

INVER GROVE HEIGHTS FIRE DEPARTMENT  
FIRE PREVENTION AND LIFE SAFETY DIVISION  
POLICY / PROCEDURE

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**RECREATIONAL FIRES**

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**PURPOSE**

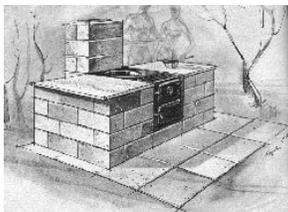
Recreational fires can present a significant fire hazard when they are mishandled. For this reason the Fire Code places requirements on how they are conducted. This policy is intended to outline the requirements of the fire code for recreational fires within the City of Inver Grove Heights.

**DEFINITIONS**

CHIEF is the Chief of the Inver Grove Heights Fire Department, Fire Marshal or their authorized representatives including but not limited to the fire and police officers in charge of a response to a burning occurrence.

RECREATIONAL FIRE is an outdoor fire burning of materials other than rubbish where fuel being burned is not contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, barbecue grill or barbecue pit and with a total fuel area of 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes.

*Note: To be a recreational fire, the fire must be for the purposes stated in the definition above and not just to burn waste.*



(Barbecue Pit)



(Outdoor Fireplace)

**PERMITS REQUIRED**

Permits are required for all recreational fires. There are two types of permits:

“Recreational Fire Permit” for a fire not in a permanent fire ring. (A permit is required for each fire)

“Recreational Fire Ring Permit” for fires in a permanent fire ring (A separate permit is not needed for each fire within a lawfully existing fire ring)

Permit applications may be obtained at City Hall, by appointment with the Fire Marshal by calling 651-450-2547 and on the City Web site at [www.invergroveheights.org](http://www.invergroveheights.org) Completed applications should be mailed or dropped off at City to the attention of the Fire Marshal.

Applicants must at least 18 years of age.

Applicants must own the property on which the fire will occur or the property owner must co-sign the permit application.

Permits for properties owned by organizations such as churches, schools, and associations are available when signed by a person with the legal authority to act on their behalf. It is then that person's responsibility to insure that internal policies are put into place to insure that each person using the fire ring is aware of the material presented in this policy.

#### **PERMIT FEES**

Recreational Fire Permit (fire not in permanent fire ring) \$15.00 each occurrence

Recreational Fire Ring Permit \$25.00

#### **PERMIT VALIDITY**

A Recreation Fire Permit is valid for the period of time indicated on the permit.

A Recreational Fire Ring Permit is valid for as long as you own your property. The permit is not transferable to another person or property. Upon sale of the property the new owner must apply for a permit in their name or the fire ring must be removed and the area restored.

Recreational Fire Permits and Recreational Fire Ring Permits are void during conditions with a fire danger rating of "Extreme" issued by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Daily information can be found on the DNR web site at [www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/firerating\\_restrictions.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/firerating_restrictions.html)

Recreational Fire Permits and Recreational Fire Ring Permits are void during open burning bans issued by the Inver Grove Heights Fire Chief. Should a local ban be necessary information will be posted on the City web site at [www.invergroveheights.org](http://www.invergroveheights.org)

## **FUEL / PROHIBITED MATERIALS / SMOKE**

The fuel for recreational fires must be clean, dry, wood and the wood cannot be or have been painted, stained, treated or soiled by a hazardous substance.

You cannot burn your trash, garbage, grass, leaves and yard rakings in the city.

Flammable and combustible liquids should not be used to ignite recreational fires.

Recreational fires must be managed to burn with the least amount of smoke possible and cannot be left to smolder. Know where the smoke from your fire is going and be a good neighbor. Remember that recreational fires are a privilege that can be taken away should that privilege be abused.

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR FIRE SAFETY**

Recreational fires shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material unless contained in a barbecue pit. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread to within 25 feet of a structure (i.e. brush, dried vegetation, prairie grass etc.) shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

A fire extinguisher with a minimum 4A rating, water barrel, or garden hose shall be readily available for use in extinguishing recreational fires.

Recreational fires must be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished.

## **NUISANCE AND HAZARDOUS FIRES**

The Chief is authorized to require that recreational fires be immediately discontinued if such fires are determined by the chief to constitute a hazardous condition.

