

OPEN BURNING, RECREATION FIRES AND PORTABLE OUTDOOR FIREPLACES
International Fire Code, Section 307, 2015 Edition

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 Sections 307.1.1 through 307.5.

307.1.1 Prohibited opening burning – Opening burning shall be prohibited when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous.

Exception: Prescribed burning for the purpose of reducing the impact of wildland fire when authorized by the *fire code official*.

307.2 Permit required – A permit shall be obtained from the *fire code official* in accordance with Section 105.6 prior to kindling a fire for recognized silvicultural or range or wildland management practices, prevention or control of diseases 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, *opening 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 – Where *open burning* creates or adds to a hazardous situation, or a required permit for opening burning has not been obtained, the *fire code official* is authorized to order the extinguishment of the open burning operations.

307.4 Location – The location for *opening burning* shall be not less than 50 feet from any structure, and provisions shall not be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet of any structure.

Exceptions:

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

307.4.1 Bonfires – A bonfire shall not be conducted within 50 feet of a structure or combustible material unless the fire is contained in a barbeque pit. Conditions that could cause a fire to spread within 50 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

307.4.2 Recreational fires – *Recreational fires* shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material. Conditions that could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

307.4.3 Portable outdoor fireplaces – Portable outdoor fireplaces shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall not be operated within 15 feet of a structure or combustible material.

Exception: Portable outdoor fireplaces used at one and two-family dwellings.

307.5 Attendance – *Opening burning, bonfires, recreational fires* and use of portable outdoor fireplaces 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.