

OUTDOOR FIRE PLACES & OPEN FIRES

A recreational fire in your yard is a great way to spend time outdoors in warm weather. However please realize that regulations concerning outdoor fires need to be followed. They are in place to prevent fires and to minimize nuisance to neighbors. Smoke from fire places can cause adverse health effects in some people. Be aware of your neighbors who may be impacted to exposure of smoke from your fire place and take precautions to prevent smoke from disturbing your neighbors.

Guide lines that shall be followed pertaining to a Recreational Fire



Open Fires: require a burn permit throughout the year. You must see the fire inspector to obtain one.

Incinerators, outdoor fire places, permanent barbeques and grills shall not be built , installed, or maintained without prior approval from the AHJ.

Recreational Fires: The noncommercial burning of materials other than rubbish for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, or similar purposes in which the fuel burned is not contained in the incinerator, a barbecue grill, or a barbecue pit, and the total fuel area is not exceeding **1** meter (3 ft.) in diameter and .6096 meter (2 ft.) in height.

Recreational fires shall not be located within 7.62 meters (25 ft.) of a structure or combustible material

Recreational fires shall be constantly attended by a competent person until such fire is extinguished.

The presence of a competent person who has access to a readily available fire extinguishing equipment and knowledge of how to use that equipment is important to maintaining a Safe Recreational Fire

This person shall have a garden hose connected to water supply or other fire extinguishing equipment readily available for use.

Outdoor fire places shall be maintained in good repair and in a safe condition at all time, also it shall be provided with an approved spark arrester, screen, or door.

Outdoor fires places shall not be used for the disposal of rubbish, trash, or combustible waste materials.



Outdoor fire places cannot be placed on combustible decks or apartment balconies.

Recreational Fire places must be extinguished if smoke causes an unreasonable interference with the use and enjoyment of another person's property.

Recreational fires shall not be used in windy conditions.

When burning use only dry seasoned wood. Do not burn, garbage, rubbish, twigs, green wood etc.

Frequently Asked Question

What happens if my recreational fire place is found to be in contravention of the regulations?

A Fire Inspector will determine whether the fire place is being used properly. If not, he or she can order that the fire places immediately be made to conform to regulations. Or the Fire Inspector may order the fire to be extinguished. The Fire Inspector may also issue a fine.

What happens if a neighbor files a complaint about my fire place?

The Fire Inspector will investigate the complaint to determine whether the fire place complies with regulations.

How can I file a complaint about a fire place?

Complaints can be made to 911, 24 hours a day.