



## Zoning & Planning Department

# Temporary Special Events

## Application Package

### Requirements for Agricultural and Residential Zoning Districts:

*A maximum of five (5) Temporary Special Events Permits may be issued per lot, per calendar year, and each permit shall be valid for a maximum of three (3) consecutive days. Each Temporary Special Events Permit shall only be valid for a single event.*

*Daily event attendance in the AG-15, AGR, RR, S-3, R-4, UR, MHS, and MHP Zoning Districts shall be limited to 500; Daily event attendance in the RM, AG-10, and AG-8 Zoning Districts shall be limited to 2,000. Commercial and Industrial Zoning Districts shall comply with the requirements of Article 6.7.*

*The maximum number of Temporary Special Events Permits allowed per calendar year and/or maximum daily attendance may increase if the requirements are met and approved in accordance with the Special Exception Procedures (see **Article 6.7**)*

In order to assure the site can safely support the proposed activity, the Planning Department may require one or more of the following items prior to issuing a Zoning Permit for a Temporary Special Event (in addition to the required fee):

### Please review the following documents:

- Temporary Special Events Process and Checklist
- Article 6.7 Special Events Use
- The ABL-900 Application for Special Events (to be submitted to the SC Dept. of Revenue)
- The Special Events Brochure
- Charleston County Livability Ordinance (Noise Offenses)

### Please Complete and Submit the following required documents:

- The Letter of Intent for a Special Event
- A signed Restrictive Covenants Affidavit
- The Letter(s) of Acknowledgement from Fire, EMS and Law Enforcement
- A Legible Site Plan drawn to scale indicating vehicular traffic areas (parking, driveway, emergency vehicles ingress/egress, etc.), gathering areas, location of existing and planned structures used as part of the event.
- A copy of Restroom, Garbage Disposal, and Parking Agreement (as applicable)
- A copy of the ABL License (if applicable)

**All events shall adhere to the Charleston County Noise Regulations and all other applicable Charleston County ordinances.**

# Zoning and Planning Department



## Temporary Special Events Process and Checklist

### Application Guidelines for Special Events Permits:

- If Alcohol/Beer/Wine will be served at the event, the Special Events Package **must** be submitted at-least 21 days prior to the start of the festivities.
- When applicable, all Event Vendors (including the server of alcohol) **must** have the proper ON-SITE ABL License prior to the public's attendance.
- Failure to complete the required application process may result in **CANCELLATION** of the events and further enforcement actions by the Code Enforcement Department with Charleston County.

Submit an accurate, legible Site Plan **drawn to Engineer's Scale** showing the following, if applicable:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Location of existing or planned structures used as part of the event
- \_\_\_\_\_ Vehicular Traffic Areas (parking, driveways, circulation, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Gathering Area (stage, field, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Restroom Facilities Location
- \_\_\_\_\_ Vendors (a copy of the Vendor's Chas. Co. Business License is **required**)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Food and drinks

Complete a **Letter of Intent** with the following:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Date(s) and Time(s) of Event
- \_\_\_\_\_ Address of Event and Parcel ID Number
- \_\_\_\_\_ Zoning District
- \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated number of participants
- \_\_\_\_\_ On-Site Vendor(s)? (Submit a copy of each Vendor's Business License)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Alcohol/Beer License

Note: Submit Temporary ABL-900 Application to Charleston County Sheriff's Office -then submit the application to Department of Revenue/Temporary ABL Office.

**All outdoor amplified sound/music within five hundred feet of a residential property shall cease all music/loud noise no later than 10:00pm**

Other Information needed, if applicable:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Letters of Acknowledgement from Police, Fire and Emergency Services
- \_\_\_\_\_ Copy of Charleston County Business License for Event Vendor(s)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Contract for Restroom Facilities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Contract for Garbage Collection
- \_\_\_\_\_ Copy of Charleston County Business License (after receipt of Zoning Permit)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Appropriate Building Permits Approval (Contact the Building Department at (843) 202-6930, if applicable)

<b>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:</b>		
Date Received:	Date Completed:	Zoning Officer:
Comments:		





Joel H. Evans, AICP, PLA  
Zoning & Planning Director

843.202.7200  
1.800.524.7832  
Fax: 843.202.7222  
Lonnie Hamilton, III  
Public Services Building  
4045 Bridge View Drive  
North Charleston, SC 29405-7464

**RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS AFFIDAVIT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have researched the restrictive covenants applicable to Parcel Identification Number/s (PID #) \_\_\_\_\_ located at (address/es) \_\_\_\_\_, and have found that either there are no restrictive covenants applicable to the subject property/properties or that the proposed application is not contrary to, does not conflict with, and is not prohibited by any of the restrictive covenants, as specified in South Carolina Code of Laws, Section 6-29-1145.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

Explanation:

Effective July 1, 2007, South Carolina Code of Laws Section 6-29-1145 requires local governments to inquire in the permit application, or in written instructions provided to the applicant, if a tract or parcel of land is restricted by a recorded covenant that is contrary to, conflicts with or prohibits an activity for which a permit is being sought. (Section 6-29-1145 is copied on the back of this page)

\_\_\_\_\_  
For Staff Use Only:

Received by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Application Number \_\_\_\_\_

**“Section 6-29-1145.**

**(A) In an application for a permit, the local planning agency must inquire in the application or by written instructions to an applicant whether the tract or parcel of land is restricted by any recorded covenant that is contrary to, conflicts with or prohibits the permitted activity.**

**(B) If a local planning agency has actual notice of a restrictive covenant on a tract or parcel of land that is contrary to, conflicts with, or prohibits the permitted activity;**

- 1. in the application for the permit;**
- 2. from materials or information submitted by the person or persons requesting the permit; or**
- 3. from any other source including, but not limited to, other property holders, the local planning agency must not issue the permit unless the local planning agency receives confirmation from the applicant that the restrictive covenant has been released for the tract or parcel of land by action of the appropriate authority or property holder or by court order.**

**(C) As used in this section:**

- 1. ‘actual notice’ is not constructive notice of documents filed in local offices concerning the property, and does not require the local planning agency to conduct searches in any records offices for filed restrictive covenants;**
- 2. ‘permit’ does not mean an authorization to build or place a structure on a tract or parcel of land; and**
- 3. ‘restrictive covenant’ does not mean a restriction concerning a type of structure that may be built or placed on a tract or parcel of land.”**

