

CRR POLICY 1308: OPEN BURNING

Created: December 19, 2017 Revised: November 4, 2019 Effective Date: Immediate
Community Risk Reduction Division – 928-204-8926



This policy is promulgated in accordance with Section 104.1 of the 2012 International Fire Code (IFC) and is an official interpretation of Section 105 of the 2012 IFC.

DEFINITIONS

BONFIRE. An outdoor fire used for recreational or ceremonial purposes that does not meet the size restrictions of a recreational fire. The fuel package for a bonfire shall consist of clean dry firewood and shall not exceed a pile greater than 8 feet in diameter or be stacked greater than 4 feet high.

BURN SEASON. The time of year when open burning is allowed within Sedona Fire District. Burn Season may be shortened during periods of high fire danger.

- **Spring Burn Season** – Typically March 1st through May 31st between the hours of 08:00 and 15:00
- **Fall Burn Season** – Typically September 1st through November 30th between the hours of 08:00 and 15:00

OPEN BURNING. The burning of materials wherein products of combustion are emitted directly into the ambient air without passing through a stack or chimney from an enclosed chamber. Open burning does not include road flares, smudgepots and similar devices associated with safety or occupational uses typically considered open flames, *recreational fires* or use of portable outdoor fireplaces. For the purpose of this definition, a chamber shall be regarded as enclosed when, during the time combustion occurs, only apertures, ducts, stacks, flues or chimneys necessary to provide combustion air and permit the escape of exhaust gas are open.

PERMIT. An official document or certificate issued by the authority having jurisdiction which authorizes performance of a specified activity.

PROHIBITED ITEMS. Rubber and plastic products, tires, garbage, petroleum and petroleum-treated materials, asphalt or industrial waste, pesticides, heavy metals, batteries, ammunition, explosives, paint products, spray cans, flammable liquids, construction waste, any material that creates dense smoke or noxious odors, oleander or poison oak, sumac or ivy.

RECREATIONAL FIRE. An outdoor fire intended for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purpose and where the fuel being burned is not contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, barbeque grill or barbeque pit. Recreational fires shall not exceed 3 feet in width and the fuel package for recreational fire shall consist of clean dry firewood not to be stacked more than 2 feet in height.

YARD WASTE. The part of solid **waste** composed of grass clippings, leaves, twigs, branches, and other garden refuse. The burning of yard waste requires a permit and shall only be burned during either the spring or fall burn seasons on days when burning is permitted.

PRACTICES

Certain areas within Sedona Fire District such as those areas within Oak Creek Canyon and/or other areas managed by, adjacent to, or within the jurisdiction of the United States Forest Service (USFS) or Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM) may be subject to more restrictive burn regulations. If you need help determining whether you are in one of these areas or determining the additional fire restrictions which may apply to you in those areas, please contact USFS or DFFM for further assistance.

A **burn permit** is always required for;

- **open burning of yard waste**
- **bonfires**

Prohibited Items are **never** allowed to be burned and are subject to fines and penalties as determined by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

The use of an **outdoor fireplace** (with chimney), **portable outdoor fireplace** (without chimney), and **barbeque grill** or **barbeque pit** are allowed as outlined below.

Recreational Fires;

- Do not require a burn permit
- Are allowed at any time of day, throughout the year **EXCEPT**;
 - During periods of "STAGE II" fire restrictions

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Propane (LPG) and **Natural Gas (LNG)** barbeques and fire pits are allowed to be operated during all times of the year without restrictions so long as they are installed and operated in a manner consistent with the manufacturer's directions.

Charcoal briquette and **wood fired barbeques** are allowed to be operated during all times of the year without restrictions **EXCEPT** during periods of "STAGE II" fire restrictions. During periods of "STAGE II" fire restrictions the use of charcoal briquette and wood fired barbeques are restricted to private property, so long as the appliance is constantly supervised by a responsible adult, there is a readily available means to extinguish a fire, and the appliance is equipped with a tight fitting lid which is in place while the appliance is in use.

Weed Burning Torches used to burn weeds in place are **NOT ALLOWED** and no burn permits shall be issued for such practices. Recent history has proven that burning weeds in place, without removing them from flower beds, fence lines, etc., has been a source for many unwanted fires which have spread to neighboring properties.

Any comments or questions regarding the above information may be submitted to:

Community Risk Reduction Division
Sedona Fire District
2860 Southwest Drive
Sedona, AZ 86336

crm@sedonafire.org