



Temple Fire Marshal's Office



Recreational Outdoor Burning Requirements for Domestic Purposes

The following requirements only apply to recreational burning, a separate permit is required for all other outdoor burns to include brush piles, land clearing, etc.

Chapter 12 Sec. 12-13 Outdoor Burning

(a) General outdoor burning prohibition. Unless otherwise provided by this Section, it is unlawful for any person to burn outdoors any material, including trash, brush, tree limbs, grass, trees, leaves, paper, boards, planks, lumber, or any other type of debris or combustible materials of any kind within the territorial limits of the City.

(b) Permitted outdoor burning.

(1) Fires used for Recreation, Ceremony, Cooking, or Warmth.

A. Outdoor burning is permitted when used solely for recreational or ceremonial purposes, or in the non-commercial preparation of food, or used exclusively for the purpose of supplying warmth.

B. A person conducting outdoor burning under this Subsection (b)(1) may not burn:

-i. Yard waste, including, but not limited to, grass clippings, bushes, shrubs, or clippings from bushes and shrubs; however, a person may burn firewood, small branches and twigs, and wood chunks or chips; or

-ii. Paper products; however, a person may burn a small amount of paper (less than a ream) to start such fire.

C. Fires used for recreation, ceremonial purposes, cooking, or warmth under this Subsection (b)(1):

-i. Are limited to a maximum of three (3) feet diameter and two (2) feet in height and Page 15 of 46 must be contained in an outdoor burn container, such as a non-combustible chimenea, outdoor fireplace, grill, fire pit, or other similar non-combustible container;

-a. Outdoor burn containers placed on a combustible structure, including a porch, deck, or balcony, must be elevated at least three (3) feet off the structure while in use,

-b. All openings in outdoor burn containers must be covered by wire mesh, grill grates, or other screening material that prevents the passage of sparks and ember while the container is in use, and

-c. Outdoor burn containers may not be used indoors.

-ii. Must be kept at least twenty (20) feet from any structure or combustible exterior wall, fence, or overhang;

-iii. Are prohibited on any porch, deck, balcony, or any other structure connected to a multi-family dwelling;

-iv. Must be constantly attended by a competent person thirteen (13) years of age or older;

-v. Must be extinguished by 12:00 A.M.; and

-vi. Are not permitted when winds are over 20 mph.