Zoning and Planning Department  
 Temporary Special Events  
 Letter of Acknowledgement Contact List



<b>Organization:</b>	<b>Point of Contact:</b>	<b>Telephone No.:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
Charleston County Planning and Zoning	Lisa McCray, Compliance Supervisor	843-202-7224	<a href="mailto:lmccray@charlestoncounty.org">lmccray@charlestoncounty.org</a>
Charleston County Sheriff's Dept.	Admin. Asst.	843-529-6216	
	Bureau of Community Engagement	843-529-6221	<a href="mailto:jjacobik@charlestoncounty.org">jjacobik@charlestoncounty.org</a>
		843-745-2384	<a href="mailto:msharp@charlestoncounty.org">msharp@charlestoncounty.org</a> <a href="mailto:crosier@charlestoncounty.org">crosier@charlestoncounty.org</a>
OFF- DUTY Contractor Deputy Sheriff	Contact by email or call Sheriff's Office	803-898-5864	<a href="https://odm.officertrak.com/Charleston-County-SO-SC/auth/signin">https://odm.officertrak.com/Charleston-County-SO-SC/auth/signin</a>
Charleston County EMS	Chief C. Fehr	843-202-6708	<a href="mailto:cfehr@charlestoncounty.org">cfehr@charlestoncounty.org</a>
	Training Officer: Todd McGeorge	843-202-6711	<a href="mailto:tmcgeorge@charlestoncounty.org">tmcgeorge@charlestoncounty.org</a>
St. Johns Fire Dept	Chief Ryan Kunitzer	843-559-9194	<a href="mailto:r.kunitzer@stjfd.org">r.kunitzer@stjfd.org</a>
	Asst. Chief Gavin Gilcrease	843-559-9194	<a href="mailto:g.gilcrease@stjfd.org">g.gilcrease@stjfd.org</a>
Awendaw Fire Dept	Chief Don Hall	843-928-3000	<a href="mailto:lhall@charlestoncounty.org">lhall@charlestoncounty.org</a>
St. Paul's Fire Dept	Chief Larry Garvin	843-889-6450	<a href="mailto:l.garvin@stpfd.org">l.garvin@stpfd.org</a>
	Asst. Chief Truss Johnson	843-889-8874	<a href="mailto:t.johnson@stpfd.org">t.johnson@stpfd.org</a>
James Island PSD Fire Dept.	Chief Chris Seabolt	843-270-1556	<a href="mailto:seaboltc@jipsd.org">seaboltc@jipsd.org</a>
	Tom Glick, Deputy Chief of Operation	843-991-3295	<a href="mailto:glickt@jipsd.org">glickt@jipsd.org</a>
SCDOR: ABL Section	Temporary Permit Office: Alcohol Beverage Licensing	803-898-5864	<a href="mailto:ABL@dor.sc.gov">ABL@dor.sc.gov</a> <a href="mailto:ABLSpecialEventPermits@sled.sc.gov">ABLSpecialEventPermits@sled.sc.gov</a> <a href="mailto:ABLCompliance@dor.sc.gov">ABLCompliance@dor.sc.gov</a>

## INFORMATION TO INCLUDE ON SPECIAL EVENT SITE PLAN

(See attached sample copy)

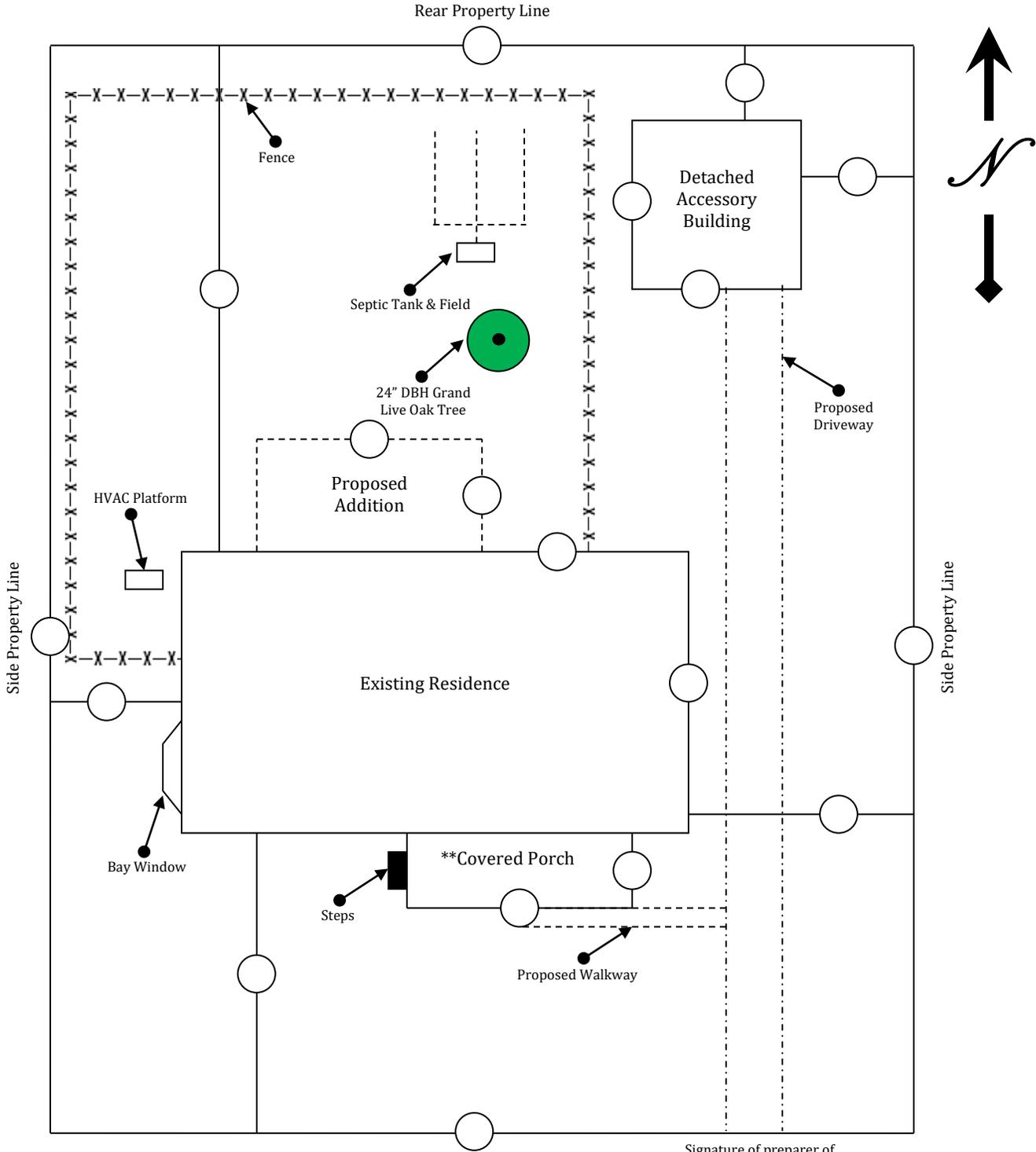
- Site Plan must be drawn to Engineer's Scale (1" = 10ft, 20ft, 30ft, etc.) indicating which scale is being used.
- Arrow showing Northward direction.
- Parking
  - All parking shall be contained on the subject property or on a contiguous property.
  - A recorded, parking agreement shall be required if temporary off-street parking is provided on a parcel other than the subject property.
  - **At no time shall associated event parking be allowed in a public or private right-of-way or access easement.**
  - **All guest parking must be shown on the site plan.**
  - Entrance/Exits and emergency access routes.
- Where attendees will be located.
- Location of restroom facilities and garbage collection.
- Where Vendors will be located, if applicable.
- Where activity will occur (band, race route, etc.).
- Any/All structures (stage, tents, green rooms, area for performer(s) to prepare, etc.).
- Any fence/barricades.
- Location of emergency personnel, if required onsite.

