



MERRIMACK FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Administration Headquarters

432 Daniel Webster Highway
Merrimack New Hampshire 03054
603.424.3690 ♣ Fax 603.424.0603

Fire Chief
Michael P. Currier

Assistant Fire Chief
Richard W. Pierson

OUTDOOR SEASONAL FIRE PERMITS

(Category I or II)

To obtain an outdoor fire permit you must first be familiar with the requirements within this document. Once you understand the requirements of the outdoor fire place, you must first prepare the site as described within this document. After the site is completed go to the Merrimack Fire and Rescue Department, located at 432 Daniel Webster Highway and get your seasonal permit. Once you have your permit you can begin burning. Within a short period of time the fire pit will be inspected and if there are no concerns you will be able to continue to burn.

All outdoor fires require a written permit by a duly authorized person by the Forest Fire Warden, any time the ground is not covered with snow or at a minimum of 100 feet diameter around the fire. A public campground or private landowner may obtain a seasonal Category II fire permit for approved fireplaces.

“Category I Fire” means a controlled fire, such as a camp or cooking fire, no greater than 2’ in diameter contained within a ring of fire resistive material or in a portable fireplace. A category I fire, conditions permitting, may only be kindled with a permit any time of day whether raining or not.

“Category II Fire” means a controlled fire, such as a camp or cooking fire, no greater than 4’ in diameter contained within a ring of fire resistive material or in a portable fireplace. A category II fire, conditions permitting, may only be kindled with a permit between the hours of 5:00 pm and 9:00 am unless it is actually raining.

All fireplaces shall be approved by the Forest Fire Warden/Deputy Warden and meet the following:

1. Be on an area cleaned to mineral soil at least eight feet across. Where fires are built on the ground, there should be at least six inches of sand or gravel under the fire.
2. Have no limbs or other burnable material within a height of ten feet above the fireplace.
3. The fire place shall be constructed so they can’t be moved from their mineral soil area.



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4. Fireplaces shall not be used for the disposal or waste or rubbish.
5. Fireplaces shall be cleaned and the ashes disposed of properly after insuring that they are cold to the touch.
6. Before any fire places are used, they must be permitted by the Forest Fire Warden or Deputy Warden.
7. Fire protection and suppression equipment such as hand tools (shovel, Rake, etc.) portable pumps or hose and an adequate water supply shall be readily available in all areas where open fires are permitted.
8. Failure to comply with all applicable rules and regulations may result in the fire permit being summarily suspended.
9. **ANY** person violating the fire permit law and its provisions, and any person who willfully or recklessly kindles a fire that endangers woodlands, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine up to \$2,000 and/or up to one year in jail, or both.
10. Any person with a seasonal camp fire permit shall call the Fire Rescue Station at 424-3690 to report any evening which you will be using the permit. This call must be made before 7:00 pm daily. During any red flag warning or Class 3 or higher Fire Danger Day, ***NO OUTDOOR BURNING IS PERMITTED***. Be sure that you call in advance of using your permit.
11. It is the permit holder's responsibility to ensure that no restrictions on outdoor burning are in place prior to kindling any fire.

