



## ROCK SPRINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT

600 College Drive  
Rock Springs, WY 82901

307-352-1475 phone

## POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Date:	June 1, 2013
Number:	FP 13-01
Subject:	Outdoor Burning and Nuisance Fires

*A permit is not required for outdoor fireplaces, fire pits, or other contained outdoor fire appliances. This policy clarifies the guidelines for use of these appliances.*

### Ordinance requirements:

#### **4-200-7 Burning Prohibited.**

- (a) Open burning of substances of any kind within the City is hereby prohibited, except by special permit issued by the Fire Inspector in accordance with State regulations.
- (b) Burning of garbage, refuse, or rubbish within the City is hereby prohibited.
- (c) Open burning or nuisance fires that are offensive or objectionable because of smoke or odor emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous may be extinguished or cause to be extinguished.

### Code requirements:

**305.4 Deliberate or negligent burning.** It shall be unlawful to deliberately or through negligence set fire to or cause the burning of combustible material in such a manner as to endanger the safety of persons or property.

### Definitions:

**Garbage:** Putrescible animal and vegetable wastes resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food. (4-200-2)

**Nuisance Fire:** Nuisance fire shall mean any fire that is offensive or objectionable because of smoke or odor emissions. (4-200-2)

**Open Burning:** Open burning shall mean a fire where any material is burned in the open or in a receptacle other than a furnace. Incinerators equipped with afterburners, barbecue pits and fire places used for the purpose indicated is not open burning and is exempt from that provision of the Ordinance prohibiting open burning. (4-200-2)

**Refuse:** All putrescible and non-putrescible solid waste (except body waste), including garbage, rubbish, ashes, street cleanings, small dead animals, and solid market and industrial wastes. (4-200-2)

**Rubbish:** Nonputrescible solid waste (excluding ashes) consisting of both combustible and noncombustible waste, such as paper, cardboard, tin cans, yard clippings, wood, glass, bedding, crockery and similar materials. (4-200-2)

### Requirements:

- ⊗ The maximum fuel area is 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height.
- ⊗ Solid fuel burning appliances may only be fueled by cut or split firewood or approved commercial products.
- ⊗ Materials such as refuse, rubbish, construction materials, paper products, yard debris, leaves, garbage, etc. shall not be burned.
- ⊗ Fires that are not contained in an approved burning appliance must be at least 25 feet from a building or combustible materials.

- ⊗ Fires that are contained in an approved burning appliance should be no closer than 15 feet to a building or combustible materials.
- ⊗ The appliance must utilize a screen or spark arrestor and it must be in place while burning.
- ⊗ Any conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of a building shall be eliminated prior to ignition.
- ⊗ A fire extinguisher of at least 2-A rating or a charged water hose must be in close proximity to the appliance while burning.
- ⊗ Fires shall be constantly attended by a person knowledgeable in the use of the fire extinguishing equipment.
- ⊗ The appliance shall not be left unattended at any time until the fire is fully extinguished.
- ⊗ Fires shall not be ignited if wind conditions create a hazardous condition.
- ⊗ Fires shall not be ignited on days the National Weather Service issues a Red Flag Warning for the area.
- ⊗ Fires may be ordered to be discontinued if, in the opinion of the Rock Springs Fire Department, the fire constitutes a hazardous condition or produces obnoxious smoke or odors that may cause a public nuisance.