

Open House Suggestions

Many of the areas graduating seniors will be celebrating the completion of high school with an open house. In many cases these celebrations will take place in their back yard under a tent. If you are new to the party planning process, or if it has been a while since your last event, here are a few guidelines that will help you plan your party.

Tent size

When hosting an open house, it is not necessary to provide seating under a tent for all of your invited guests. Not everybody will arrive at the same time. Furthermore, not everyone will want to sit under the tent. A good rule to follow is to order a tent that will accommodate, at most, one half of your invited guests. If you invite 100 people, the largest tent you should reserve is a tent that will seat 50.

What equipment will you need?

The basics include a tent, tables, chairs, table covers and recycling/trash boxes. Food service equipment, such as chafing dishes are also popular. If you are having an evening event, you may need some form of lighting for the tent.

Equipment Availability

It is important to remember that there is not an endless supply of equipment. Phones start ringing in January to reserve equipment for graduation parties. Usually by the end of April all of the equipment has been reserved for the busiest weekends of the graduation season - the first three weekends in June. In recent years, many people have avoided the graduation party "rush" by hosting parties in late May, late June or even in July. If you hope to have a graduation party during one of the first three weekends in June, do not wait to reserve your equipment.

Staking Tents

All tents require anchoring. In most cases the stakes are between 30" and 40" long. These stakes will be driven into the ground in the area around the perimeter of your tent. It is very important to clearly identify and mark all underground utilities, sprinkler lines and septic fields. Miss dig is available to mark underground utilities. It is a free service, offered to keep work crews safe and utilities unharmed. Miss dig needs at least 72 hours before the installation date to mark the utilities. Schedule Miss Dig by calling (800) 482-7171. Marking sprinkler lines and septic fields is the responsibility of the homeowner. Delux Tents will not install a tent on your property unless the area designated for installation has been clearly marked for utilities.

Summary

Graduation parties are typically pretty easy to pull off and fun for both the hosts and the guests. There are helpful planning tools on this site that will help you with your event. You can learn a lot about what you need before you make a the call to a reserve your equipment. Our sales staff is also happy to help if you have any questions about your event. Good luck planning, and congratulations to all of the areas graduating seniors!