

# EAST PENNSBORO TOWNSHIP

## OPEN BURNING INFORMATION SHEET

The Burning of refuse, trash, leaves and trimmings (yard waste) **is prohibited** by East Pennsboro Township Ordinance 635-2001, of the code of ordinances 757-2009, §20-231, Article 5. Prohibited open burning, which reads as follows: *“No burning of solid waste, yard waste, or recyclables, either openly or in closed containers, will be permitted in the Township of East Pennsboro.”*

Code of Ordinances 757-2009, §5-108, Section F, Adopting the 2003 International Fire Code

### OPEN BURNING: 2003 IFC. Section 307

Defined; the burning of materials wherein products of combustion are emitted directly into the ambient air without passing through a stack or chimney from an enclosed chamber.

### RECREATIONAL FIRE. 2003 IFC, section 302

An outdoor fire burning materials other than rubbish where the fuel being burned is not contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, barbeque grill or barbeque pit and has a total fuel area of three **3 feet** (914 mm) or less in diameter and two **2 feet** (610 mm) or less in height for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes.

***Recreational fires do not require a permit*** and shall comply with the following conditions:

- No refuse (trash), recyclables, construction materials, leaves or trimmings may be burned.
- Fires shall be limited to three (3) feet or less in diameter and two (2) feet or less in height.
- Only dried seasoned wood shall be burned. (or other items; charcoal, manufactured logs)
- Fires shall be in a pit or contained by a protective barrier or approved portable fire pit.
- Fires shall be at least **25 feet** from any structure, property line and combustible material.
  - Fire contained in approved portable fire pits shall be **15 feet** from any structure, property line, and combustible material.
- A garden hose, or portable fire extinguisher (minimum 4-A rating) must be available for immediate use.
- Fires shall be constantly attended by an adult until the fire extinguished.
- **The 2003 International fire code, section 307.2.2 states:** *Open burning that will be offensive or objectionable because of smoke or odor emissions when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous shall be prohibited. The fire code official is authorized to order the extinguishment by the permit holder or the fire department of open burning which creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation.*
- Conditions which could cause a fire to spread with in twenty five **(25) feet** of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.
- Fires shall be completely extinguished and ***shall not be left untended or left to “burn out”.***
  - Any excessive noise complaints will be handled by the Police Department per policy.

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### BONFIRE.

An outdoor fire utilized for ceremonial purposes, which is more than three **(3) feet** in diameter and more than two **(2) feet** in height, but at no time shall it be bigger than five (5) feet in diameter and four (4) feet in height.

An **OPEN BURNING PERMIT APPLICATION** must be completed and submitted along with fee and site plan indicating the location of bonfire with distances to all buildings and property lines. Including the date and time of the event.

Bonfires must comply with the following conditions:

- The minimum distance from a structure or combustible material is fifty **(50) feet**.
- A garden hose or portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating shall be available for immediate use. The Fire Code Official may require additional safety precautions including but not limited to extra portable fire extinguishers, extra staff for event safety and or fire department apparatus to stand by.
- Bonfires shall be constantly attended until fire is completely extinguished.
- Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within fifty **(50) feet** of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.
- Bonfires shall be completely extinguished no later than **11 PM** or as otherwise noted on permit.

### PLEASE NOTE:

**Any Bonfire permit can be revoked for weather conditions or safety concerns and both Bonfire and Recreational fires that produce offensive or objectionable smoke, odor emissions, malodorous air contaminants/ odors emitting from the proposed property location where burning is being conducted that interfere with, but not limited to, the reasonable enjoyment of life, causing damage to other property or health related concerns.**

**The Township Fire Code Official or his designee, Police Department or other sworn code official of the township is authorized to order the extinguishment of any burning which creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation.**

### Barbeque(s) / outdoor grills. 2003 IFC, Section 308

#### 308.3.1 Open-flame cooking devices.

Charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices **shall not** be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet (3048 mm) of combustible construction.

##### Exceptions:

1. One- and two-family dwellings.
2. Where buildings, balconies and decks are protected by an automatic sprinkler system.

#### 308.3.1.1 Liquefied-petroleum-gas-fueled cooking devices.

LP-gas burners having an LP-gas container with a water capacity greater than 2.5 pounds [nominal 1 pound (0.454 kg) LP-gas capacity] shall not be located on combustible balconies or within **10 feet (3048 mm)** of combustible construction.

**Exception:** One- and two-family dwellings.

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**EXAMPLES OF APPROVED PORTABLE RECREATION FIRE PITS**



**EXAMPLES OF APPROVED OUTDOOR FIREPLACES**



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**EXAMPLES OF FIRE PITS AND RINGS**



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