



## Recreational Fires

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# MAPLE GROVE FIRE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

**EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2009**

**PURPOSE:** To provide policy for recreational fires conducted by residents of the City of Maple Grove in conjunction with guidelines issued by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety-State Fire Marshals Division.

The mission of the Maple Grove Fire Department is to respond to fire, rescue, medical, hazardous material and other emergencies, to investigate the cause of fires, and to prevent fires and promote safety in the community. (Maple Grove Ordinance Code Sec. 18-32. (a)) The Maple Grove Fire Department Policy on recreational fires has been created to deal with fire safety issues related to recreational fires. It is not intended to deal with air quality issues other than to describe types of fuels that may be burned, in general.

1. Residents shall possess a recreational fire permit. This is a means of ensuring that they have a copy of burning requirements while conducting a recreational fire.
2. A person may only obtain a recreational fire permit and conduct a recreational fire on property that they own. An exception would be to issue a permit to a homeowners association for operating a recreational fire by any member of the association on association owned property with the permission of the association governing board, or to a property owner who may allow tenants to operate a fire on private property with the permission of the property owner such as in a designated fire pit in an apartment complex.
3. The size of the fire shall not exceed 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height.
4. Recreational fires must be at least 25 feet from all buildings or combustible materials.
5. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.
6. Recreational fires must be constantly attended until the fire burns out completely or is extinguished.
7. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with MSFC (07) Section 906 with a minimum of a 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, or a garden hose shall be readily available at all times until the fire is extinguished.
8. The only materials permitted in a recreational fire are wood from trees, small branches, brush, or charcoal. Treated lumber materials, construction debris, garbage, plastic materials, or waste materials are not allowed to be burned in recreational fires. Yard waste, including weeds, grass clippings, leaves, and similar materials may not be burned in a recreational fire.
9. Recreational fires must be immediately extinguished if they pose a fire safety risk, if they are not in compliance with Minnesota Department of Public Safety-State Fire Marshal Division Guidelines or this Maple Grove Fire Department Policy, or when directed to do so by any police officer or any Maple Grove Firefighter or Officer.