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OUTDOOR SPECIAL EVENTS (PRINCIPAL USES AND TEMPORARY SPECIAL EVENTS): With the exception of Special Events at federal, state, and county parks and legally established fairgrounds, any accessory, outdoor special event consistent with the definition of "special event", requires a zoning permit and shall meet all requirements of the *Ordinance* according to §6.7.3.

§6.7.6 INDOOR SPECIAL EVENTS: A zoning permit shall not be required when hosting an indoor special event in legally established businesses in commercial and industrial zoning districts and public facilities or civic facilities such as: hotels/motels, convention centers; social lodge; assembly halls; religious facilities; fairgrounds; federal, state, and county parks, and similar facilities legally established and authorized to hold special events.

# Sample Site Plan



**Note:** On corner & double-frontage lots, front setback standards will apply to each lot line that borders a street. The remaining lot lines will be subject to side setback standards. There is no rear lot line.

Signature of preparer of Site Plan and date it was prepared.  
John Doe, August 17, 2024

Note the numeric Engineers' scale used on the plan.  
For example: 1"=20'

Front Property Line

## Address, PID # & Property Owner

\*On the site plan you create, show distances in feet where circles are shown on the Sample Site Plan above.

\*\*Label covered/uncovered decks/porches and existing and proposed structures.

# ZONING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS

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## CHAPTER 6 | USE REGULATIONS

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### ARTICLE 6.7 SPECIAL EVENTS USE

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#### Sec. 6.7.1 Purpose

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The intent of this Article is to provide regulations that guide the use of unincorporated properties for the purpose of hosting Special Events of varying sizes and functions, while protecting the surrounding community. The regulations of this Article shall apply in conjunction with any other standards contained within this Ordinance.

#### Sec. 6.7.2 Private Special Events

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The following are exempt from the requirements of this Article and shall not require the issuance of a Zoning Permit:

- A. Private parties and gatherings that do not meet the definition of Special Event included in this Ordinance;
- B. Auctions of private real estate;
- C. Estate auctions;
- D. Neighborhood gatherings only for the residents of the applicable neighborhood;
- E. Temporary Uses pursuant to Article 6.6, Temporary Uses and Structures, of this Ordinance;
- F. Outdoor Special Events which the Zoning and Planning Director determines are accessory uses to legally established businesses in Commercial and Industrial Zoning Districts or legally established public or civic facilities, and for which the entire event, including vendors, patrons, and all parking can be contained onsite. In such cases, the requirements of Sec. 6.7.5.B and Sec. 6.7.5.C apply; and
- G. Indoor Special Events held in legally established businesses in Commercial and Industrial Zoning Districts or legally established public facilities or civic facilities.

The Zoning and Planning Director may exempt other organized activities from the requirements of this Article on a case-by-case basis, if the criteria listed below are met:

- A. The activity has less than 100 people in attendance;
- B. There are no impacts on public Streets, Rights-of-Way, and/or County owned or managed parks or facilities; and
- C. There are no impacts on normal vehicular and pedestrian traffic requiring the use of County services.

#### Sec. 6.7.3 Temporary Special Events

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Temporary public assembly use and Special Events, such as cultural events, outdoor concerts and parking for Special Events, shall require a Temporary Special Events Permit from the Zoning and Planning Director. Such permit shall not be issued for periods in excess of ten consecutive days, and no more than five such permits may be issued per lot, per calendar year, except as otherwise limited by this Article. The requirements of Sec. 6.7.5, Outdoor Special Events (Principal Uses and Temporary Special Events), shall apply in addition to the requirements of this Section. Any Temporary Special Event utilizing 25 acres of land area or more shall require Special Exception approval in accordance with the procedures contained in CHAPTER 3, Development Review Procedures, of this Ordinance.

Temporary Special Events Permits may be issued only if adequate parking and sanitary facilities are provided to serve the proposed use or activity and the site can safely support the proposed activity. The following information is required to be submitted with applications for Temporary Special Events Permits (in addition to the required fee):

- A. A detailed Letter of Intent describing the purpose of the event indicating date(s) and time(s), anticipated number of participants, and whether alcohol will be served and if amplified sound (music or other amplified noise) will be utilized;
- B. A legible site plan drawn to scale indicating vehicular traffic areas (parking, driveways, circulation etc.), gathering areas, restroom and vendor locations, and locations of existing and planned structures to be used as part of the event;
- C. Letters of coordination from Fire, Police, and Emergency Medical Services and Building Inspection Services if applicable;
- D. Documentation of Charleston County Business license issuance for the host and participating vendors and copy of valid Department of Revenue license if alcohol will be sold;
- E. Documentation from pertinent service providers for restroom facilities and garbage collection; and
- F. Other pertinent information as deemed necessary by the Zoning and Planning Director

The following requirements shall, in addition to all other applicable requirements of this Ordinance, apply to property located in the Agricultural and Residential Zoning Districts:

- A. A maximum of five Temporary Special Events Permits may be issued per Lot, per calendar year, and each permit shall be valid for a maximum of three consecutive days;
- B. Each Temporary Special Events Permit shall only be valid for a single Special Event. Multiple Special Events within the same three day time period shall require separate Temporary Special Events Permits;
- C. Daily event attendance in the AG-15, AGR, RR, S-3, R-4, UR, MHS, and MHP Zoning Districts shall be limited to 500;
- D. Daily event attendance in the RM, AG-10, and AG-8 Zoning Districts shall be limited to 2,000; and
- E. The maximum number of Temporary Special Events Permits allowed per calendar year and/or maximum daily attendance may only be increased if the requirements listed below, as well as all other applicable requirements of this Ordinance, are met and the request is approved in accordance with the Special Exception Procedures contained in this Ordinance. If approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals, the approval is only valid for one calendar year from the date of Zoning Permit issuance.

