



OUTDOOR CINEMAS

Outdoor cinemas are increasing in popularity, due to their affordability and wide audience appeal. This fact sheet will help you understand best practice around inflatable cinema screens, as well as Council's requirements around set-up and operation.

Permission to Screen Films

- Permission is required for all public screenings of films. Who you obtain permission from can vary depending on which film you want to screen
- Village Roadshow (www.roadshowwpl.com.au) and Amalgamated Movies (www.amalgamatedmovies.com) are two major licensing distributors that can provide permission, although there are many other independent distributors in the market place for films not created by the major studios.
- A licensing fee is incurred for all public screenings.
- Check with your supplier that this permission is obtained.

Safe Installation Of Inflatable Cinema Screens

If inflatable cinema screens aren't installed properly, they can collapse or launch in high winds and inclement weather. This may result in injury to your guests, volunteers and staff or damage to property, trees and the ground.

- All cinema screen structures/inflatable screens are to be erected by specialist contractors.
- Cinema screens should be checked prior to use by the public. If something doesn't look right, tell the supplier and have them rectify it.
- Monitor the weather and deflate the screen if there are high winds or rain. It is a good idea to have a cancellation plan in place, in case of inclement weather.
- Before you book any equipment, check your supplier has up to date public liability insurance certificates of currency. You may also want to request a Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) or Job Safety Analysis worksheet (JSA). These documents outline how the equipment will be installed and operated. These should be collected from all contractors.
- Ultimately everything that happens on your event site is your responsibility. Keep an eye on your contractors; make sure you supervise any works to ensure compliance during the bump-in, event and bump-out process; and have adequate first aid trained personnel and supplies available.

Top Tip

Outdoor cinema screenings can only commence once the sun has set. Mid-summer, when the weather is more reliable may seem like the obvious choice, however if you are looking to attract a family audience, late spring or early autumn may be a better option as the film screening can start earlier. Also have a think about packing up, as it will be dark when your event finishes.

Additional Council Requirements:

- Inflatable cinema screens should be positioned at least 3m from garden beds and any trees or roots. Structures cannot be fixed or attached to any trees or shrubs.
- Inflatable cinema screens must be adequately weighted. No stakes or tent pegs are to be used unless approval is given by Council.
- A 3m access route must be maintained for emergency vehicles, and a minimum of 1.8m on pathways for general pedestrian access.
- Cinema screens should be appropriately installed on flat, level surfaces, away from roads and overhanging branches.
- Appropriate site lighting must be considered - this includes lighting of pathways, toilets, catering stalls and exits. Festoon lighting is a great option.

Location, Location, Location!

You will need to prepare a site plan which shows the location of all temporary infrastructure including inflatable cinema screens, generators and marquees.



Questions? Please contact the Events Officer on 9262 6352 or arts@whitehorse.vic.gov.au