

# **PALM HARBOR FIRE RESCUE**

## **OPEN BURNING REQUIREMENTS**

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### **WHAT IS OPEN BURNING?**

Open burning is the burning of any material in such a manner that the products of combustion (smoke) resulting from the burning are emitted directly into the outdoor atmosphere without passing through a stack or chimney.

### **WHEN IS OPEN BURNING PERMITTED?**

A campfire or other fire will be allowed that is used solely for recreational purposes, for ceremonial occasions, for outdoor noncommercial preparation of food, or on cold days for warming of outdoor workers, as long as visible emissions are not excessive.

- Campfire - a small outdoor fire consisting of approved solid fuel and intended for recreation or cooking but not including a fire intended or used for the disposal of waste, construction material, yard debris and rubbish.
- Recreational fire - a fire outside an enclosed structure used for cooking or as a source of heat or light. A recreational fire is one which is located inside a container such as a grill; a portable fireplace or a designated fire ring, and the total fuel area does not exceed three feet in diameter and two feet in height.
- Cooking fire - the noncommercial, residential burning of materials not exceeding three feet in diameter and two feet in height, other than rubbish in which the fuel burned is contained in an outdoor cooker, a barbecue grill, or a barbecue pit, for the purpose of preparing food.

### **WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR OPEN BURNING?**

- The total fuel area of any fire shall not exceed three feet in diameter and two feet in height.
- Recreational fires shall not be located within 25 ft of a structure or combustible material unless contained in an approved manner.
- Containers shall be provided with an approved spark arrester, screen, or door.
- Open, recreational, and cooking fires shall be constantly attended by a competent person until such fire is extinguished.
- This person shall have a garden hose connected to the water supply or other fire-extinguishing equipment readily available for use.

### **WHEN MUST OPEN BURNS BE EXTINGUISHED?**

Law enforcement and the fire department having jurisdiction shall have authority to enter the premises upon which open burning is taking place and extinguish, or require the immediate extinguishment of, any fire failing to comply with these requirements, or which, in the opinion of the fire personnel present, creates a threat to public health or safety.

### **REFERENCES**

- Pinellas County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 58, Article V - Open Burning.
- Florida Fire Prevention Code, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition (2020).