

**SECTION 307 (as amended)**  
**OPEN BURNING, RECREATIONAL FIRES AND**  
**PORTABLE OUTDOOR FIREPLACES**

**Definitions.**

*Bonfire* - An outdoor fire utilized for ceremonial purposes.

*Open Burning* - The burning of materials wherein products of combustion are emitted directly into the ambient air without passing through a stack or chimney from an enclosed chamber. Open burning does not include road flares, smudge-pots and similar devices associated with safety or occupational uses typically considered open flames, *recreational fires* or use of portable outdoor fireplaces. For the purpose of this definition, a chamber shall be regarded as enclosed when, during the time combustion occurs, only apertures, ducts, stacks, flues or chimneys necessary to provide combustion air and permit the escape of exhaust gas are open.

*Recreational Fires* - An outdoor fire burning materials other than rubbish where the fuel being burned is not contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, portable outdoor fireplace, barbeque grill or barbeque pit and has a total fuel area of 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes.

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**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 Sections 307.1.1 through 307.5. When permitted, only untreated wood shall be burned. Leaves, compost, brush, waste materials of any kind, holiday decorations and/or Christmas trees shall be prohibited.

**307.1.1 Prohibited open burning.** *Open burning* shall be prohibited when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous.

**Exception:** Prescribed burning for the purpose of reducing the impact of wildland fire when authorized by the fire code official.

**307.2 Permit required.** A permit shall be obtained from the fire code official prior to kindling a fire for recognized silvicultural or range or wildlife management practices, prevention or control of disease or pests, or a bonfire. Application for such approval shall only be presented by and permits issued to the owner of the land upon which the fire is to be kindled.

**307.2.1 Authorization.** Where required by state or local law or regulations, *open burning* shall only be permitted with prior approval from the state or local air and water quality management authority, provided that all conditions specified in the authorization are followed.

**307.3 Extinguishment authority.** Where *open burning* creates or adds to a hazardous situation, or a required permit for *open burning* has not been obtained, the fire code official is authorized to order the extinguishment of the *open burning* operation.

**307.4 Location.** The location for *open burning* shall be not less than 50 feet from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet of any structure.

**Exceptions:**

1. Fires in approved containers that are not less than 15 feet from a structure.
2. The minimum required distance from a structure shall be 25 feet where the pile size is 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height.

**307.4.1 Bonfires.** A bonfire shall not be conducted within 50 feet of a structure or combustible material unless the fire is contained in a barbecue pit. Conditions that could cause a fire to spread within 50 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

**307.4.2 Recreational fires.** *Recreational fires* shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material. Conditions that could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

**307.4.3 Portable outdoor fireplaces.** Portable outdoor fireplaces shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall not be operated within 15 feet of a structure or combustible material.

**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 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.