



RECREATIONAL FIRES

Rules According to Northampton Fire Prevention Office

CAUTION: Possible fires in Laurel Park are of great concern to the Northampton Fire Department for the following reasons:

- There are propane tanks everywhere
- The streets are narrow and it is very hard for the fire trucks to maneuver
- The houses are very close together
- A fire it could spread rapidly throughout the Park.

PLEASE follow these rules:

- All recreational fires must have the written permission of the Property Chair; (By-law 11.8.11);
- Recreational fires must be in a small, contained area and the flames should not be much higher than the metal pit or ground pit;
- A fire needs to be at least 25 feet from any other structure;
- There are to be no recreational fire when it's windy;
- There are Red Flags days in which conditions are favorable for fires. On these days absolutely no fires are allowed. Red Flag warnings are issued by the National Weather Service;
- Leaves and pine needles cause embers to fly and are never to be used in the fires;
- Before starting your small, contained fire, remove the leaves and pine needles from the metal pit or ground pit of to prevent flying embers;
- Use only tree wood. Pallets are not acceptable. Furniture parts are not acceptable;
- Trees above the fire area, if any, should be too high to be affected by the heat. This means that the heat rise should not be greater than the distance away from the fire in which you feel the heat. For instance, if you are sitting 5 feet away from the fire and feel the heat of the fire, the trees limbs should be more than 5 feet above the fire;
- There should be a water-type fire extinguisher nearby any fire;
- Fires should not be left unattended;
- The fire containers individuals buy for private use, such as metal pits and bonfire stoves, are bound by all of the same fire regulations as above; ;
- The fireplace near the Dining Hall, once cleared of leaves and pine needles, is a safe place for a fire. Its use requires the written permission of the Property Chair;
- The fire place in the woods off of North Warren is completely unsafe and should never be used because it is surrounded by leaves, trees, pine needles, power lines, etc.;

Permits are not necessary for the recreational fires discussed above. The fires do not need to be covered. Bar-b-q grills do not need to observe the 25 foot rule.

If your neighbor has concerns about the fire or if smoke is entering their home, they can and should call the Fire Department who will come and put it out. If you burn illegally, that is, use pressure-treated wood, plastics, etc., and the health of your neighbor is affected, you will be held liable.

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