



Community Development
Department

OUTDOOR FIREPLACES

Regulations for Outdoor Fireplaces

1. Definition: Any construction (stone, brick, or metal) used exclusively for building a fire for the aesthetic enjoyment thereof, but not for cooking.
2. Location: Outdoor fireplaces of permanent construction cannot be attached to any structure, accessory building, building, or other medium that is combustible. All units, permanent or portable, must be freestanding with a minimum three feet (3') clearance on all sides. Portable units must be placed on a non-combustible surface such as concrete, patio blocks, or stone in such a way that the firebox is eighteen inches (18") above this surface.
3. Material To Be Burned: Outdoor fireplaces are limited to burning the following materials:
 - a. Cut wood (unpainted, unfinished);
 - b. Manufactured logs; and
 - c. Manufactured non-wood logs specifically made for use in fireplaces.

No other material may be burned in outdoor fireplaces. ***Pressure treated wood, rubbish; leaves, garbage, and other waste are expressly prohibited.***

4. Smoke Generation: The fire in an outdoor fireplace must be maintained in such a manner as to minimize smoke. Smoke that is a result of a smoldering or dying fire shall be eliminated. Generation of smoke is considered a public nuisance punishable by fine.
5. Extinguishing/Safety: All fires in an outdoor fireplace are prohibited during the hours of twelve o'clock (12:00) midnight and six o'clock (6:00) a.m. Fires must be extinguished in such a manner that all air to the fire is cut off or wet down the burning material with water until it is cool to the touch.

All outdoor fireplaces must have a screen or glass doors that prevents the distribution of hot embers or sparks outside of the firebox.

Outdoor fireplaces shall be attended by an adult at all times. Precautions should be taken to avoid touching hot surfaces, particularly when children are present. Manufacturer's installation, operating, and safety instructions shall be followed.

Citation:

Streamwood Municipal Code, Section 6-2-5, subparagraph 307.6 (2006 International Fire Code)