1. *Application.*

- a. Compliance with Article 3.7, *Site Plan Review*, and Article 3.6, *Special Exceptions*, of this Ordinance is required, provided, however, that the approval criteria contained in this Article shall apply instead of the approval criteria contained in Sec. 3.6.5.
- b. All applications must be signed by the Property Owner or designated agent.
- c. Letters of coordination from the following agencies shall be submitted during Site Plan Review: S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), Charleston County Sheriff's Department, the Charleston County Building Inspections Department, Charleston County Emergency Medical Services (EMS), the appropriate Fire Service provider for the subject property, and a designated solid waste collection/disposal company or a letter indicating a private method of waste collection/disposal.

2. *Requirements.*

- a. The Subject Property or properties shall contain a minimum of ten combined acres of Highland area and must border a public Arterial Street, as defined in this Ordinance;
- b. There shall be direct access to a public Arterial Street, as defined in this Ordinance;
- c. No more than 25 events shall be allowed per calendar year;
- d. Daily attendance shall not exceed 5,000;
- e. All Structures shall comply with the requirements of this Ordinance, including but not limited to, the Density, Intensity, and Dimensional Standards and Accessory Structure requirements;
- f. All parking shall be contained on the Subject Property or on a contiguous property. A recorded, parking agreement shall be required if temporary off-street parking is provided on

- a parcel other than the Subject Property. At no time shall associated event parking be allowed in a public or private Right-of-Way or access Easement;
- g. The maximum occupancy of an individual permanent Structure shall comply with the occupancy standards of the Charleston County Building Code;
  - h. All events shall adhere to the Charleston County Noise Regulations and all other applicable Charleston County ordinances;
  - i. All existing or proposed Structures shall retain a residential or agricultural character;
  - j. A 100-foot Type F Buffer shall be required around the perimeter of the property;
  - k. Special Events shall not begin before 10 am and shall end by 10 pm; and
  - l. The Applicant must hold at least one community workshop prior to the submittal of the Special Exception application and written documentation of the community workshop(s) must be submitted. Written documentation may include, but is not limited to, sign-in sheets, meeting summaries, memos and/or letters from the Applicant describing the meeting(s), etc. The purpose of the workshop(s) is to ensure early citizen participation in an informal forum, in conjunction with the Development applications and to provide an Applicant the opportunity to understand and try to mitigate any impacts an application may have on an affected community. A community workshop is not intended to produce complete consensus on all applications, but to encourage applicants to be good neighbors.
3. Special Exception Approval Criteria. The approval criteria contained in this Article shall apply instead of the approval criteria contained in Sec. 3.6.5 of this Ordinance. Applications may be approved only if the Board of Zoning Appeals finds that the proposed use:
- a. Is compatible with existing uses in the vicinity and will not adversely affect the general welfare or character of the immediate community;
  - b. Does not hinder or endanger vehicular traffic and pedestrian movement on adjacent roads;
  - c. Includes adequate provisions for items such as: Setbacks and buffering (including Fences and/or landscaping) to protect adjacent properties from the possible adverse influence of the proposed use, such as noise, Vibration, dust glare, odor, traffic congestion, and similar factors;
  - d. Where applicable, will be developed in a way that will preserve and incorporate any important natural features;
  - e. The setup and disassembly of Special Events will not be detrimental to the surrounding community;
  - f. Includes sufficient safeguards for the use of temporary structures, if applicable;
  - g. Complies with all applicable rules, regulations, laws, and standards of this Ordinance, including but not limited to any use conditions, Zoning District standards, or Site Plan Review requirements of this Ordinance; and
  - h. Is consistent with the recommendations contained in the Charleston County Comprehensive Plan and the character of the Zoning District's "Purpose and Intent".

If approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals, the approval is only valid for one calendar year from the date of Zoning Permit issuance. In granting a Special Exception, the Board of Zoning Appeals may attach to it such conditions regarding the location, character, or other features of the proposed building or structure as the Board may consider advisable to protect established property values in the surrounding area or to promote the public health, safety, or general welfare. Additionally, the Board of Zoning Appeals may require additional conditions of approval including, but not limited to: event days and hours, the number of events per calendar year, limitations on outdoor activities, parking, buffers, and use and location of temporary structures.

If the proposed use is approved by the BZA, the Zoning and Planning Department shall provide written notification to the following agencies, as applicable: S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), Charleston County Sheriff's Department, the Charleston County Building Inspections Department, Charleston County Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and the appropriate Fire Service provider for the subject property.

## Charleston County Zoning and Land Development Regulation Ordinance

#### **Sec. 6.7.4 Special Events Established as Principal Uses in Commercial and Industrial Zoning Districts**

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Special Events in Commercial and Industrial Zoning Districts shall comply with the requirements of Sec. 6.7.5, Outdoor Special Events (Principal Uses and Temporary Special Events), and the following:

- A. The establishment of a new Special Events principal use in the NC, RC, CC, and IN Zoning Districts shall comply with the requirements of Article 3.7, *Site Plan Review*, of this Ordinance.

