Open Burning Regulations

Open Burning requires a permit.

- Open burning is allowed after obtaining a permit or other proper authorization from the Fire Department for recognized silvicultural or range or wildlife management practices, prevention for the control of diseases or pests, providing heat for outworkers, and a **bonfire**.
- Example:
  1. **Burning Yard Waste**
  2. **Burning at a job site**
  3. **Warming Fire**

** Cooking Fires, such as a Barbeque Grill, do not require a permit and are considered recreational fires.*

What do I need for a permit?

- **Location** : Any open burning or bonfire shall not be less than 150 feet from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading within 150 feet of any structure or other hazard. Fire in approved containers shall be permitted, provided they are not less than 50 feet from any structure.
- **Permit Form**: Permit Forms may be request from the Fire Department Administration Office, 6211 Salem Road.
- **Application**: Permit Forms must be submitted at least 10 days before burning is to take place.

Other Important Information

- Open Burning or Bonfires must be in attended at all times.
- Extinguishing equipment such as fire extinguishers, water, sand or dirt must be available for immediate utilization.
- Only clean seasoned dry fire wood may be used for a bonfire. The Fire Code prohibits burning that will be offensive or objectionable due to smoke or odor emissions.
- Permits may be temporarily revoked due to severe weather conditions or poor EPA air quality index conditions.
- There is a $25.00 charge for a burning permit.

What can I do to enjoy the outdoors and have a fire?

The use of an "outdoor fireplace" or "Chiminea" is acceptable by the Fire Code. These units contain the fire much like a fireplace does for the home. Please be aware that they do get extremely hot and should not be used close to combustible materials such as wood decking or siding. These items may be purchased at your local home and garden stores.