



MANCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT

OUTDOOR BURNING QUICK GUIDE

ALLOWED

OUTDOOR OPEN BURNING

Outdoor Open Burning is allowed for one of the following reasons (and only the following reasons):

Cooking

Infection Control

Ambience

Religious Purpose

Warming

Ceremonial Purpose

OUTDOOR COOKING



Outdoor BBQ grills that are fueled by wood, pellets, or charcoal. and/or liquid propane gas, natural gas or liquid fuel.

You must have 10-feet of clearance from combustible structures, fences or vegetation however there are no clearance requirements for a single family home.

OUTDOOR FIREPLACE / APPLIANCES



Any outdoor fire where the fire is contained in portable or fixed fireplace / appliance.

You must have 15-feet of clearance from combustible structures, fences or vegetation however there are no clearance requirements for a single family home.

RECREATIONAL FIRES



Any outdoor fire or campfire where the fire is not contained in portable or fixed fireplace / appliance (approved container).

You must have 25-feet of clearance from combustible structures, fences or vegetation.

The fire cannot exceed 3-feet in diameter and materials may not be more than 2-feet high, Wood is the only allowable material used.

FIRE PIT When using Prepared Ground Site (Fire Pit)



Site must be a minimum of east fifty (50') feet from any building, structure, shed, garage, property line or utilities. Fires shall be no closer than 15 feet from any trees, shrubs, bush, fence or any other combustible material.

A fire pit may be hand dug and must be at least one (1) foot below grade and no more than a four (4) foot outside diameter and the outside edge shall be ringed with brick, stone or metal.

The Materials cannot be piled higher than 2 feet and cannot extend past the prepared ground site.

Fires shall be so managed that the flames do not exceed three (3) feet above a fire pit and burning material is contained within the confines of the appliance/fire pit.

Adequate fire suppression equipment such as shovels, properly rated fire extinguishers or a garden hose shall be accessible at all times while the fire is burning.



NOT ALLOWED

A fire that is (1) intended to burn garbage, leaves, twigs, small branches, processed wood, paper, construction materials, furniture, etc. (2) or is dangerous or reckless in size or maintenance, (3) or is a nuisance to the property of another, (4) or is kindled during a high or extreme forest fire alert period.



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Open Burning: An outdoors fire on property owned, leased or available for use to the person(s) that initiated and are maintaining the fire. Open burning is classified as authorized or unauthorized.

Authorized Open Burning: A fire that is (1) contained appropriately (approved container or prepared ground); (2) and is using an authorized fuel source (3) and is intended for cooking, ambience, warming, ceremonial or religious purposes.

The fire must be contained appropriately:

- is contained in an appropriate enclosure (fixed outdoor fireplace, portable commercial fireplace, portable outdoor grill or prepared ground with a means to contain fuel within an area).
- is constantly attended by a competent person.
- has extinguishing capability readily available if extinguishment becomes necessary
- prepared ground is no more than 3-feet in diameter and is at least fifty (50') feet from any structure or property line if on prepared ground or
- is at least ten (10') feet from occupants structure and twenty-five (25') feet from all property lines if in an approved container, and containers shall not be set on combustible surfaces (excepting propane or charcoal grills).

Authorized fuel sources: charcoal; commercial fire log and/or seasoned fire wood

Un-Authorized fuel sources: processed or treated wood or wood scraps, brush, debris and/or leaves)

Un-Authorized Open Burning: A fire that is (1) intended to burn garbage, leaves, twigs, small branches, processed wood, paper, etc. (2) or is dangerous or reckless in size or maintenance, (3) or is a nuisance to the property of another, (4) or is kindled during a high or extreme forest fire alert period.

Nuisance to the property of another: smoke that continuously drifts off property lines with a complaint from another that such smoke is creating a nuisance in doing so.

DISPOSITION

If a Fire Officer determines the fire to be classified as unauthorized or is creating a nuisance, then that fire shall be extinguished by the person or Fire Department personnel.

Refusal to extinguish or permit the Fire Department to extinguish should be turned over to the Police Department for appropriate enforcement.

CGS Sec. 22a-174(f): Outdoor burning by permit only.

CGS Sec. 53a-181: BREACH OF PEACE; Intentionally or recklessly creates a public and hazardous condition by an act which he/she is not entitled or privileged to do.

CGS Sec. 23-48: KINDLING FIRE IN OPEN; Any person who kindles or directs another to kindle a fire in open air...without proper authorization from state or local authorities...which causes injury to the person or property of another.

CGS Sec 53a-114: RECKLESS BURNING: When he/she intentionally starts a fire or causes an explosion...whether on his own property or another **and** thereby recklessly places a building or another in danger of destruction or damage.