City Of Minneapolis Fire Department

Fire Prevention Bureau
350 South 5th Street, Room 233, Minneapolis, MN 55415-1387
(612) 673-3270 Fax (612) 673-2828
Approved by: Perry Ebner, Fire Marshal
(612) 673-3270 Revised: April, 2012

RECREATIONAL FIRES

Definitions

Recreational Fire: A small outdoor fire burning approved materials for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes.

Approved Materials: Fuel for a recreational fire consisting solely of unpainted wood which has not been treated in any manner with chemicals or preservatives.

Applicable rules: Every person starting, engaging in, conducting or hosting a recreational fire shall observe and comply with the following regulations, which are reflected in or are in addition to those imposed by the Minnesota State Fire Code:

(1) The total fuel area being burned in any recreational fire shall not exceed three (3) feet in diameter and two (2) feet in height.

(2) Recreational fires shall not be conducted within twenty-five (25) feet of a structure or combustible material.

(3) A surrounding fire barrier of non-combustible material that is at least six (6) Inches in height must be used.

(4) Only approved materials may be burned in a recreational fire.

(5) Recreational fires shall be constantly attended by at least one competent person eighteen (18) years of age or older and shall be completely extinguished before being abandoned.

(6) On-site fire-extinguishing equipment-such as operable garden hoses, sand and shovels, water buckets or barrels, or a portable fire extinguisher with a minimum of a 4-A rating - shall be readily available for use at recreational fires.

(7) Recreational fires shall only be conducted between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 10:00p.m.

(8) Recreational fires shall not be conducted if prevailing wind conditions exceed 10 mph.

Discontinuance. The fire chief, chief of police or any authorized member of the fire department, fire prevention bureau, or officer of the police department may order the immediate extinguishment or may themselves immediately extinguish any recreational fire which falls into any one of the following categories:

(1) Creates a hazardous or unsafe condition.

(2) Creates a nuisance or reasonably objectionable situation for any nearby resident.

(3) Violates any provision of this chapter or of any other chapter of this code.

(4) Violates any provision of the Minnesota State Fire Code.

Penalty: (a) Each violation of any provision of this chapter shall be a petty misdemeanor, for which the maximum fine shall be eighty dollars ($80.00).

(b) The fire chief, chief of police or any authorized member of the fire department, fire prevention bureau, or officer of the police department shall have the power and duty to enforce this chapter through appropriate administrative and legal remedies, including but not limited to issuance of citation

Applicability. This chapter shall apply solely to recreational fires (including portable freestanding fireplaces and “chimineas”) but shall not apply to barbeque grills, incinerators, barbeque pits or any other appliances or burning otherwise specifically regulated by the Minnesota State Fire Code.

Conflict. In the event that any provisions of this chapter conflict with the Minnesota State Fire Code or any other federal or Minnesota statute, rule, or law, the more restrictive provision shall prevail.

Inspections Coordinator
612-673-3271

Hazardous Materials
612-673-5816