#### **Sec. 6.7.5 Outdoor Special Events (Principal Uses and Temporary Special Events)**

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- A. With the exception of Special Events at federal, state, and county parks and legally established fairgrounds, any accessory, outdoor Special Event consistent with the definition of "Special Event," as defined in this Ordinance, must comply with Sec. 6.7.3, *Temporary Special Events*, and a Zoning Permit shall be required.
- B. Any outdoor Special Event activity as defined by this Ordinance, whether an accessory to an existing business, or on vacant undeveloped property, which is located within 500 feet of the property line of a residentially developed Parcel, shall cease all music and all loud noise that is above seventy (70) db(A) no later than 11:00 p.m.; otherwise, this use shall require Special Exception approval consistent with this Article. Distances shall be measured from the site of the Special Event activity on the Subject Property to the nearest property line of a Lot containing a residential use. Noise levels shall be measured anywhere within the boundary line of the nearest residentially occupied property.
- C. All outdoor Special Event activities will be subject to the County's livability and/or noise ordinance.

#### **Sec. 6.7.6 Indoor Special Events**

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A Zoning Permit shall not be required when hosting an indoor special event in legally established businesses in commercial and industrial Zoning Districts and public facilities or civic facilities such as: Hotels/Motels, convention centers; Social Lodge; assembly halls; religious facilities; fairgrounds; federal, state, and county parks, and similar facilities legally established and authorized to hold Special Events.

#### **Sec. 6.7.7 Zoning Permit**

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A Zoning Permit shall be required prior to commencing Special Events and shall be maintained for the duration of the Special Events use, following Site Plan Review and Special Exception approval, as applicable. Additionally, a valid, Charleston County Business License is required following Zoning Permit approval.

#### **Sec. 6.7.8 Lapse of Approval**

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A valid Charleston County Business License must be maintained for a principal Special Events use. If this Business License is not renewed annually or is discontinued, for any reason, for a period of at least six consecutive months, then the use shall be considered abandoned. Once abandoned, the Special Exception approval and the Zoning Permit for the Special Events use shall be deemed null and void. Renewal of the Special Events use shall require the approval of the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) and compliance with the regulations of this Ordinance.

## EXHIBIT "A"

### Charleston County Livability Ordinance (Chapter 3 of the County's Code of Ordinance)

#### CHAPTER 3 – LIVABILITY

#### ARTICLE II – NOISE OFFENSES

##### Sec. 3-40. – Definition.

As used below, *plainly audible* means any sound that can be detected by a person using his or her unaided hearing facilities.

##### Sec. 3-41. – Noise – Amplified Sound from Vehicles.

It shall be unlawful for any person to play, operate, or cause to be played or operated, any radio or other vehicular music or sound amplification or reproduction equipment in such a manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of 50 feet in any direction from the vehicle or plainly audible within the residential dwelling of another. The detection of the rhythmic bass component of the music or sound is sufficient to constitute a plainly audible sound. Prohibitions contained in this section shall not be applicable to emergency or public safety vehicles for sound emitted during job-related operation.

##### Sec. 3-42. – Noise – Amplified Sound in General.

It shall be unlawful for any person to play, operate, or cause to be played or operated, any radio or other music or sound amplification or reproduction equipment upon real property in such a manner as to be plainly audible within any residential dwelling of another. The detection of the rhythmic bass component of the music or sound is sufficient to constitute a plainly audible sound.

##### Sec.3-43. – Noise – Excessive, Unnecessary, or Unreasonable Noise.

- A. Any excessive, unnecessary, or unreasonable sound that is plainly audible as set forth in sections 3-41 and 3-42 of this Code which endangers or injures the safety or health of humans or animals, or annoys or disturbs a reasonable person of normal sensibilities is prohibited.
- B. Any excessive, unnecessary, or unreasonable sound that is plainly audible within 500 feet of the property line of a residentially developed parcel or above 70 dBA is prohibited.
- C. Any excessive, unnecessary, or unreasonable sound that is plainly audible between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. is prohibited.

##### Sec. 3-44. Noise – Exemptions.

The following shall be exempt from the prohibitions set forth in sections 3-41, 3-42, and 3-43 above:

- (1) Church bells or other activities of organized religious services.
- (2) Any siren, whistle, or bell lawfully used by emergency vehicles or any other alarm systems used in any emergency situation, provided, however, that burglar alarms not terminating within 15 minutes after being activated shall be unlawful.
- (3) Warning devices required by state or federal regulations.
- (4) Farming equipment or farming activity during daylight hours.
- (5) Timber harvesting and milling during daylight hours.
- (6) Noise from domestic power equipment including, but not limited to, chain saws, sanders, grinders, lawn and garden tools or similar devices operated during daylight hours.
- (7) Noise generated by any construction, demolition equipment, or mineral extraction (including crushing, screening, or segregating) operated during daytime hours as per local, state, or federal law or regulation, or as otherwise provided for by permit or variance, whichever is more restrictive.
- (8) Emergency maintenance, construction, or repair work.
- (9) Noise created by any government-sponsored events or privately organized sports, recreation, or athletic events.
- (10) Emergency or extraordinary situations.
- (11) A business may use an outside sound system to notify patrons waiting to pick up an order, obtain a table, or to be able to participate in the activities of the business, provided that such sound does not create an excessive, unnecessary, or unreasonable noise.
- (12) Noise from any idling vehicles at a commercial establishment in the process of loading or unloading merchandise for the establishment or waiting for the opportunity to do the same.
- (13) Permitted public performances, gatherings, or parades.

#### Sec. 3-45. – Noise – Penalty.

Any person who violates the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$500.00 or not more than 30 days in jail, or both.

#### Sec. 3-46 – Noise – Private action.

In addition to the right of the county to bring an enforcement action for violations of this section, any individual who is specifically damaged by any violation of this chapter related to noise may, in addition to other remedies, institute an appropriate civil action or other proceeding in the magistrate court or circuit court to abate or prevent the nuisance.



**To be eligible for a new Alcohol Beverage License, you must meet the relevant requirements or your application will not be processed.**

- **Sole Proprietorship:** You must have been a resident of South Carolina for at least 30 days.
- **General Partnership:** The partnership must have been formed in South Carolina for at least 30 days.
- **Corporation, Limited Liability Corporation (LLC), Limited Liability Partnerships (LLP):** Entity must have been registered with the South Carolina Secretary of State (SCSOS) for at least 30 days.

The fastest, easiest way to submit the ABL-900 is by using our free online tax portal, MyDORWAY, available at **MyDORWAY.dor.sc.gov**. You must have a MyDORWAY account before applying for the Special Event Permit. To apply on MyDORWAY, start by logging in, then click the **More** tab. On the next screen, select **Apply for a New Alcohol Beverage License**.

