

Fire Department Recreational Burning Regulations

General Requirements:

These requirements pertain to small outdoor fires, burning approved material for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warming or similar purposes. This also includes portable freestanding fireplaces and chimneys.

- Size – No fire shall be more than three (3) feet in diameter and 3 feet in height.
- Location – Recreational fires shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible materials. Conditions that could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition. A surrounding fire barrier of non-combustible material that is at least 6 inches in height must be used.
- Materials – Only unpainted wood, which has not been treated with chemicals or preservatives, coal or charcoal may be burned. **Open burning of rubbish, construction material, furniture, or leaves is prohibited.** Recreational fires shall not produce large amounts of smoke.
- Fire Extinguishing Equipment – Buckets, shovels, garden hoses or a fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating shall be readily available for use at recreational fires.
- Attendance – Every recreational fire shall be constantly attended by a competent person 18-year of age or older and the fire shall be completely extinguished by them before leaving the fire unattended.
- Hours – Recreational fires are allowed to be conducted between the hours of 6PM – 6AM
- Wind Condition – Recreational fires shall not be conducted if wind conditions exceed 10 mph. *Note: If the fire is creating smoke and disturbing neighbors, they may call 911 which would require the fire to be extinguished.*
- Burning Bans – All open burning will cease when the Fire Chief determines that the weather conditions are dangerously dry OR they feel it is necessary to control fire loss or if directed by the DNR.
- Prohibited Open Burning – Open burning that will be offensive or objectionable due to smoke or odor emissions when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous.