



EVESHAM TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1

Fire Prevention Division

P.O. Box 276 – 984 Tuckerton Road – Evesham, New Jersey 08053-0276 – 856-983-2750

NEW JERSEY UNIFORM FIRE CODE AND THE NEW JERSEY FOREST FIRE SERVICE: OPEN BURNING GUIDELINES

- The following are guidelines for recreational fires/fire pits, bonfires and agricultural burn permits. Any open burning activity not specifically addressed herein should reference the NJUFC and the NJFFS
- A site plan may be required by the Fire Official prior to event.
- This requirement fact sheet may not be all inclusive of the requirements of the NJUFC and/or the NJFFS

FIRE SAFETY PERMIT:

- Summary: permits for recreational fires (outdoor fire containers) are not required, permits for bonfires are required from the Evesham Fire Prevention Division and may be required from the New Jersey Forest Fire Service, permits for agricultural burning are required from the Evesham Fire Prevention Division and the New Jersey Forest Fire Service

OUTDOOR FIRE CONTAINERS/CHIMNEYS:

- Summary: Fires must be in approved, permitted containers and be located outside not less than 15 feet from any structure. Generally speaking, fire containers from local home stores (Home Depot, Lowes, Wal-Mart, Target) are acceptable as long as they are used as intended with all included lids/accessories.
- Chapter 75 of the Code of Evesham also places restrictions on outdoor fires and states that “Devices known as "fire pits" or "chimineas" may be deemed unsafe and ordered taken out of service by the Fire Official. These devices shall be utilized as specified by the manufacturer and shall not be utilized for rubbish or yard waste disposal purposes.” The Code of Evesham reinforces the NJUFC.

NEW JERSEY FOREST FIRE SERVICE REGULATIONS SUMMARIZED:

- Fire Permits-Forest Fire Laws of Title 13, Chapter 9 New Jersey State Forest Fire Service declare that: “No person shall set fire to or cause to be set on fire in any manner whatsoever; or to start fires anywhere and permit them to spread to forests without first obtaining written permission by the department.”
- The “General Forest Fire Act” (N.J.S.A. 13:9 et. seq.) requires that before having any fire within a forested area, you must contact the nearest Forest Fire Service office to request a permit. You may also need a permit from the local fire official
- No permits may be issued for a fire that is in violation of the State Air Pollution Code or conflicts with the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code
- Firewardens may place any restrictions or special conditions on burning those local conditions may warrant
- Prohibited Under “Control and Prohibition of Open Burning” (N.J.A.C. 7:27—2.1 et seq.)
 - Salvage operations by open burning
 - The disposal of rubbish, garbage, trade waste, buildings or structures by open burning
 - The disposal of fallen leaves by open burning

NEW JERSEY UNIFORM FIRE CODE DIRECT FROM THE CODE BOOK:

used in projection, shall be operated within a motion picture projection room complying with the construction code in effect at the time of the construction or alteration.

306.2 Cellulose nitrate film storage. Storage of cellulose nitrate film shall be in accordance with NFPA 40.

SECTION 307

OPEN BURNING AND RECREATIONAL FIRES

307.1 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 this section.

307.1.1 Prohibited open burning. Open burning that is offensive or objectionable because of smoke emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous shall be prohibited.

Forest Fire Service. In districts for which Forest Fire Wardens have been appointed in accordance with the General Forest Fire Act (N.J.S.A. 13:9-44.1 et seq.), any fire within, or adjacent to, any forest which has the potential to cause a wildfire is prohibited by this subchapter, without first obtaining a permit from the State Forest Fire Service in the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

307.2 Allowable burning. Open burning shall be allowed without prior notification to the fire official for recreational fires, highway safety flares, smudge pots and similar occupational needs.

307.2.1 Approval required. Open burning shall be allowed after obtaining a permit from the fire official for a bonfire. All permits shall be requested by and issued to the owner or agent of the land upon which the bonfire is to be kindled.

307.2.1.1 Application. Applications for open burning shall be submitted in writing at least 10 days before the fire is set and shall be in such form and contain such information as required by the fire official. Such applications shall contain, as a minimum, information regarding the purpose of the proposed burning, the nature and quantities of material to be burned, the date when such burning will take place, the location of the burning site and the on-site fire-extinguishing equipment to be provided.

307.2.1.2 Agricultural burning permitted. The burning of herbaceous or infested plant life, the burning of orchard prunings and cuttings, prescribed burnings and the clearing of agricultural land by burning are prohibited by this subchapter, unless in accordance with a permit issued under the provisions of N.J.A.C. 7:27-2, administered by the State Forest Fire Service in the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

307.2.2 Waste disposal. Open burning shall not be utilized for waste disposal purposes, shall be of the minimum size for the intended purpose, and the fuel shall be chosen to minimize the generation and emission of air contaminants.

307.3 Extinguishment authority. The fire code official is authorized to order the extinguishment by the permit holder, another person responsible or the fire department of open burn-

ing that creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation.

307.4 Location. The location for open burning shall not be less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet (15 240 mm) of any structure.

Exceptions:

1. Fires in approved containers that are not less than 15 feet (4572 mm) from a structure.
2. The minimum required distance from a structure shall be 25 feet (7620 mm) where the pile size is 3 feet (914 mm) or less in diameter and 2 feet (610 mm) or less in height.

307.4.1 Bonfires. A bonfire shall not be conducted within 50 feet (15 240 mm) of a structure or combustible material unless the fire is contained in a barbecue pit. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 50 feet (15 240 mm) of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

307.4.1.1 Bonfire size and duration. A bonfire shall not be more than 5 feet (1524 mm) by 5 feet (1524 mm) by 5 feet (1524 mm) in dimension and shall not burn longer than 3 hours. The maximum size and duration of a bonfire shall not be increased by the fire official unless it is determined that fire safety requirements of the situation and the desirable duration of burn warrant the increase.

307.4.1.2 Material. Fuel for a bonfire shall consist only of seasoned dry firewood and shall be ignited with a small quantity of paper. The fire shall not be utilized for waste disposal purposes, and the fuel shall be chosen to minimize the generation of air contaminants.

307.4.2 Recreational fires. Recreational fires shall not be conducted within 25 feet (7620 mm) of a structure or combustible material. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet (7620 mm) of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition. Fires in approved containers shall be permitted, provided that such fires are not less than 15 feet (4572 mm) from any structure.

307.5 Attendance. Open burning, bonfires or recreational fires shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.

SECTION 308 OPEN FLAMES

308.1 General. This section shall control open flames, fire and burning on all premises.

308.2 Where prohibited. A person shall not take or utilize an open flame or light in a structure, vessel, boat or other place where highly flammable, combustible or explosive material is utilized or stored. Lighting appliances shall be well-secured in a glass globe and wire mesh cage or a similar approved device.