

## **BONFIRE AND CAMPFIRE GUIDELINES**

**Chapter 511, Section 511-703.** Limited burning for special purposes states in part, "The open burning of wood products which does not create a nuisance or a fire hazard and which is attended by a responsible person at all times until completely extinguished may be permitted for the following purposes:

- (a) Ceremonial fires and bonfires: A bonfire must be in connection with a religious ceremony, school pep rallies, scouting activities and similar purposes;
  - (1) A bonfire in connection with recreational activities including but not limited to sledding and ice skating;
- (b) Campfires and fires for cookouts."

**The following restrictions shall apply to all bonfires, campfires and cookouts:**

- 1. Only dry naturally occurring wood products may be burned (i.e. branches, twigs). Bonfire material must be less than 3 inches in diameter.
- 2. Burning must occur on agriculturally, residential, special use SU-1 (Churches), SU-2 (Schools), SU-7 (Charitable and Philanthropic Institutions), SU-34 (a. club rooms and b. fraternal rooms-fraternity and lodge), or P-K (Park Districts) zoned property.
- 3. The aggregate amounts of burn material shall not exceed:
  - 1. 20 feet in diameter and 6 feet in height for bonfires.
  - 2. 2 feet in diameter and 1 foot in height for campfires.
  - 3. 2 feet in diameter and 1 foot in height for cookouts.
- 4. Campfires and cookouts must be contained within a ring of bricks or stone.
- 5. For bonfires, contact the City and the local fire department of jurisdiction prior to burning.
- 6. Water or means of extinguishment must be maintained throughout the course of the burn and the fire must be attended at all times.
- 7. Burning must occur at least twenty (20) feet from any structures and combustible materials, (i.e. fences, garages, houses, and the drip line (outside) of a tree).
- 8. Burning must be stopped if the Section, the Fire Department or Police Department determines that this burn is unreasonably interferes with another individual's comfortable enjoyment of life and property.
- 9. Burning shall not be for the purpose of disposing of materials generated from the owner's property in order to avoid illegal burning.

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