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[www.spokanevalleyfire.com](http://www.spokanevalleyfire.com)

## **PREVENTION DIVISION**

### **RECREATIONAL/CAMP/COOKING FIRES**

Backyard barbecues and portable outdoor fireplaces are allowed year-round, as long as only approved fuel is used: seasoned (clean and dry) firewood, briquettes, or propane. Approved campfires at designated places in parks and campgrounds are also allowed.

Disposal of vegetative waste, construction debris, trash or any other material that is not clean dry firewood is not allowed to be burned anywhere in Spokane County. When fires are located in rings or pits, fires must be no larger than 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height. Fires must be at least 25 feet from any structure, timber, or other combustible materials. Fires must be attended at all times. If smoke emissions from any fire is deemed a nuisance or objectionable to others, it can be ordered extinguished.

Recreational fires are defined as fires for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth, or similar purposes. (2009 International Fire Code)

Portable Outdoor Fireplaces are defined as solid-fuel-burning fireplaces that may be constructed of steel, concrete, clay, or other noncombustible material. It may be open in design, or may be equipped with a small hearth opening and a short chimney or chimney opening in the top. (2009 International Fire Code)

A method to extinguish a fire must be available at all fires. Buckets, shovels, garden hoses, or a fire extinguisher with a 4A rating will need to be present.

Restrictions on recreational/camp/cooking fires occurring during periods of impaired air quality or when fire protection agencies deem conditions are unsafe (regional burn bans) can be imposed at any time. If you have questions or concerns about a planned cooking/recreational fire, please call the Spokane Valley Fire Department at 928-1700, Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency at 477-4727, or online at [www.spokanevalleyfire.com](http://www.spokanevalleyfire.com).

If the fire department responds to call involving your fire and finds it does not meet the above restrictions, you may be cited and fined or subject to criminal prosecution per RCW 36.43.040.

Kevin Miller  
Fire Marshal