



Recreational Burning / Outdoor Fire Pit Guidelines

The following requirements are based on the 2012 International Fire Code as adopted by the City of Deer Park and fire safety best practices necessary to ensure fire safety and to reduce false alarms for the legal and authorized use of fire.

1. Outdoor recreational burning is allowed at single family dwellings only when contained within a manufactured, portable outdoor fire pit; outside fireplace; or in a chiminea. All wood burning appliances shall include a screen or spark arrestor design feature. A permit is not required for these devices. Fire pits constructed to be non-portable are not allowed unless approved prior to construction by the Deer Park Fire Marshal's Office.

Pictures of authorized fire pits:



2. Clearance from structures and fencing shall be at least 25 feet; distances to property lines shall be at least 15 feet. Size of the wood pile is limited to 3 feet in diameter by 2 feet in height. The ground within 5 feet of the base of the fire shall be cleared of all combustible materials, such as grass or weeds.

3. The length of burn time of the fire must be reasonable so as not to disturb neighbors. Operators shall not allow the fire to produce noxious smoke.

4. The burning of rubbish, trash, construction materials, yard debris, leaves, or recyclable materials is strictly prohibited. Only clean, dry wood may be burned.

5. A responsible, non-impaired adult shall be present and monitor the burning until the fire is extinguished (i.e. out cold) and provide a means for rapid fire extinguishment such as a portable fire extinguisher, water from a garden hose, or a shovel and dirt or sand.

6. Burning is not allowed when winds are above 10 miles per hour or during prolonged periods of low, relative humidity.

7. Outdoor wood burning appliances shall be maintained in good repair at all times and situated on cleared, level ground so that the appliance cannot tip over.

8. The Deer Park Fire Department is authorized to order the extinguishment of any Open Burning if the smoke emissions are offensive to other local occupants, or if safety guidelines are not followed.

For questions, contact the Deer Park Fire Marshal's Office at (281) 478-7291.