



## INFORMATION BULLETIN RECREATIONAL FIRES



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Kirkland Fire/Building Department • 123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 • (425) 587-3650

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

*Definition: **Rubbish** is waste material including, but not limited to, garbage, waste paper and debris from construction or demolition.*

### **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

1. Recreational fires 3 feet in diameter or less and 2 feet in height or less, **do not** require a permit. Even though a permit may not be required, if weather, environmental or other conditions warrant, recreational fires may not be allowed. Refer to General Provisions #2, 5 and 6.

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS:**

1. **Location:** The location of the fire shall be at least 50 feet from any structure or other combustible materials. Conditions that could allow a fire to encroach upon a structure or other combustible materials must be corrected prior to igniting the fire.
2. **Environmental factors:** Weather and water availability could adversely affect the ability to have a recreational fire. Drought, high winds, water shortages, and dry brush or other conditions could preclude the allowance of fires, by direction of the Fire Chief. This could occur even if a permit had already been issued.
3. **Ability to extinguish the fire:** At least two portable fire extinguishers, with a minimum rating of 2A shall be available in case the fire needs to be quickly put out. A fully charged garden hose at the fire site is acceptable also.
4. **Supervision:** At least one adult shall remain at the burn site and be capable of extinguishing the fire rapidly, if a dangerous fire condition should exist or become apparent. An adult shall remain at the fire site from the beginning of the fire, until the complete extinguishment of the fire at the conclusion of the event.
5. **Smoke emissions:** In the event complaints about smoke emissions from surrounding areas are received by the Fire Department, the fire may need to be extinguished, even if a permit has been previously issued for the fire. Keep smoke emissions to a minimum, use seasoned dry wood.
6. **Burn ban:** Should the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency issue an air quality burn ban, the permit becomes null and void. It is the responsibility of the permittee to ensure no such ban exists prior to starting a recreational fire. Call 1-800-595-4341 to make sure it is okay to have a fire.
7. **Permit on site:** Be sure to have the burn permit available while burning is taking place. The permit does not release the permittee from liability for damages resulting from fire or smoke.
8. **Inspection:** A member of the Kirkland Fire and Building Department shall perform a site inspection prior to the event. Call 425 587-3650 to schedule the inspection. Please allow for a minimum 2-day lead-time to schedule the inspection.