



## Open Burning in Manchester

### Authorized open burning MUST:

1. be maintained appropriately in an approved container
2. be on prepared ground,
  - \* cleared of combustibles within 10 feet of fire
  - \* no overhanging branches or structures
  - \* 25 feet from all property lines
3. use only an authorized fuel source: charcoal, commercial fire log, seasoned fire-wood
  - \* NO: processed wood, wood scraps, brush, leaves, trash and/or debris.
4. only be used for residential cooking, ambiance, warming or ceremonial and/or religious purposes

### To be “maintained appropriately”:

- the fire and smoke generated from an authorized open burn must not create a nuisance to other properties or people.
- the fire is constantly attended by a mature, competent person
- extinguishing capability is readily available if extinguishment becomes necessary

“Approved Containers” are at least 10 feet from any structure and 25 feet from all property lines, and not on combustible surfaces. Approved containers include:

- fixed outdoor fireplaces
- portable commercial fireplaces
- chimeneas

Propane and charcoal grills are also approved containers and cannot be placed within 3 feet of any combustible surface/structure.

### “Unauthorized open burning” (NOT ALLOWED):

1. burning garbage, leaves, twigs, small branches, processed wood, paper, etc.,
2. fires that are dangerous or reckless in size

3. fires that are a nuisance to the property of another,
4. fires that are kindled during a high or extreme forest fire alert period

**“Nuisance”** to the property of another means a fire whose VISIBLE smoke drifts off property lines with a complaint from another that such smoke is creating a nuisance in doing so. The Fire Department does not have the authority to regulate odors. A simple odor complaint does not constitute a “nuisance”.