

On a regular basis, we receive calls from citizens reporting fires, which initiate full fire incident responses by the department, sending Fire Trucks, lights and sirens, to find out that someone was burning brush or something else illegally. This can needlessly endanger people for no reason. SO PLEASE, IF YOU ARE GOING TO BE BURNING, THINK TWICE AND BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES SET FORTH BELOW

**General restrictions:**

- Burning time is from 10 AM to 5 PM. Fire MUST be fully extinguished at 5 PM
- Burning must be conducted only during periods of good atmospheric ventilation
- Burning can not cause a nuisance. Fire must be extinguished on receipt of complaint.
- No gasoline or tires to be used to start fires.

**Open Burning shall be conducted:**

- On land proximate to generation
- At least 75 feet from structures
- Between 10 am and 5 PM
- At least 100 feet from Pond, Lake , Stream or Waterway

**No Burning of the following is allowed:**

- Any material from commercial / industrial land clearing
- NO commercial burning of any type.

**Fire MUST be extinguished:**

- When wind exceeds 10 mph
- When ordered by ANY CRIT FIRE Dept. Member.
- Creating a nuisance or complaint received
- Being conducted illegally

**Outdoor Fires**

Fires for burning brush, grass, debris or incinerators fall into this category.

10 AM to 5 PM Weekdays

NO BURNING ON WEEKENDS

Permission for open burning will be given on a daily basis, dependent upon the wind and weather conditions, time of day, length of burn, materials being burned, the number of verbal permission issued for that day, and the number of personnel available in town.

Decision to grant open burning will be made at 9 am depending on weather conditions.

**RECREATIONAL FIRE**

Recreational fires are defined as “outdoor fires utilized to cook food for human consumption”.

You may have a recreational fire on your property if you follow these rules:

- The fire must be utilized to cook food for human consumption.
- You must use charcoal or seasoned fire wood only. You will need to check with CRIT Fish & Game to see if they are issuing wood permits.
- The fire must not create any kind of nuisance to any of your neighbors.
- The fire must be constantly attended.
- There must be a means of extinguishment close by.
- All fires must be at least 50' away from any structure.
- No fire can be larger than 3'X 3'

### **EXCEPTIONS TO RECREATIONAL FIRES**

Single Family residents are allowed to have fires as close as 15 ft. away from their homes in an approved container.

APPROVED CONTAINERS CAN BE:

- "WEBER" Type outdoor fireplace.
- A properly-constructed fire pit made out of metal, stone, brick or concrete.
- BBQ Grill

THE MAXIMUM DURATION FOR ANY FIRE IS 3 HOURS.

As to what qualifies as an approved barbecue pit, the following rules apply:

- A barbecue pit is below ground-level hole, with non-combustible sides, that can contain a fire.
- The purpose of the barbecue pit is to cook food or to gather around for ceremony or pleasure.
- There is a 12" minimum requirement for depth and a recommendation for a 3' diameter.
- There is a requirement that vegetation and combustibles be kept at least 2' away from the pit.
- The pit must be on one's own property and 25' away from a structure.

Note: The key is that the barbecue pit can "contain a fire". An approved pit either has a grill top and ground level or has non-combustible sides in order that a wind could not sweep the fire from the pit.

### **Rural Residential Open Burning Conditions**

- The fire site must be a minimum of 75 feet from any structure and approved by the Fire Department
- A means of extinguishments must be on the site and approved by the Fire Department.
- The fire must be constantly attended by an adult.
- The applicant must completely extinguish the fire by dusk or upon order of ANY Fire Department Personnel.
- The type, the size, and the quantity of the fuel must be approved by the Fire Department.

- The maximum size of the fire pile is 4' X 4' X 4'.
- The Fire Department may cancel the verbal permission at any time due to changing weather conditions.
- The Fire Department will cancel the verbal permission due to excessive smoke or odors, or any violation of the permit.
- The verbal permission is valid only on the day that it is issued.
- Additional conditions may be applied as needed.

**Do not burn:**

- Garbage, paper and cardboard
- Tires and other rubber products
- Building materials, including lumber and wood scraps
- Wire, plastics and synthetic materials
- Asphalt shingles and heavy oils
- Paints, household and agricultural chemicals

**Location**

- Do not burn within 500 feet of any buildings or structures.
- Select a location away from any utility lines.
- Keep piles away from buildings, fences, decks, trees, shrubs and any other combustible material
- Be sensitive to neighbors who may experience smoke blowing into their home or property.

**Have Fire Control Tools on Hand**

- Have fire extinguishments material on hand such as a water supply, shovels and rakes.
- Check water supply before igniting the fire. Be very cautious if you attempt to control a brush fire with a garden hose. Wildfires move very rapidly and can severely burn you.
- Extinguish all fires and embers before nightfall.

**Watch the Wind**

- Be prepared to extinguish all open burning if the wind picks up or weather changes. Use common sense in dry and windy weather. Sudden wind change is how most open burning gets out of control.

**Don't Wait to Call for Help**

- If the fire should get out of control, call 911 immediately.
- If you or your family is in danger evacuate the area immediately
- The permitted designee must be an ADULT and outside and within sight of the burning until the fire is completely cold and out.

The C.R.I.T. Fire Department members urge you to use the utmost caution in all of your open burning activities to prevent wild and debilitating fires.