



Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department - GUIDELINES for OPEN BURNING



(This document is not a permit to burn. It is intended for advisement, enforcement, and documentation)

As prescribed by the Ohio Fire Code (Ohio Administrative Code 1301:7-7) Section 307, and the Ohio Administrative Code 3745-19, open burning is defined and regulated per the regulations outlined below. Penalties can be assessed for violations of the regulations per Section 1501.05 of the City of Cuyahoga Falls Codified Ordinances, Section 3737.51 of the Ohio Revised Code, and Section 3745-19 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

- **Bonfire:** An outdoor fire used for ceremonial purposes. (OFC 302.1)
- **Recreation fire:** 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-foot or less in height for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes.
- **Portable outdoor fireplace:** A commercially manufactured portable, outdoor, solid-fuel-burning fireplace that may be constructed of steel, concrete, clay or other non-combustible material or may be equipped with a small hearth opening and a short chimney in the top.
- **Approved container:** An incinerator, outdoor fireplace, portable outdoor fireplace, barbeque grill or barbeque pit utilized per the manufacturer's directions and in the manner designed and for their intended purpose (e.g., barbeque grill used to barbeque food).

REGULATIONS:

All open burning activities:

- Fuel shall consist of only 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. (OAC 3745-19-03-B)
- The fire **shall not be utilized for waste disposal** and fuel shall be chosen to minimize air contaminants. (OAC 3745-19-03-B)
- There shall be at least one portable fire extinguisher present at the site with a minimum of a 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire extinguishing equipment such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose, or water truck. (OFC 307.5)
- Provisions shall be made to prevent the spread of fire to any structure or other combustible material. (OFC 307.4.1 & 307.4.2)
- The fire shall not generate offensive or objectionable smoke or odors, or burn when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous. (OFC 307.1.1)
- The fire code official is authorized to order the extinguishment of open burning that creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation. (OFC 307.3)
- No open burning shall be conducted where an air *alert, warning, or emergency* is in effect. (OAC 3745-19-02-A, OFC 307.1.1)
- The fire shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. (OFC 307.5)

For a bonfire: A permit is required from the Fire Department and the Akron Regional Air Quality Management Division of the Ohio EPA (800-589-2480 or 330-375-2480) 10 working days before the activity is to take place. (OAC 3745-19-03-C, OFC 307.2)

- The wood stack size shall be no larger than 5ft high by 5ft in diameter and shall not burn longer than 3 hrs. (OAC 3745-19-03-C-2-a)
- The fire must be at least **50-feet** from any combustible structure or other combustible material. (OFC 307.4.1)
- Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within **50-feet** of any structure shall be eliminated. (OFC 307.4.1)

For a recreation fire: A permit is not required.

- The wood stack size shall be no larger than **2 feet high by 3 feet in diameter**. (OFC 307.4.1)
- Recreational fires shall not be conducted within **25-feet** of any combustible structure or other combustible material (except fires in approved containers shall not be less than **15-feet** from a structure). (OFC 307.4)

For portable outdoor fireplace: A permit is not required.

- Portable outdoor fireplaces shall be fully assembled and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions (OFC 307.5)
- Portable outdoor fireplaces shall not be operated within **15-feet** of a structure or combustible material (except when used at one- and two-family dwellings – cannot be within **15-feet** of another property's structure or combustible material). (OFC 307.5)

A check in a box above indicates a violation of the corresponding open burning rule or regulation

Open burning investigated at _____ on _____
(address) (date)

Condition Found: Meets the regulations Does not meet the regulations Was extinguished Was brought into compliance

(Responsible person printed name)

(Responsible person signature)

(Responsible person SSN)

(Responsible person DOB)

(Responsible person phone number)

(Fire Department Officer-in-charge [PLEASE PRINT])

Fire Dept. Incident Number

Ver: 03/2015