



# TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

Department of Public Safety  
Fire Marshal's Office

Berks County, PA

2850 Windmill Rd.  
Reading, PA 19608  
Tel. (610) 678-5393  
Fax. (610) 678-4571  
www.springtwpberks.org

## Open Burning, Recreational Fires, Portable Outdoor Fire Places

### A PERMIT IS REQUIRED TO BE IN HAND AT TIME OF INSPECTION

The **2018 International Fire Codes Section 307** states the following:

- **Open Burning** - International Fire Code Section 105.6.32 states a permit is required.
- A person shall not kindle, maintain, or authorize to be kindled or maintained any open burning unless conducted and approved in accordance to this section.
- **Prohibited** - Open burning shall be prohibited when it is offensive or objectionable because of smoke emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fire hazardous.
- **Permit** - A permit is required prior to kindling a fire for silvicultural or range or wildlife management practices, prevention or control of disease or pests or a bon fire.
- **Extinguishment** - The Fire Code Official, the Fire Department and other authorized individuals shall have the authorization to order the extinguishment by a permit holder, of an open burning that creates or adds to hazardous or objectionable situations.
- **Open burning** - shall not be less than 50 feet from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet of any structure. If the pile is 3 feet or less in diameter and the pile is 2 feet or less in height, then the required distance from a structure shall be 25 feet.
- **Bon fires** - shall not be conducted within 50 feet of any structure or combustible materials unless the fire is contained in a barbeque pit. Conditions that could cause a fire to spread within 50 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.
- **Recreational fires** - shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material. Conditions that could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.
- **Portable outdoor fireplaces** - shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer instructions and shall not be operated within 15 feet of a structure or combustible materials.
- **Attendance** - Open burning, bon fires, recreational fires and the use of portable outdoor fireplaces shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher or onsite fire extinguishing equipment such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck shall be available for immediate utilization.
- **Open flame cooking devices** - Charcoal burners and other open flame cooking devices should not be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet of combustible construction.