

CITY OF Fargo Fire Department

Recreational Fires

The Fargo Fire Department periodically receives questions concerning campfires or recreational fires within the city of Fargo. Although these types of fires are legal and a permit is not required, there are a few basic rules that need to be followed.

Recreational fires cannot be conducted within 25 feet of a structure (including decks and fences) or other combustible material unless they are located in an approved container such as a screened appliance designed for this purpose. Even in an approved container, they still must be at least 15 feet from structures. Any condition that could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of a structure needs to be eliminated before lighting the fire. The fire cannot be more than three feet in diameter and must be two feet or less in height. The fire must be located on your personal property.

All recreational fires must be constantly attended under adult supervision until the fire is extinguished. A fire extinguisher or a garden hose shall be readily available for immediate use. Make sure that the fire is completely extinguished when you are done enjoying it.

Do not burn anything other than good dry wood. Any recreational fire that is offensive or objectionable due to smoke or odor emissions is prohibited. What may be enjoyable for you may not be enjoyable for your neighbors. So be a good neighbor and don't use a recreational fire on breezy days that will take the smoke through the neighborhood.

Recreational fires shall not be used to dispose of yard waste. The city of Fargo has programs available for collection and disposal of yard waste. Visit www.cityoffargo.com for more information.

All open burning is banned when the fire index is at the "High", "Very High" or, "Extreme" level and anytime a Red Flag warning is issued. To check the current fire index, point your internet browser to this location – www.fargofire.com and click the recreational fire link on the right hand side of the page.

These types of recreational fire containers must be at least 25 feet away from any combustibles



These types of approved recreational fire containers must be at least 15 feet away from any combustibles



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FFD1068-Recreational-fires

