

# Dripping Springs Farmers Market and Special Events Canopy/Tent Anchor Weight Requirements

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Each 10'X10' canopy leg must have no less than 25 lbs (pounds) anchoring each leg, each 12'X12' canopy leg must have no less than 30 lbs (pounds) anchoring each leg, each 10'X20' canopy must have no less than 50 lbs (pounds) anchoring each leg and market umbrellas must have no less than 50 lbs attached to the center pole. Any vendor who fails to properly anchor his or her canopy will not be allowed to sell at the Farmers Market or Special Event on that day, unless that vendor chooses to take down and stow their canopy and sell without it. Canopy weights should be safely secured -- "safely," meaning that the method used to secure the canopy does not create its own safety hazards.

## **Setting up & taking down canopy/tent weights**

- Set-up and secure the canopy with weights at the same time. Set-up times often prove to be the most vulnerable to the wind. Stay focused and don't get distracted.
- Always attach canopy weights to the canopy.
- Secure weights in a way that do not create additional safety hazards.
  - Weights shall not cause a tripping hazard.
  - Weights shall be tethered with a line that is visible or use a weight designed to effectively capture the leg bracket. Avoid stretched out lines or cords.
  - Weights shall have soft edges to prevent scrapes and cuts.
  - Weights shall be on the ground.
- If canopies need to be taken down in the middle of market or special event due to inclement weather, vendors should direct customers to move out of the way so they are not injured.
- Canopy weights shall have at least 25 pounds per leg for a 10'X10' canopy, 30 pounds per leg of a 12'X12' canopy and 50 pounds per leg for a 10'X20' canopy.
- Take-down the canopy and weights at the same time. Take-down times are equally vulnerable to the wind. Stay focused and don't get distracted at the end of the day.

### **Examples of Acceptable Canopy Weights**

- Pre-Filled Cement Canopy Weights – Pre-filled cement weights with pre-cut leg openings generally range from 5-10 pounds and are stackable.
- Cast Iron Weights – Cast iron weights are convenient and offer the most density. They generally range from 5-20 pounds per piece.
- 2.5 Gallon+ Cement-Filled Buckets - Filling an empty bucket (2.5 gallon works great) with cement and tying this to each corner of the canopy with a rope. It is not sufficient to place the bucket on the feet of the canopy.
- PVC Cement-Filled Pipe - These homemade canopy weights are often capped and filled with cement and can be hung on the inside of canopy poles as long as it is secured to the leg of the canopy.
- Sandbag Weights – Sandbag weights that are specially made for securing canopies and weigh at least 25 pounds filled with sand. These sandbag weights are vertical and can be strapped to the legs of the canopy.

### **Examples of Unacceptable Canopy Weights**

- One Gallon Water Jugs – One Gallon Jugs are just not heavy enough for large gusts of wind. One gallon of water weighs only 8 pounds.
- Stakes – A strong wind will easily uproot stakes. They will also create serious tripping hazards since they are often barely visible.
- Tying - Tying tents, canopies or umbrellas to tables, coolers or vehicles provides tripping hazards and frequently does not provide adequate weight.
- Sandbags – Sandbags that cannot be placed upright and securely tied to the tent or canopy should not be used.
- Cinder Blocks – Cinder blocks are a tripping hazard and not heavy enough. Cinder blocks weigh 22 pounds each.