

# OUTDOOR BURNING OVERVIEW



The Brenham Fire Department receives numerous calls regarding **open burning**.

This document explains the Open Burning Regulations as approved by Chapter 11, Section 11-23 Burning Refuse of the City of Brenham Code of Ordinances. Failure to follow good safety practices with fire can lead to serious injuries and property damage.

Extinguishment Authority – The fire code official is authorized to order the extinguishment of any open burning, recreational fire, or bonfire that creates offensive/objectable smoke or odor or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation.



## OPEN BURNING

— **Burn Permit Required** —

Examples: Burning leaves, grass clippings, yard or household debris, etc.

Open Burning is any burning of materials in an open space, where combustible products are emitted directly into the air.

**If you have additional questions, contact the Brenham Fire Department at: 979-337-7302 or 101 N. Chappell Hill St.**



## RECREATIONAL FIRE

— **NO Burn Permit Required** —

Examples: Cooking, pleasure, religious, ceremonial, warmth, etc.

Recreational fires :

- are outdoor fires where the materials being burned are not contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, barbeque grill, or barbeque pit
- have a total fuel area of 3-ft. or less in diameter and 2-ft. or less in height
- should NOT be conducted within 15-ft. of a structure or combustible material unless the fire is contained in a Fire Marshal-approved container

**To contact the Fire Marshal about container regulations, call 979-337-7302**



## BONFIRE

— **NO Burn Permit Required** —

Bonfires:

- An outdoor fire, typically large in nature, for ceremonial purposes, and can draw a big crowd
- should NOT be conducted within 300-ft. of a structure or combustible material and piled no higher than 8-ft. and no wider than 12ft.
- may be subject to enforcement of other City Codes such as, but not limited to, the Nuisance Code



The patio fireplace is often treated as open burning; however, these devices are not regulated by the City Code and are legal to use within the city limits.

Attendance is required, at all times, until the fire is extinguished. Also required - and available for immediate use, if needed - is a *minimum* of one portable fire extinguisher or other approved on-site fire extinguishing equipment (i.e., dirt, sand, water, barrel, garden hose, water truck).