If the chief determines that the event for which the fire has been ignited is creating a nuisance, minors are consuming alcohol, there is not adequate adult supervision, or participants are unruly, the chief may order that the fire be immediately discontinued.

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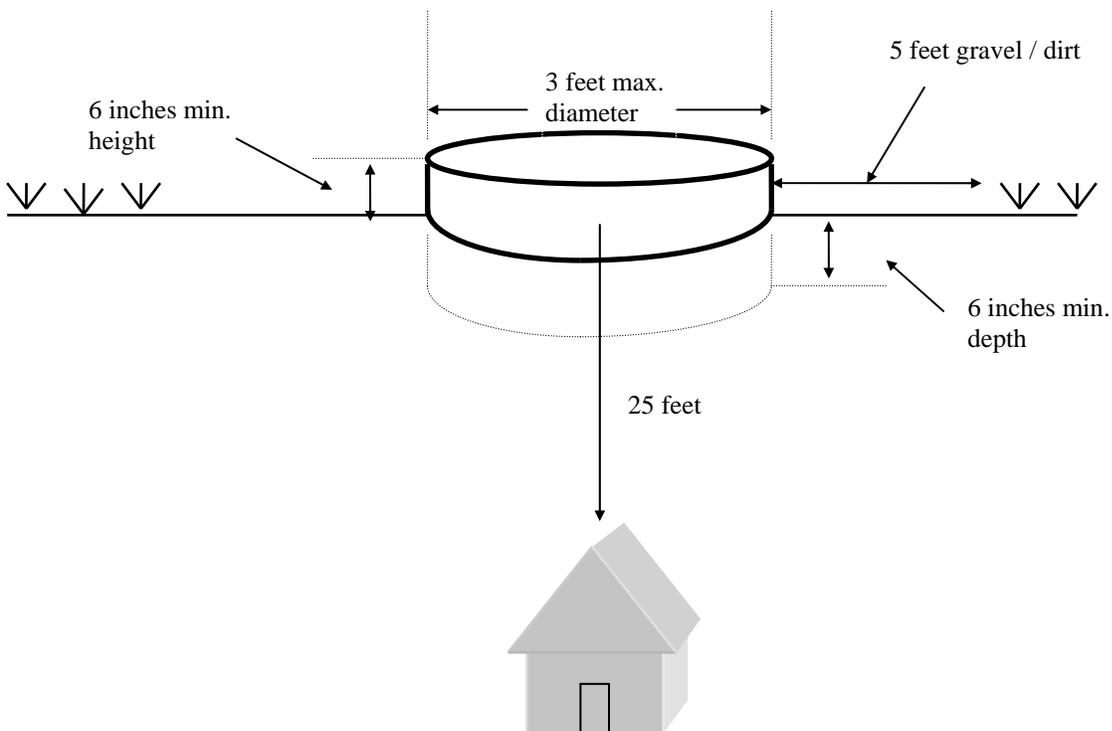
## **PERMANENT FIRE RING CONSTRUCTION**

Permanent fire rings must be constructed of concrete, steel or other approved noncombustible materials. For approval of other materials contact the Fire Marshal.

Permanent fire rings must be at least 25 feet away from a structure or combustible material and conditions which could cause the spread of fire to within 25 feet of a structure must be eliminated.

Permanent fire rings must extend at least 6 inches below ground and extend at least 6 inches above ground.

The area around a permanent fire ring must be cleared of all grass and vegetation for at least five feet.



25 feet to structures, combustible material or conditions which could cause a fire to spread to within 25 feet of a structure (i.e. brush, dried vegetation, prairie grass etc.)

**CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS  
FIRE DEPARTMENT  
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**FIRE RING PERMIT APPLICATION**

*The applicant / organization must be the owner of the property on which the fire ring is constructed or the owner's approval must be provided at the bottom of this form. If application is being made by an organization the applicant must be the president.*

Date:	
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Applicant

First Name:	
Middle Name:	
Last Name:	
Date of Birth:	
Phone:	
Address / Zip:	

Fire Ring Location

Address:	
PID#	

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the City of Inver Grove Heights Fire Prevention Division Policy For Recreational Fires. I agree to build, use and maintain my fire ring in accordance with the requirements of the policy.

Applicant signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I am the owner of the above referenced property and hereby give authorization to the applicant to construct and use a fire ring on my property .

Property Owner's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_