Or you can submit the ABL-900 by:

**Mail:** SCDOR, ABL Section, PO Box 125, Columbia, SC 29214-0907

**Email:** [ABL@dor.sc.gov](mailto:ABL@dor.sc.gov)

**Submit all of the following documents at least 3 days before your special event:**

- \_\_\_ 1. Completed ABL-900 application, signed and dated
- \_\_\_ 2. License and/or permit fees
- \_\_\_ 3. Completed ABL-946 for each principal
- \_\_\_ 4. Criminal record check (CRC) for all principals that is less than 90 days old
  - If the principal has lived in SC for two years or more, submit the CRC from South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) at [www.sled.sc.gov](http://www.sled.sc.gov).
  - If the principal has lived in SC for less than two years, the statewide CRC must be submitted from the previous state of residency and from SLED at [www.sled.sc.gov](http://www.sled.sc.gov).
  - If the principal is not an SC resident, the statewide CRC must be submitted from the current state of residency.
  - Attach a disposition for any charge that does not list the court charges determination.
- \_\_\_ 5. Completed ABL-100. Your application will not be processed without this form
- \_\_\_ 6. Retail License and Admissions Tax License numbers if you are charging an entry fee and/or selling tickets, selling food and/or beverages, and providing entertainment (for example: games, dancing, music, or plays). If you do not already have a Retail Sales License and an Admissions Tax License, apply online at [dor.sc.gov/register](http://dor.sc.gov/register).
- \_\_\_ 7. Completed ABL-977 or a copy of your lease if the event location is currently licensed to sell beer, wine, and/or liquor.
- \_\_\_ 8. Copy of your notification email to the (SLED)
  - You must notify SLED at least 24 hours before the event by emailing [ABLSpecialEventPermits@sled.sc.gov](mailto:ABLSpecialEventPermits@sled.sc.gov).
  - Your email should include your name and your organization's name and the type, location, date, and time of the event.
  - Copy or forward your email to [ABLCompliance@dor.sc.gov](mailto:ABLCompliance@dor.sc.gov).

**A Special Event License or Permit will not be issued if there is a pending application for a permanent license or permit for the same location.**



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
**APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL EVENT BEER,  
WINE, AND/OR LIQUOR**

**This application must be submitted at least 3 days prior to your special event.**

Save time and paper! Complete your application on MyDORWAY at **MyDORWAY.dor.sc.gov**.

**Mail to:** SCDOR, ABL Section, PO Box 125, Columbia, SC 29214-0907

File Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** ABL@dor.sc.gov

Check the license and/or permit types you're applying for. If your event continues past 11:59 PM, an additional day's fee is required.

License/permit type	Beginning date	Beginning time	Ending date	Ending time	Fee
Beer/Wine (TBP) \$10/day					
Liquor (TLP) \$35/day					
<b>TOTAL:</b>					

PRINT ALL INFORMATION	
<b>1. Legal entity name or sole proprietor</b> _____ _____ _____ City                  County                  State                  ZIP	<b>8. FEIN/SSN</b> _____
<b>2. Physical location where event is to be held (no PO box)</b> _____ Street _____ City                  County                  State                  ZIP	<b>9. Email</b> _____ <b>10. Type of event (dance, festival, fundraiser, etc.)</b> _____
<b>3. Mailing address</b> _____ In care of _____ Street _____ City                  County                  State                  ZIP	<b>11. Are you charging an entry fee or selling tickets for the event?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No    If yes, provide Retail Sales and Admissions Tax License number in box 14.
<b>4. Type of ownership</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Sole Proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Unincorporated association <input type="checkbox"/> LLC/LLP <input type="checkbox"/> SC Corporation    Date of inc: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign corporation    State inc: _____    Date of inc: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofit organization <input type="checkbox"/> Political party or affiliate <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain): _____	<b>12. Are you selling food and/or beverages at the event?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No    If yes, provide Retail Sales and Admissions Tax License number in box 14.
<b>5. Are you registered with the SCSOS as a charity?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<b>13. Are you providing entertainment at the event?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No    If yes, provide Retail Sales and Admissions Tax License number in box 14.
<b>6. Trade name (doing business as)</b> _____	<b>14. Retail Sales License number</b> <b>Admissions Tax License number</b> _____
<b>7. Business phone number</b> <b>Home phone number</b> _____	<b>15. Is the event location within SC municipal limits?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No    If yes, which municipality? _____
<b>16. Is the event location currently licensed to sell beer, wine, and/or liquor?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, provide the following: A. Alcohol Beverage License number _____ B. Name of business _____ <small>Legal entity name or sole proprietor including trade name</small> _____	

**A lease between you and the license and/or permit holder must be included.**

I understand that a misstatement or concealment of fact in an application is sufficient grounds for the revocation of the license and/or permit. Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read and understood this form and the information I have provided is true, correct, and complete.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Law Enforcement Notification for Special Event Application

## SUBMIT YOUR SPECIAL EVENT LICENSE APPLICATION ON MyDORWAY!

- It's faster and easier than completing a paper application and results in fewer errors.
- Attach your **ABL-100** to your MyDORWAY Special Event License application.
- If applying for a license listed on the **ABL-900**, notify SLED at least 24 hours prior to your event by emailing them at [ABLSpecialEventPermits@seld.sc.gov](mailto:ABLSpecialEventPermits@seld.sc.gov)  
Copy [ABLCompliance@dor.sc.gov](mailto:ABLCompliance@dor.sc.gov) on your email.



## Manage your tax accounts online for FREE!

# MyDORWAY

Fast. Easy. Secure.

### One-stop shop!

Manage your SCDOR accounts all in one place

- Review your payment history
- Immediate access to correspondence
- Easily update your account information

+ more!

### Why MyDORWAY?

- Access your account 24/7
- Make ACH debit or credit card payments, **with no convenience fees**
- Receive immediate confirmation for transactions
- Reduce errors with automatic calculations
- Control who has access to your SCDOR accounts
- Always know you're using the most up-to-date forms

Ready to sign up for MyDORWAY?

Visit [MyDORWAY.dor.sc.gov](http://MyDORWAY.dor.sc.gov) to get started.

You'll need your FEIN or SSN, License Number, and a Letter ID or copy of your last return.

Tutorials are available at [dor.sc.gov/MyDORWAY](http://dor.sc.gov/MyDORWAY)

Want more information about Alcohol Beverage Licensing? Visit [dor.sc.gov/abl](http://dor.sc.gov/abl)





STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
**LAW ENFORCEMENT NOTIFICATION FOR  
SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION**

Special event organizers must submit this application to the Chief of Police of the municipality where their event is located. If the special event does not take place within municipal limits, submit this application to the Sheriff of the county where the event is located.

