usual. If any part of the outdoor seating area is directly adjacent to a street or right-of-way, all furniture, enclosures and other items must be removed until after City plowing operations have ceased for the snow event.