

Residential Outdoor Fireplaces and Fire Pits

4/7/2017

DEFINITIONS (Section 24.19):

Fire Pit. A pit dug into the ground or a freestanding metal vessel, in which a contained outdoor fire is made.

Portable Self Contained Outdoor Burning Device. A free standing or stationary apparatus that contains a burn chamber that prevents the products and omissions from combustion from immediately entering the ambient air by use of a chimney, flue, baffle, screen, grill, hood, or other similar device. This includes, but is not limited to, portable fireplaces, outdoor fireplaces and chimneys.

PERMITTED - Open Fires used for private or public recreational purposes, including the following:

- 1) Portable self-contained outdoor burning devices;
- 2) Permanent or stationary fire pits; and
- 3) Outdoor permanent fireplaces, including barbecue grills designed, manufactured and utilized for cooking food with fire.

REGULATIONS APPLYING TO OPEN FIRES USED FOR PRIVATE OR PUBLIC RECREATIONAL PURPOSES:

- 1) Recreational Fires Allowed. Recreational fires may be burned in a chimney, outdoor fireplace, or fire pit that is a commercially, prefabricated device. All parts, including, but not limited to, screen, lid, and grate shall be used according to the manufacturer's direction.
- 2) Location: Portable fireplaces shall be located on a noncombustible, hard, level surface when in use, such as, but not limited to, concrete, paver bricks, or asphalt.
- 3) Distance to Property Line: All outdoor fireplaces including fire pits, permanent fireplaces, and portable self-contained burning devices shall be located a minimum of ten feet (10') from the nearest property line.
- 4) Distances from Structures and Combustibles: Structures and combustibles include, but are not limited to, homes, garages, sheds, playhouses, wood decks, wood fences, trees, bushes, and other items that are combustible. The following distances from all structures and combustibles shall be maintained from all recreational fires:
 - a. A minimum clearance of twenty five feet (25') shall be maintained for fire pits, or portable self-contained burning devices where the total fuel area is more than thirty inches (30"), but less than thirty six inches (36") in diameter and twenty four inches (24") or less in height.
 - b. A minimum clearance of fifteen feet (15') shall be maintained for portable self-contained burning devices where the total fuel area is thirty inches (30") or less in diameter and twenty four inches (24") or less in height.
- 5) Permanent or Stationary Fire Pits:
 - a. Each outdoor fire pit shall be dug into the ground in a manner that will prevent the burning materials from falling out of the fire pit. The above grade portion of the fire pit shall be constructed of stone, masonry, metal, or other similar noncombustible materials. The bottom of the fire pit shall be below grade and shall be

comprised of gravel, stone, or dirt. The total open area of the pit shall be no more than thirty six inches (36") in diameter and no more than twenty four inches (24") in depth from the bottom of the fire pit to the top of the above grade materials. The fire pit shall be surrounded by a noncombustible barrier that is at least six inches (6") above the coals or ash within the fire pit. A ring of sand, dirt, or other noncombustible material at least thirty six inches (36") wide, shall be provided around the fire pit to provide separation for combustibles. No plant material shall be allowed within said thirty six inch (36") ring.

- b. Must be inspected and approved by the community development director or an authorized designee, for compliance with applicable building and zoning requirements.
- 6) Approved Fuel: Wood burning recreational fires shall be limited to burning untreated, unpainted, clean, seasoned, dry wood and manufactured fire logs. Propane and other similar gases may also be burned. Burning of processed wood is strictly prohibited.
- 7) Supervision: Recreational fires shall be constantly attended by a person over the age of eighteen (18), until the fire is extinguished.
- 8) Extinguishment: On site fire extinguishing equipment and material, such as dirt, sand, water, garden hose, or fire extinguisher shall be available when any permanent fire structure or self-contained outdoor burning device or fire pit is in use.
- 9) Odors and Fumes: Escape or emission from any open burning, fumes or odors that are detrimental or injurious to the property, health, safety, comfort or welfare of inhabitants of the community, is hereby declared to be a public nuisance, and is punishable by a fine. A sworn police officer or firefighter of the village may determine and order the extinguishment of any burning that creates a nuisance by the emission of smoke or noxious gases upon a neighboring property, or contributes to a hazardous condition to health or life safety.
- 10) Smoke Generation: Recreational fires must be maintained in such a manner as to minimize the generation of smoke. Smoke that is a result of a smoldering or dying fire shall be prohibited. Generation of such smoke is considered a public nuisance punishable by a fine.
- 11) Hours: Recreational fires are prohibited between the hours of two o'clock (2:00) A.M. and six o'clock (6:00) A.M. Recreational fires must be extinguished in such a manner that all air to the fire is cut off or the burning material is wet down with water or other fire extinguishing material as listed in subsection D(8) of this section, until it is cool to the touch.
- 12) Maximum Duration: The recreational fire shall not burn for more than a total of four (4) hours in any twenty four (24) hour period of time.
- 13) Weather Conditions: Open burning is prohibited when winds exceed ten (10) miles per hour, during ozone alerts, or other local circumstances that make such fires hazardous.
- 14) Inspections: Inspections may be conducted, relative to recreational fires by the village's fire, police and/or community development department at such times as deemed necessary by the village, to ensure compliance with this section.

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