



Recreational Fires

Small recreational fires or campfires shall be permitted but shall be subject to meeting all regulations contained herein. All fires must be contained to a device designed to hold a small fire, such as an outdoor fireplace, commercially manufactured steel or ceramic portable fireplace (including chimneys and portable fire pits) and used according to the manufacturer's directions. Stationary fire pits shall be built in a below-ground pit surrounded on the outside by a non-combustible material such as concrete block, metal or rocks with a minimum depth of 6 inches. Recreational fires must produce little detectable smoke, odor and soot beyond the property line. Recreational fires will be permitted while respecting weather conditions, neighbors, burning bans and air quality so that nuisance, health or safety hazards will not be created.

No more than one recreational fire is allowed on any property at one time.

- **Permits**

1. A burn permit is not required for a recreational fire.
2. A building permit is required for any patio built around a recreational fire and must comply with setback regulations for patios.

- **Size**

A recreational fire shall be no more than two feet in height and cover an area no more than three feet in diameter (measured from the inside of the fire ring or border).

- **Location**

Recreational fires shall not be located closer than 25 feet to any structure or combustible materials (such as wood, paper, plastic) and must be contained in a fire ring. Conditions that could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition. A surrounding fire barrier of non-combustible material that is at least 6 inches in height must be used. The size of the fire prior to ignition must meet the requirements listed above.

- **Wood**

Allowed: Dry, clean fuel only such as twigs, branches, limbs, "presto logs", charcoal, and cord wood or untreated dimensional lumber. Clean pallets may be used when cut into three foot lengths. Only unpainted wood, which has not been treated with chemicals or preservatives.

- **Prohibited Materials– these items can NOT be burned**
 1. No wood that is green with leaves or needles.
 2. No leaves or grass clippings.
 3. No rotten or wet wood.
 4. No wood treated with paint, glue or preservatives or oil-soaked.
 5. No garbage, construction debris, plastic materials or waste materials.
- **Fire extinguishing equipment**

A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand or garden hose shall be readily available at all times until the fire is extinguished.
- **Attendance**

Every recreational fire shall be constantly attended by an adult person and shall be completely extinguished before leaving the scene.
- **Hours**

Recreational fires shall be conducted between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 a.m.
- **Wind Conditions**

Recreational fires shall not be conducted if wind conditions exceed 10 mph.
- **Discontinuance**

The North Mankato Fire Chief and authorized North Mankato Fire Department personnel are authorized to require that recreational fires be immediately discontinued if such fires are determined by the Chief or NMF D personnel to constitute a hazardous condition.
- No Recreational or Open Flame fire will be allowed when an Open Fire Ban is in place because of dry hazard conditions.
- Failure to comply with these provisions may be a chargeable offense.

Barbecue Appliances

- Freestanding barbecue pits or approved burning appliances (freestanding fireplaces) shall maintain a clearance of not less than 25 feet from structures and other combustible materials.
- General provisions also apply.

Outdoor cooking. Open burning will be permitted for outdoor cooking when the fire is limited to the minimum size necessary and contained in a device or cooking utensil commonly referred to as a grill or hibachi and designed for outdoor cooking purposes. All applicable and/or reasonable safety precautions shall be taken when using said devices or utensils.