

Residents may have a recreational fire subject to the following rules and regulations:

- The only material that can be burned is clean dry wood as a fuel source.
- No yard waste or rubbish materials or prohibited materials defined by the OAC may be burned at any time.
- If the fire is contained in an approved container such as an outdoor fireplace, barbecue pit, etc. the fire must be at least 15 feet from a structure or combustible materials.
- For an open fire not contained, the fire must be at least 20 feet from a structure, wood fence, neighboring structure or combustible materials. Conditions that could cause a fire to spread within 20 feet of the fire must be eliminated prior to ignition of a fire.
- The fire must be attended while burning and must be extinguished if it is not attended.
- A portable fire extinguisher, garden hose, bucket of sand or other suitable means for extinguishing the fire must be provided.
- The fire must not create an offensive or objectionable condition that interferes with the neighboring residents' use and enjoyment of their property. If this occurs, the Fire Department is required to request the person responsible for the fire to extinguish the fire or extinguish it itself. The Fire Department is required to extinguish fires, which create hazardous or nuisance conditions.

The most common complaint from neighbors is when recreational fires are not conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations, or when the environmental conditions cause the smoke to migrate off of the property into the residence of a neighboring property. Persons with chronic breathing problems can be affected by these conditions. We do not like to ever disrupt anyone's fun; however, we do have to follow the law.

If the Fire Department requests that you to extinguish your fire due to non-compliance with the rules and regulations, or the fire causes an offensive or objectionable condition, you are bound by Ohio law to comply with the request. Failure to do so may result in you being charged with a violation of the open burning regulations.

If you have any questions concerning the Ohio Open Burning Regulations, please contact the Chippewa TWP FD 330-658-2300

If you require additional information, you may also refer to the following:

Ohio Fire Marshal's Office: www.com.ohio.gov/fire/

Ohio EPA: www.epa.state.oh.us

What open burning is never allowed?

Under Ohio law, these materials *may not be* burned anywhere in the state at any time:

- Garbage—any wastes created in the process of handling, preparing, cooking or consuming food;
- Materials containing rubber, grease and asphalt or made from petroleum, such as tires, cars and auto parts, plastics or plastic-coated wire; and
- Dead animals unless approved for control of disease by a governing agency.

Other restrictions:

- Open burning is not allowed when air pollution warnings, alerts or emergencies are in effect.
- Fires cannot obscure visibility for roadways, railroad tracks or air fields.
- No wastes generated off the premises may be burned. For example, a tree trimming contractor may not haul branches and limbs to another site to burn.

SECTION 307 OPEN BURNING, RECREATIONAL FIRES

(G)(1) 307.1 General.

A person shall not kindle or maintain or authorize to be kindled or maintained any open burning unless conducted and approved in accordance with this paragraph.

(a) 307.1.1 Prohibited open burning.

Open burning that is offensive or objectionable because of smoke emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous shall be prohibited.

(4) 307.4 Location.

The location for open burning shall not be less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet (15 240 mm) of any structure.

Exceptions:

2. The minimum required distance from a structure shall be 25 feet (7620 mm) where the pile size is 3 feet (914 mm) or less in diameter and 2 feet (610 mm) or less in height.

(b) 307.4.2 Recreational fires.

Recreational fires shall not be conducted within 25 feet (7620 mm) of a structure or combustible material. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet (7620 mm) of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

(5) 307.5 Attendance.

Open burning, bonfires, recreational fires and use of portable outdoor fireplaces shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with *paragraph (F)(906) of [rule 1301:7-7-09](#) of the Administrative Code* with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.

3745-19-03 OAC Open burning in restricted areas.

(B) Open burning shall be allowed for the following purposes without notification to or permission from the Ohio EPA:

- (1) Heating tar, welding, acetylene torches, highway safety flares, heating for warmth of outdoor workers and strikers, smudge pots and similar occupational needs.
- (2) Bonfires, campfires and outdoor fireplace equipment, whether for cooking food for human consumption, pleasure, religious, ceremonial, warmth, recreational, or similar purposes, if the following conditions are met:
 - (a) They are fueled with clean seasoned firewood, natural gas or equivalent, or any clean burning fuel with emissions that are equivalent to or lower than those created from the burning of seasoned firewood;
 - (b) They are not used for waste disposal purposes; and
 - (c) They shall have a total fuel area of three feet or less in diameter and two feet or less in height.