



INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN OUTDOOR FIRES



Do I need a permit to have a fire in my yard?

If the fire is not within a permanent outdoor fireplace/firepit, chiminea, portable outdoor fireplace/pit, or if it does not meet the definition of a recreational fire, then a RFD permit is required. The operator is required to have a copy of the permit on-hand at all times. If there is no permit, the fire department will extinguish the fire and a citation may be issued.

“Burn barrels” are not allowed.



Chimineas, Portable Outdoor Fireplaces/Fire Pits (NO PERMIT NEEDED)

Allowed provided all of the following conditions are met:

1. The device is used in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions.
2. The device’s designed fuel loading is not exceeded.
3. Rubbish or yard waste is not being burned.
4. The fire is constantly attended until it is completely extinguished.
5. Some means of immediate extinguishment is kept close at hand. Acceptable means of extinguishment include a garden hose, a fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating, or dirt or sand with some means of application.
6. For non-residential occupancies and apartment buildings having three or more units, the device must be at least 15 feet away from structures and combustible materials, unless porch/balcony is fire sprinklered. * Note: Condition # 6 does not apply to single family homes or duplexes.



7. Not allowed if we are under a Burn Ban.

Recreational Fires (i.e. campfires) (NO PERMIT NEEDED)

Allowed provided all of the following conditions are met:

1. The fuel area must be 3 feet or less in diameter, and 2 feet or less in height (i.e. no larger than an ordinary campfire).
2. Only cut wood logs are being burned. No rubbish. (*See definition below*)
3. The fire is at least 25 feet away from any building, wood pile, dry brush, dry grass, or other flammables. (i.e. grass, wood, trees).
4. Conditions are not conducive to fire spread (such as extremely dry weather or 20 mph winds or greater).
5. The fire is constantly attended until it is completely extinguished.
6. Some means of immediate extinguishment is kept close at hand. Acceptable means of extinguishment include a garden hose, a fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating, or dirt or sand with some means of application.



7. Not allowed if we are under a Burn Ban.

Bonfires and Open Burning

Outdoor fires having a fuel area greater than 3 feet in diameter or 2 feet in height are not allowed unless permits are obtained from the Fire Department.

RUBBISH. Garbage, refuse, paper, electrical insulation, treated lumber, plastics, non-wood construction/demolition materials, heavy oils, asphaltic materials, potentially explosive materials, chemical wastes, and items containing natural or synthetic rubber (tires), furniture, carpet, and other decayable and nondecayable waste, including vegetable matter and animal and fish carcasses. This would also include domestic waste such as kitchen garbage, cardboard boxes, packaging, and clothing. This would include leaves and other yard waste.
