

Carnival and Amusement Ride Fee Increase 2011 Operating Season

During the past several years, the Carnival and Amusement Ride Inspection Division of the Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) operated with expenses that dramatically exceeded revenues. The fees collected in the 2009 operating season generated revenues in the amount of \$138,600. The costs associated with the operation of this program that same year were \$582,715, which created a shortfall of nearly \$444,115. Given State and agency budget challenges, the current revenue/cost structure is no longer sustainable. IDOL presented this matter to the Carnival and Amusement Ride Safety Board (Board) in January 2010. After months of research and discussion with the impacted community, the Board approved a permitting and inspection fee increase at its August 2010 Board meeting in order to *partially* offset the significant difference between fees currently paid by ride operators and the actual cost of inspecting rides. In approving this fee increase, the Board is hopeful that IDOL can enhance its enforcement resources and hire a new inspector for the southern region of the State, as this position has been vacant since the previous inspector resigned last year. Below is a schedule of the new inspection and permitting fees which will be in effect for the 2011 operating season.

CATEGORY OF RIDE OR ATTRACTION	2011 FEE
Kiddie Ride	\$55
Inflatable Attraction	\$55
Major Ride	\$130
Amusement Attraction	\$130
Rope Tow or Conveyor	\$130
Coasters, Intermediate	\$260
Coasters, Large	\$390
Ski Lift or Aerial Tramway	\$390

If you have any questions regarding which category is applicable to your ride, please call the Division at 217-782-9347.