



**TOWNSHIP OF UPPER PROVIDENCE
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES**

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Quick Reference for Township Burning Regulations

All fires must be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A minimum of one (1) portable fire extinguished with a minimum 4-A rating or other *approved* on-site fire-extinguishing equipment shall be available for immediate use at all times until extinguishment.

Any fires that cause hazardous/objectionable conditions may be ordered to be extinguished by the *fire code official* (fire marshal). Fires that are not in compliance with the regulations outlined below may be requested to be extinguished by any *fire officer* or *police officer* – if the responsible person refuses to comply, contact the *fire code official*.

-Open Burning. The burning of materials/fuels not contained within a fireplace, appliance, or similar device – often associated with burning material for disposal purposes. This is **strictly prohibited** in the Township on all commercial and residential parcels.

There are very limited instances where open burning is permitted, and it is generally only for agricultural purposes. The local fire company will be notified if open burning has been approved by the *fire code official*.

-Portable Outdoor Fireplaces. Outdoor fireplaces, outdoor patio stoves, chimineas, and factory-built metal novelty stoves **can be used without a permit** on private property within the Township. These devices shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall not be operated within fifteen (15) feet of a structure or combustible material. Only firewood is permitted to be burned in these devices, any other material is prohibited.

-Recreational Fires. Fires not contained within a *portable outdoor fireplace*, and with a fuel diameter of less than (3) feet and a fuel height of less than two (2) feet, used for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth, or similar purposes **are allowed without a permit**. *Recreational fires* shall not be conducted within twenty-five (25) feet of any structure or combustible materials. Only firewood shall be used as fuel for *recreational fires*.

-Bon Fires. Fires not contained in a portable outdoor fireplace and not meeting the definition of a recreational fire **require a permit**. The local fire company will be notified if a *bon fire* has been approved by the *fire code official*.

See Chapter 80 of the Township Code or contact the fire marshal for additional information.