WHAT IS ALLOWED AND WHAT IS NOT ALLOWED: RECREATIONAL & COOKING FIRES

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From the Office of the Fire Prevention Bureau – Phone (515) 283-4240



Charcoal grill or other open flame cooking device that produces ashes or embers

Not allowed on balconies or within 20-feet of buildings (does not apply to 1 or 2 family dwellings)

Gas grills

Allowed on balconies and decks but limited to 1- 20lbs. cylinder

Fire pit for a recreational fire

- Must be 25-feet from a structure or combustible material
- Limited to 3-feet in diameter and 2-feet in height
- Must be used for cooking purposes & must be extinguished when cooking is complete

Decorative flame device/fueled fire pit

- Must be clean burning fuel (LPG, natural gas, camping fuel)
- Not allowed on balconies or decks of multi-family or commercial buildings
- Permit required for use/installation at commercial and multi-family buildings









Charcoal Grills

- 1 or 2 family dwelling = OK
- Multi-family (apartment, condo) = must be 20 ft away

Gas Grills

- 1 or 2 family dwelling = OK
- Multi-family (apartment, condo) = allowed on balcony









Wood Burning Fire Pit

- 1 or 2 family dwelling = OK (for cooking only)
- Multi-family (apartment, condo) = NOT ALLOWED

Clean Burning Fire Pit (Decorative Device)

- 1 or 2 family dwelling = OK
- Multi-family (apartment, condo) = PERMIT REQUIRED

Any comments or questions regarding the above information may be submitted to:

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