



CITY OF HUMBOLDT POLICY #4814

TITLE: Outdoor Fire Pit Policy
ADOPTED BY: Council

ORIGIN: Administration
REVIEWED BY: Council
JURISDICTION: City of Humboldt

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 31, 2000 **AMENDED:** November 12, 2013
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In accordance with the City's Fire Prevention Bylaw listed below are the regulations for permanent outdoor fire pits.

1. A written permit is required from the Fire Department before constructing and/or using a receptacle for open fires.
2. Open-air fires must be contained in a manufactured non-combustible receptacle constructed of cement or brick, or sheet metal which has a minimum 10-gauge thickness (1/4-inch to 5/16-inch) and designed for the use as a fire pit and be approved by the Fire Department. Permitted fire pits shall not consist only of a pit or hole dug in the ground.
3. The receptacle must be located on private property, a distance of at least 10 feet or 3.1 meters from any property line, building or combustible structures or from trees or combustible vegetation that might be situated on the property.
4. The receptacle must be covered with a heavy gauge metal screen with openings not exceeding 10 millimeters.
5. The area 16 inches or 40 cm on the ground around the circumference of the receptacle shall be free of combustible materials or vegetation and shall be covered with sand. The area directly under the receptacle shall also consist of sand or another type of non-combustible material such as concrete or brick.

6. The fuel for open-air fires shall consist only of charcoal briquettes or cut seasoned wood. The burning of the following or any other materials is prohibited:
 - Cardboard
 - Rubbish
 - Garden refuse or leaves
 - Manure
 - Livestock or animal carcasses
 - Any material classified as a dangerous good; and
 - Any material which when burned will generate black smoke or an offensive odor including insulation from electrical coring or equipment, asphalt roofing materials, hydrocarbons plastics, rubber materials, creosote wood or any similar material.
7. Open-air fires shall not be permitted in any front yard, as defined in the City's Zoning Bylaw as amended from time to time.
8. Open-air fires must be reasonably supervised so as to prevent their spread.
9. Open-air fires are not to be set in windy conditions conducive to creating a running fire, and if smoke from an open-air fire causes unreasonable interference with the use and enjoyment of another person's property the fire must be extinguished immediately. Repeated offenses of this nature will result in the immediate removal and/or suspension of its use for a period of one calendar year and the revoking of the permit, at the discretion of the Fire Chief.
10. If due to excessive flames and/or smoke of any residential open-air fire pit, a call is placed to the local fire department and firemen are dispersed, the owner of the fire pit shall be assessed a fee in accordance with The Fire Prevention Bylaw.