Shade Structures Over Playground Equipment
Reference Section 903.3.1.1.5

The exception found in the Bret Tarver Sprinkler Ordinance may be applied to detached shade structures provided over playground equipment, playing surfaces and other similar uses associated with schools, parks and outside recreational facilities.

Shade structures over play areas and associated with parks, are not required to be protected by automatic sprinkler protection, provided:

1. No other Occupancy Classification assigned to the space.
2. They are constructed from the limited or non-combustible materials noted in exceptions of 903.3.1.1.5.
3. That are less than 5,000 sq. ft. in area, and
4. They are more than 5 feet detached from the nearest structures.
5. Guide wires attached to adjacent structures are acceptable if no structure is within a 5-foot radius.

Play area shade structures are submitted to the same requirements to that gasoline dispensing canopies are subject to. It also applies the protection requirements for Group U occupancies under 5,000 sq. ft. to not require sprinklers.

Shade structures of any construction material are not required to be protected at all, provided:

1. They are 30 feet away from any structure
2. No other Occupancy Classification assigned to the space
3. They under 5,000 sq. ft. area.

This follows fire separation requirements of Table 602 of the Building Code and requirements of not sprinklering parking canopies under 5,000 sq. ft. in area.

Combustible construction within 30’ of a building is subject to the separation requirements of Table 602 of the Building Code.

Structures over 5,000 sq. ft. which receive an occupancy classification are subject to the sprinkler requirements of the Bret Tarver Ordinance and the Appeal to the Fire Marshal process.