If the Chief of Police or Sheriff is unable to sign, you must include a written statement from the Chief of Police or Sheriff authorizing another law enforcement representative to sign on their behalf.

**To be completed by the applicant**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Legal entity name or sole proprietor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Physical location of event

\_\_\_\_\_  
Municipality (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date(s) of special event

\_\_\_\_\_  
Beginning time

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ending time

**To be Completed by the Chief of Police or Sheriff**

I have been informed by the applicant above about their application for a Special Event license to sell beer, wine, and/or liquor at the address shown above.

- I do not object to the issuance of the Special Event License.
- I object to the issuance of the Special Event License.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of authorized law enforcement official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and title of authorized law enforcement official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number

**If this form is not completely filled out, your application will be returned to you.**

The entire application **must** be presented to law enforcement officials with this form. Any alterations of this form will void the agreement.

If you are applying for multiple locations, this form must be submitted for each location.



If you're applying on MyDORWAY, the ABL-946 is part of the normal application workflow. You do not need to submit or attach a paper copy of the ABL-946 if applying on MyDORWAY.

**Mail to:** SCDOR, ABL Section, PO Box 125, Columbia, SC 29214-0907

**Email:** ABL@dor.sc.gov

**What you need to know:**

- The SCDOR cannot issue a license or permit to anyone who owes delinquent taxes, penalties, or interest.
- You are waiving your rights under SC Code Sections 12-54-240 and 30-2-1. You can read the full code sections at [dor.sc.gov/policy](http://dor.sc.gov/policy).
- The SCDOR has the right to share information with other principals or applicants in order to process the application or renewal.

Legal entity name \_\_\_\_\_ FEIN \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's name \_\_\_\_\_

Home address (no PO box) \_\_\_\_\_ Street \_\_\_\_\_

City

State

ZIP

Date of SC residency (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

SSN \_\_\_\_\_ FEIN \_\_\_\_\_ Percent of ownership \_\_\_\_\_

Principal types (Check one):

- Owner   
  Corporate officer   
  Partner   
  Member (LLC)   
  Manager (LLC)  
 Employee/Manager   
  Nonprofit officer   
  Fiduciary   
  Publicly traded agent

Have you as an individual, or as an organization in which you were a principal, had any license to sell beer, wine, or liquor revoked or suspended in this state or any other state?

Yes     No    **If yes, you must attach an explanation.**

Have you been convicted of a crime in South Carolina or any other state?

Yes     No    **If yes, you must attach an explanation.**

I understand that a misstatement or concealment of fact in an application is sufficient grounds for the revocation of the license and/or permit. Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read and understood this form and the information I have provided herein is true, correct, and complete.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Social Security Privacy Act Disclosure**

It is mandatory that you provide your Social Security Number on this tax form if you are an individual taxpayer. 42 U.S.C. 405(c)(2)(C)(i) permits a state to use an individual's Social Security Number as means of identification in administration of any tax. SC Regulation 117-201 mandates that any person required to make a return to the SCDOR must provide identifying numbers, as prescribed, for securing proper identification. Your Social Security Number is used for identification purposes.

## Special Event Guidelines

The **Special Event Beer & Wine Permit (TBP)** authorizes the sale of beer and wine at special events for consumption on the licensed premises.

The **Special Event Alcoholic Liquors License (TLP)** authorizes the sale of alcoholic liquors at bona fide nonprofit events for consumption on the licensed premises. This permit is issued to nonprofit organizations only. To be eligible for this permit a nonprofit organization must have an eleemosynary charter from, or be a political party affiliate certified by, the South Carolina Secretary of State's office.

Special events cannot exceed 15 consecutive days per SC Code Section 61-4-550(A). Events continuing beyond 11:59 PM require an additional day's fee.

If the special event has outside vendors within the event, each location allowing the sale of liquor is required to obtain a Special Event License.

Liquor is required to be confined to the specific area from which it is sold. Fencing, signs, and bike racks are a few ways the area can be defined.

SC Code of Regs 7-202.3 states:

- The premises of a nonprofit organization must be separate from the premises of any business operation, including businesses licensed to sell liquor by the drink.
- The premises of a nonprofit organization are considered separate if the organization has its own address and separate entrance, and is not connected with another business premises by common doorways or passageways, either interior or exterior.

### Special events where a license and/or permit is not required

A license or permit is not required if a person or entity provides beer, wine, and/or liquor at a function free of charge and free of any consideration whatsoever. This is referred to as an unlicensed social function.

An unlicensed social function is an event of a noncommercial nature where admission is not charged, and beer, wine, or liquor is being consumed, but not sold, and the person having the function does not have a beer and wine permit or liquor license. A wedding reception where beer, wine, or liquor is being consumed is an example of an unlicensed social function. A bartender, caterer, or event hall may NOT provide the beer, wine, or liquor for this type of event to be considered an unlicensed social function

If you're not sure which Special Event License or Permit you need, see the **Special Event** pages at [dor.sc.gov/tax/abl/licenses](http://dor.sc.gov/tax/abl/licenses).

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who should obtain the Special Nonprofit Event License or Special Event License?

If the host of the event is charging any fees where the alcohol is going to be provided, the host must obtain the Special Nonprofit Event License or Special Event License. The host, as the license holder, must acquire the beer and wine from a licensed wholesaler and liquor from a licensed Class B Retail Liquor Store. The host may hire someone to tend the bar only.

When a bartender, caterer, event hall, or other businesses provides the alcohol, they would be required to obtain the license instead of the host.

### How long does it take to get a special event license?

Special event applications must be submitted at least 3 days prior to the event. The earlier we receive an application, the more time we have to resolve any issues that may arise.

### Can I have liquor moving freely at my special event?

If you have multiple stations set up with outside vendors for an event, you must keep the liquor within the confined area from which it is sold. However, if there will not be any outside vendors present, liquor is allowed to move freely throughout the event space.

Per Regulation 7-202.3:

1. The premises of a nonprofit organization must be separate from the premises of any business operation, including business establishments licensed to sell alcoholic liquor by the drink.
2. The premises of a nonprofit organization will be deemed separate if the organization has its own address and separate entrance, and is not connected with another business premises by common doorways or passageways, whether interior or exterior.

