

## What is UNACCEPTABLE?

- **One gallon water jugs** weighing 8 pounds each are far short of the required 40 lbs. per leg.
- **Larger water jugs that do not have handles** molded as part of the body.
- **Concrete blocks** – cannot be secured adequately to canopy legs and only weigh 3 pounds.
- **Coolers, bags of ice, water jugs.**
- **Merchandise Racks** – do not weigh enough when product is removed.
- **Stakes in the ground.**



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## STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions or are unsure if your weights will work properly, please contact the Life Safety Section of Front Range Fire Rescue at (970) 587-4464.

FRONT RANGE  
FIRE RESCUE

# TENT AND CANOPY SAFETY GUIDELINES



Front Range Fire Rescue  
P.O. Box 103, Milliken CO 80543  
970-587-4464  
[www.ffr.co](http://www.ffr.co)

## Canopy Weight Guidelines

Many accidents at events involve canopies. **It is your responsibility to minimize the risk.** There are two general rules regarding canopies which all participants must remember:

1. **Your canopy shall be fully secured before setting up anything else.**
2. **Be sure that your method of securing your canopy to the ground does not create an additional hazard. Use approved straps to secure canopy weights.**

### Securing A Canopy

Colorado has unpredictable weather, and often strong, gusty winds. While people use canopies to shield themselves from the rain and sun, our region's winds can turn your canopies into deadly missiles with one unexpected gust.

**All participants must have their own weights,** with a minimum of 40 pounds per tent leg. PVC pipe filled with concrete or tent weight sandbags are safe ways to secure your tents.

Setup and breakdown periods are when canopies could be most vulnerable to the wind. You must be sure to completely secure your canopy as soon as you set it up, and take down your canopy as soon as you remove your weights at the end of the day.

### PVC Pipe Filled with Concrete

(40-50 pounds per leg)



The PVC pipe filled with cement hangs on the inside of the canopy pole, and it has rounded edges. Pipe must be secured to roof and to canopy leg separately

### EZ - Up Sand Bags or Similar

(40 pounds per leg)



Each weight bag holds up to 40 pounds of sand and attaches to legs. Remember to use the large size bags and fill them completely.

### How to Secure Weights

**Weights must be secured to each canopy leg separately with the following methods:**

- Nylon ratchet straps
- High quality rope – light-duty cord is not allowed.
- Factory-supplied pins (weight bags come with these).

**Note: Bungees and rubber straps are not allowed!**

\*Alternative materials and methods may be approved on a case-by-case basis. Requests must be submitted to Front Range Fire Rescue at least two weeks in advance. This will allow for changes if necessary.