



TOWN OF IRONDEQUOIT
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

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GUIDELINES FOR RECREATIONAL OUTDOOR FIRES

Requests for outdoor recreational fires have become a popular activity and a concern within the Town of Irondequoit, especially with the marketing and sales of portable outdoor fireplaces, made of metal, ceramic and like materials.

Recreational fires are a PRIVILEGE and have been allowed for special occasions and limited recreational purposes. A recreational fire, which causes property damage, personal injury or is deemed a NUISANCE, may be cause for further legal actions by the Fire Marshal or the Police. Any fire causing the fire department or police department to be called may be considered by the responding official as a nuisance fire. **Nuisance fires must be extinguished.** Please contact the **Office of the Fire Marshal** at (585) 336-6097, if you have any questions regarding this fire safety concern.

The Office of the Fire Marshal has allowed burning for recreational purposes consistent with state, county and local codes and laws, using the following guidelines.

- **SAFETY** must always be followed.
- **Fire can not create a nuisance.** Smoke and/or odors may be considered a nuisance.
- Fires with direct ground contact such as those surrounded by a fire ring or by concrete block, bricks or stone shall be no larger than 3 feet in Diameter – no taller than 2 feet in Height, and located 25 feet from combustible structures (houses, fences, sheds, garages, wooden decks, similar structures).
- Outdoor portable fireplaces (“fire pits”) made of metal, ceramic and like materials must follow these same rules and not be placed on any combustible materials (decks, porches, tables, ect.) They may not be located less than 15 feet from a combustible structure and must be extinguished before abandoning.
- Materials for burning must be clean seasoned firewood (Materials such as wet wood, fresh cut wood, painted or stained wood creates smoky conditions and is not allowed to be burned).
- Competent adult supervision must be at site while fire is burning. Competent adult supervision is someone over 18 years of age, not impaired by drugs, alcohol or having a medical or mental condition which would impair their ability to take proper actions if required.
- A source of water must be available to control or extinguish any fire (charged garden hose hooked up to a water supply, multiple pails of water or a 4-A rating fire extinguisher).
- No new materials may be added to a fire after 10 PM, **FIRE MUST BE EXTINGUISHED BEFORE ABANDONING.** (proper method for extinguishing: pour water on burning material, stir ashes, pour on more water, stir ashes again, and pour more water on ashes; 5 steps- water, stir, water, stir, water)

NOTE: Any fuel not in compliance with “Clean seasoned firewood” is not viewed as a recreational fire even if the other guidelines are being followed. (A Wolf in sheep’s clothing is still a Wolf.)