**May I purchase beer, wine and/or liquor from a retail store?**

No. Once you obtain a special event license you become a retailer and all beer, wine, and liquor must be purchased from an SC licensed wholesaler.

**If I am having my event at a location that holds only a beer and wine permit may I obtain the special event for liquor and use the locations beer and wine permit?**

No. In order to have a special event at a license location the location must lease the area to the event holder, that lease will render their beer and wine license invalid during the leased period. The beer, wine, and/or liquor must be provided by the same entity

**Can I sell tickets to an event and allow a nonprofit to obtain the permit if I am going to donate the proceeds to them?**

No. The entity that collects the money must be the same as the one who holds the license.

**Can I get a special event for my home?**

No. We do not license personal residences.

\*Above forms can be found at: <https://dor.sc.gov/forms-site/Forms/ABL900.pdf>

## What is a Special Event?

The Charleston County Zoning and Land Development Regulations Ordinance (ZLDR) defines a Special Event as: "Any activity that involves public assembly for which one or more of the following apply: (1) there is an admission fee or leasing fee; (2) there is controlled or ticketed entry; and/or (3) goods and/or services (e.g., food and drink) are available for purchase. Special Events include, but are not limited to, events held on private properties and properties owned by membership based organizations and businesses. This definition does not include private parties or private functions, including neighborhood gatherings, that do not meet the above stated criteria; however, community-wide events organized by non-profit or for-profit businesses or organizations, individuals, or groups are considered Special Events."

## Indoor Special Events

Zoning permits are not required for indoor special events in legally established business-tracts in commercial and industrial districts and public facilities or civic facilities such as: hotels/motels, convention centers; social lodges; assembly halls; religious facilities; fairgrounds; federal, state, and county parks, and similar facilities legally established and authorized to hold special events.

## To Apply for a Special Event

To apply, complete the following checklist and submit completed paperwork either in-person to the Zoning and Planning Office or submit online at <https://eplweb.charlestoncounty.org/energovprod/selfservice#/home>

The following information is required to be submitted with applications for Temporary Special Events Permits (in addition to the required fee):

- A detailed Letter of Intent describing the purpose of the event indicating date(s) and time(s), anticipated number of participants, and whether alcohol will be served and if amplified sound (music or other amplified noise) will be utilized;
- A legible site plan drawn to scale indicating vehicular traffic areas (parking, driveways, circulation etc.), gathering areas, restroom and vendor locations, and locations of existing and planned structures to be used as part of the event;
- Letters of Coordination from Fire, Police, and Emergency Medical Services and Building Inspection Services if applicable;
- Documentation of Charleston County Business License issuance for the host and participating vendors and copy of valid Department of Revenue license if alcohol will be sold;
- Documentation from pertinent service providers for restroom facilities and garbage collection, and
- Other pertinent information as deemed necessary by the Zoning and Planning Director.

# Temporary Special Events

Charleston County  
Zoning and Planning

### Contact Us

Phone: 843-202-7200

Email:

[zoningpermits@charlestoncounty.org](mailto:zoningpermits@charlestoncounty.org)

Web:

<https://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/zoning-planning/index.php>



CHARLESTON COUNTY  
ZONING AND PLANNING  
DEPARTMENT  
4045 Bridge View Drive  
North Charleston, SC 29405

## Special Event Permits

If an applicant wishes to host a special event, a zoning permit is required prior to the start of the special event and must be maintained for the duration of the event. Site plan review and/or special exception approval may be required prior to issuance of zoning permits for special events. It is recommended that the permit process be started at least 45 days in advance of your event, and further in advance if site plan review and/or special exception approval is required. Following zoning permit approval, a valid Charleston County Business License is required. Building permits may also be required. The Temporary Special Events application can be found online at the Zoning and Planning Department's website.

## Limitations for Temporary Special Events

Temporary special event permits may be issued only if the activity complies with all applicable requirements of the ZLDR, including, but not limited to, provision of adequate parking and sanitary facilities. Temporary special events permits shall not be issued for periods in excess of 10 consecutive days, and no more than five such permits may be issued per lot per calendar year, except as otherwise allowed pursuant to the ZLDR. Any temporary special event utilizing 25 acres of land or more shall require special exception approval from the Board of Zoning Appeals. Additional requirements for temporary special events in agricultural and residential zoning districts apply.

## Temporary Special Events on Properties in the Agricultural & Residential Zoning Districts

The following requirements apply to temporary special events in the agricultural and residential zoning districts in addition to all other applicable requirements:

- A maximum of five (5) Temporary Special Events permits may be issued per lot, per calendar year.
- Each permit shall be valid for a maximum of three consecutive days and is only valid for a single event. Multiple events within the same three-day period require separate permits.
- Daily attendance in the AG-15, AGR, RR, S-3, R-4, UR, MHS, and MHP zoning districts is limited to 500.
- Daily attendance in the RM, AG-10, and AG-8 zoning districts is limited to 2,000.
- The maximum number of temporary special event permits allowed per calendar year and/or maximum daily attendance may only be increased if the requirements listed in ZLDR Sec. 6.7.3.E, as well as all other applicable requirements of the ZLDR, are met and the request is approved in accordance with the special exception procedures contained in the ZLDR. If approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals, the approval is only valid for one calendar year from the date of zoning permit issuance.

## Outdoor Special Events

With the exception of special events at federal, state, and county parks and legally established fairgrounds, outdoor special events must comply with ZLDR Sec. 6.7.3, *Temporary Special Events*, and a zoning permit is required. All outdoor special event activities are subject to the County's livability and noise ordinances. Any outdoor special event activity, as defined by the ZLDR, whether an accessory to an existing business, or on vacant undeveloped property, which is located within 500 feet of the property line of a residentially developed parcel, shall cease all music and all loud noise that is above 70db(A) no later than 11:00 p.m.; otherwise, special exception approval is required.

## Special Events in Commercial & Industrial Districts

Special Events in commercial and industrial zoning districts shall comply with all requirements of ZLDR Sec. 6.7.5, *Outdoor Special Events*. The establishment of a new special events principal use in the NC, RC, CC, or IN zoning district requires compliance with the site plan review process followed by issuance of all required permits.

For more information regarding special events permits, please contact us at 843-202-7200 or email us at:

[zoningpermits@charlestoncounty.org](mailto:zoningpermits@charlestoncounty.org).