



Savannah

Fire & Emergency Services

A Bureau of the City of Savannah Municipal Government
121 East Oglethorpe Avenue Savannah, Georgia 31401
Office: (912) 651-6755 Fax: (912) 651-3195
TTD: (912) 651-6702
www.savannahfire.org

INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

The following is an explanation of the Codes and Ordinances as they pertain to what is commonly known as “open burning”.

Specifically, bonfires are prohibited under City Ordinance. By definition, bonfires are for ceremonial purposes and are usually part of a public or private gathering. Bonfires require a permit issued by the Fire Prevention Office. Other forms of open burning can be conducted on commercial and private property under the following conditions:

- ❖ Primarily for food preparation or providing warmth.
- ❖ In an approved container and not less than 15 feet from a structure.
- ❖ On the ground and not less than 50 feet from a structure for piles greater than 3' x 2'.
- ❖ On the ground and not less than 25 feet from a structure for piles greater than 3' x 2'.
- ❖ Charcoal and LP gas cooking devices not less than 10 feet from combustible construction.
- ❖ Must be constantly attended.
- ❖ Must have means to extinguish the fire such as a fire extinguisher, garden hose, or buckets of water, or available dirt, or sand.
- ❖ Measures are taken to insure the fire cannot spread.
- ❖ Cannot cause a hazardous or objectionable situation (i.e. heavy smoke, obnoxious odors, lofting fire brands near flammable liquids).
- ❖ Can only burn approved materials. Only materials such as fire wood, kindling, and charcoal can be burned. Leaves, vegetation from land clearing, lumber, construction materials, waste material, garbage, plastic, rubber, liquids not intended as charcoal starters, and similar materials are prohibited.
- ❖ Portable outdoor fireplaces are not to be operated within 15 feet of structures or combustible materials except at one and two family dwellings.
- ❖ City Ordinance prohibits the kindling of a fire on a city property such as a public street or park.
- ❖ Prohibited on combustible balconies, porches, or patios unless sprinkled.

Please contact the Fire Prevention Office at (912) 644-5960, for further information.