



PORTSMOUTH FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Basic Outdoor Burning Rules & Regulations

1. A fire permit is always required for open burning in Portsmouth.
2. There is a \$10.00 fee for all fire permits.
3. Fires are classified as Category I, II, or III depending on their size as defined in New Hampshire RSA 227-L:17 and Res 5600. This information is found on the back of the permit.
4. Fires in chimineas and metal fire pits are considered open Category I fires.
5. Class I fire permits are valid from January 1st through December 31st of the year they are issued.
6. All burn sites, including seasonal sites shall be inspected prior to the issuance of a permit.
7. Larger fires may be considered commercial fires and require a permit from the District Forest Ranger.
8. Category I fires may be kindled at any time.
9. Category II or III fires may only be kindled between the hours of 5:00 pm and 9:00 am, or while actively raining.
10. Category I fires shall be at least 25 feet from any structure.
11. Category II and III fires shall be kindled a minimum of 50 feet from any structure.
12. Open burning is prohibited in the "South End" of the City. This area is defined as south of State Street, east of Pleasant Street, east of Junkins Avenue, and north of South Street. Additionally, burning is prohibited from Marcy Street to New Castle Avenue.
13. You must own the land or have written permission from the landowner to obtain a fire permit.
14. You must be at least 18 years old to be eligible for a burn permit.
15. Permittees shall have adequate personnel, water, and tools on hand at all times to control or extinguish the fire.
16. A buried fire is not an extinguished fire.
17. Should any provision(s) of state and local rules, regulations, ordinances or laws conflict, the most restrictive shall apply.
18. Any deviation from these rules and regulations requires approval from the Portsmouth Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau.

Installation of Chimineas and Fire Pits

1. All devices shall be installed and used in accordance with the manufactures instructions.
2. Deceives shall not be installed or used on combustible surfaces (i.e. decks).
3. Devices shall be installed or used at least 36" from all combustible materials.
4. Never "over-fire" a device. Chimineas may crack and break when over-fired. Chimineas are considered over-fired when flame is visible from the top.

March 15, 2019