

## Texas A&M Tradition Website Information

Name of Tradition: Bonfire Memorial

Creators of Tradition: Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University Students

Date Tradition was established: November 18, 1907. Where the first bonfire occurred.

Time of Year Tradition occurs: Annually on November 18<sup>th</sup> at around 2:42 a.m.

Detailed Explanation:

Aggie bonfire was originally a scrap heap in 1907 where it was originally used to showcase a drive motivation to defeat University of Texas in a football game. The Aggie bonfires were created and burned every year for the next decades. However, on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 1999, before the bonfire was burnt, it collapsed and killed 12 students while injuring 27.

As a result, Bonfire Memorial became an annual tradition to commemorate those who have been involved in the incident, located at the same location where the tragedy occurred. Today, thousands of Texas A&M students and even Non-Texas A&M students visit the bonfire memorial, experiencing the Aggie spirit and bringing a sense of unity and belonging to the University.

Source: <https://www.tamu.edu/campus-community/traditions/remembrance/bonfire-memorial.html>