

**SANTA ROSA FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU STANDARD**

July 1, 2010



OPEN BURNING AND RECREATIONAL FIRES

**2007 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE
CHECKLIST FOR OPEN BURNING AND RECREATIONAL FIRES**

- A permit for "Bonfires/Prescribed Burns" must be obtained from Santa Rosa Fire Department at least 24 hours prior to the event. (The permit will be issued after an inspection has taken place from SRFD verifying compliance of the requirements noted below).
- On the day of event, call fire dispatch (707-528-5151) to check fire hazard/burn conditions.
- Combustible material and/or structures must be located at least 25 feet away from the fire pit/fire ring.
- The fuel area of the fire must not exceed 3 feet in diameter, and must not exceed 2 feet in height.
- A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.
- Recreational fires shall be constantly attended by a person knowledgeable in the use of fire extinguishing equipment.
- An attendant shall supervise a recreational fire until such fire has been extinguished.
- Just prior to lighting the recreational fire, call fire dispatch (707-528-5151) and let them know the recreational fire will be lit.
- A reliable means of communication (i.e., cell phone) must be available at all times during the campfire.
- Call fire dispatch just prior to extinguishment of the fire.

**2007 California Fire Code
California Code of Regulations**

SECTION 307

OPEN BURNING AND RECREATIONAL FIRES

307.1 General. A person shall not kindle or maintain or authorize to be kindled or maintained any open burning unless conducted and approved in accordance with this section.

307.1.1 Prohibited open burning. Open burning that is offensive or objectionable because of smoke or odor emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous shall be prohibited.

307.2 Permit required. A permit shall be obtained from the fire code official in accordance with Appendix Chapter 1, Section 105.6 prior to kindling a fire for recognized silvicultural or range or wildlife management practices, prevention or control of disease or pests, or a bonfire. Application for such approval shall only be presented by and permits issued to the owner of the land upon which the fire is to be kindled.

307.2.1 Authorization. Where required by state or local law or regulations, open burning shall only be permitted with prior approval from the state or local air and water quality management authority, provided that all conditions specified in the authorization are followed.

307.3 Extinguishment authority. The fire code official is authorized to order the extinguishment by the permit holder, another person responsible or the fire department of open burning that creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation.

307.4 Location. The location for open burning shall not be less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet (15 240 mm) of any structure.

Exceptions:

1. Fires in approved containers that are not less than 15 feet (4572 mm) from a structure.
2. The minimum required distance from a structure shall be 25 feet (7620 mm) where the pile size is 3 feet (914 mm) or less in diameter and 2 feet (610 mm) or less in height.

307.4.1 Bonfires. A bonfire shall not be conducted within 50 feet (15 240 mm) of a structure or combustible material unless the fire is contained in a barbecue pit. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 50 feet (15 240 mm) of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

307.4.2 Recreational fires. Recreational fires shall not be conducted within 25 feet (7620 mm) of a structure or combustible material. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet (7620 mm) of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

307.5 Attendance. Open burning, bonfires or recreational fires shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.