

HAZLET TOWNSHIP BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION

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RECREATIONAL FIRES and OPEN BURNING

(Per NJ Fire Code – N.J.A.C. 5:70-3, 307 and Hazlet Bureau of Fire Prevention requirements)

Definitions:

1. Chiminea, outdoor Fireplace, Fire Pit – a structure and/or device designed to contain and control a recreational fire means approved container.
2. Firewood – wood consisting of trunks and branches of trees and bushes, but does not include leaves, needles, vines or brush.
3. Nuisance – any odor, emission, or event that prevents the reasonable use and enjoyment of one's property.
4. Open Burning – any fire from which the products of combustion are emitted directly into the open air and, are not by design directed through a stack, chimney or other container designed for recreation fires.
5. Recreational Fires – an outdoor fire where seasoned wood of approved dimensions is burned for entertainment purposes.
6. Treated Lumber – dry wood which has been milled, dried and treated or combined with any petroleum product, glue, chemical, preservative, adhesive, stain, paint or other substance

General:

A person shall not kindle or maintain or authorize to be kindled or maintained any open burning unless conducted and approved in accordance with Sections 307.1.1 through 307.5. of N.J.A.C. 5:70-3 and the requirements as set forth below.

1. Open burning / Recreational Fires shall be prohibited when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous.
2. Recreational fires in approved containers shall be allowed without a permit at single-family homes, duplexes, townhomes, subject to the regulations contained herein.
3. Recreational Fires shall be limited to a maximum three-foot diameter and two-foot height, and must be contained in a noncombustible chiminea, outdoor fireplace, fire pit or other method, approved by the Fire Prevention Officer.

4. All openings in the container or fire pit must be covered with wire mesh or other screening materials that will prevent the passage of sparks or embers.
5. Recreational fires in approved containers shall not be conducted within 15 feet of a structure or combustible material. Conditions that could cause a fire to spread within 15 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.
6. Recreational fires must be constantly attended and supervised by an adult 18 years of age or older until such fire is completely extinguished. 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, water barrel or garden hose shall be available for immediate use.
7. No such fire or container used for open burning may be used on any porch, deck, balcony or any other portion of a building; within any room or space; under any building overhang.
8. The burning of yard waste, leaves, brush, vines, evergreen needles, branches less than two inches in diameter, treated or untreated lumber, garbage, trash, refuse, paper products or anything other than firewood as set forth herein is prohibited except that kindling may be used to start a recreational fire.
9. The Hazlet Township Fire Official, Fire Inspector, Fire Chief or Police Officer may order any recreational or open fire, or the use of a chiminea, outdoor fireplace or fire pit which creates a nuisance, to be extinguished.
10. Recreational fires as set forth herein shall be prohibited between the hours of 2:00 am and 7:00 am.
11. Open burning of any material, yard waste, leaves, brush, vines, evergreen needles, branches less than two inches in diameter, treated or untreated lumber, garbage, trash, refuse and paper products is prohibited within the municipal boundary of the Township of Hazlet.