The diagrams below should assist you with properly constructing your fire pit



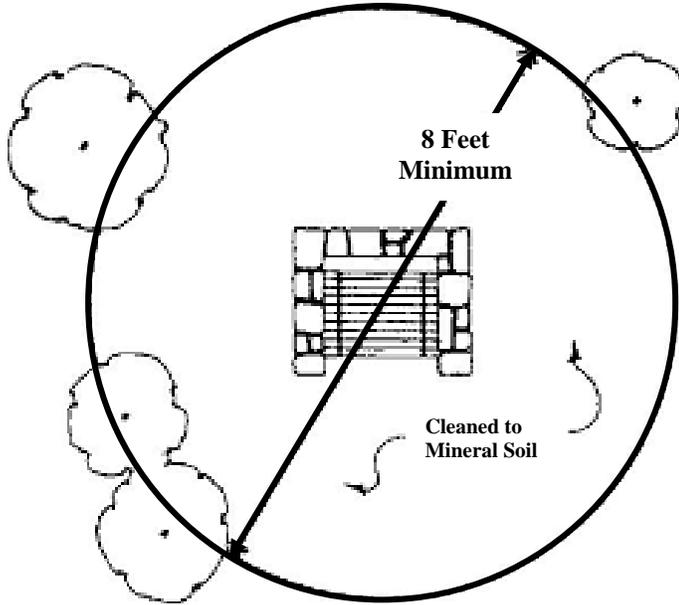
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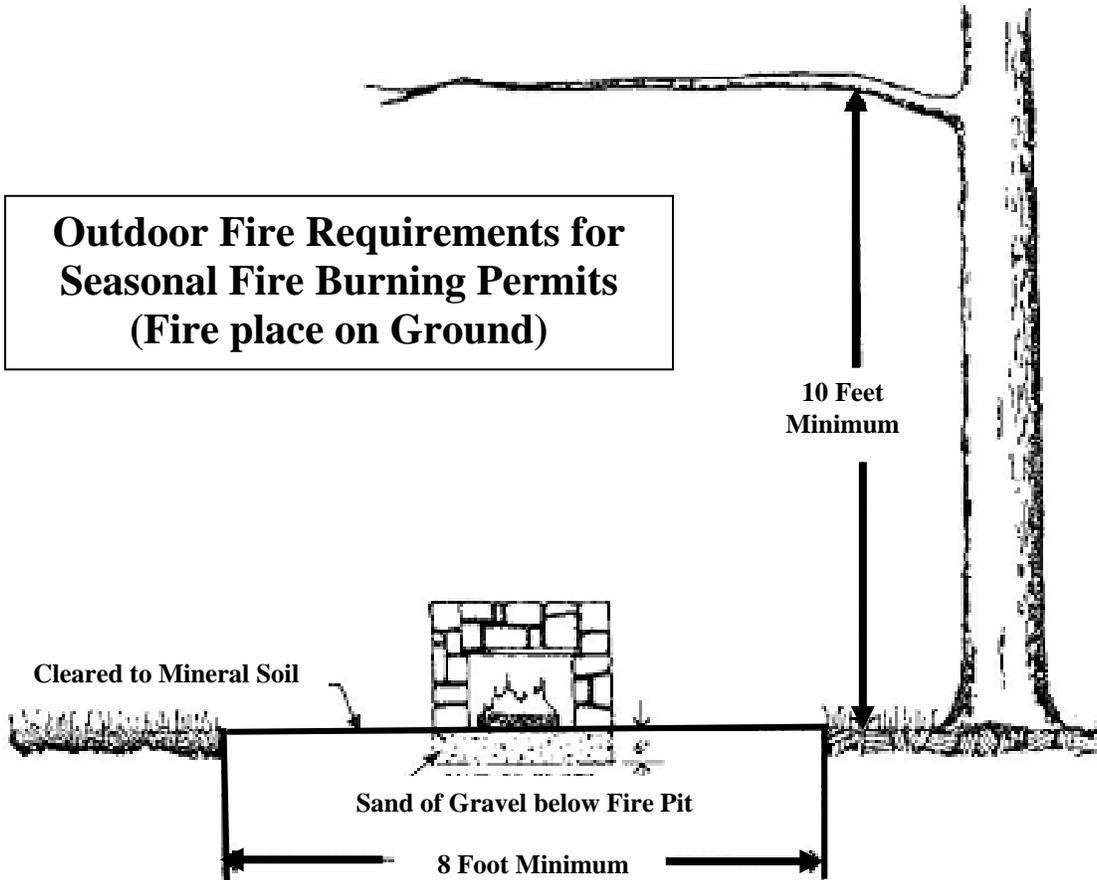
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Outdoor Fire Requirements for Seasonal Fire Burning Permits (Fire place on Ground)





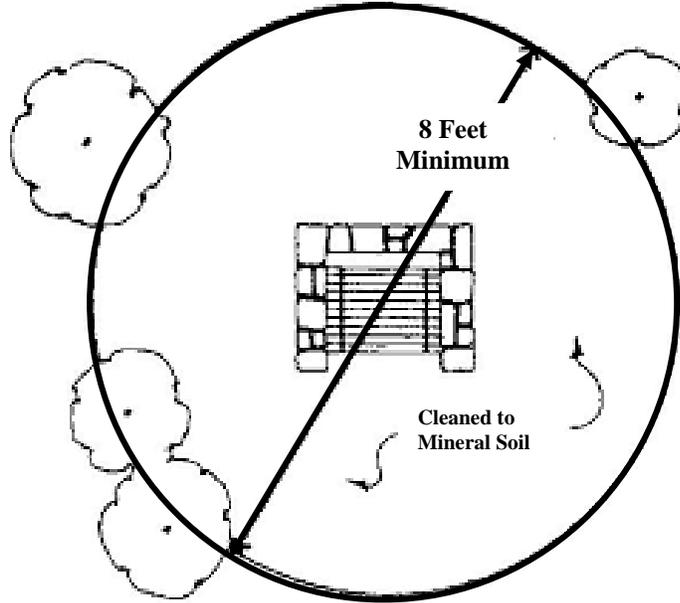
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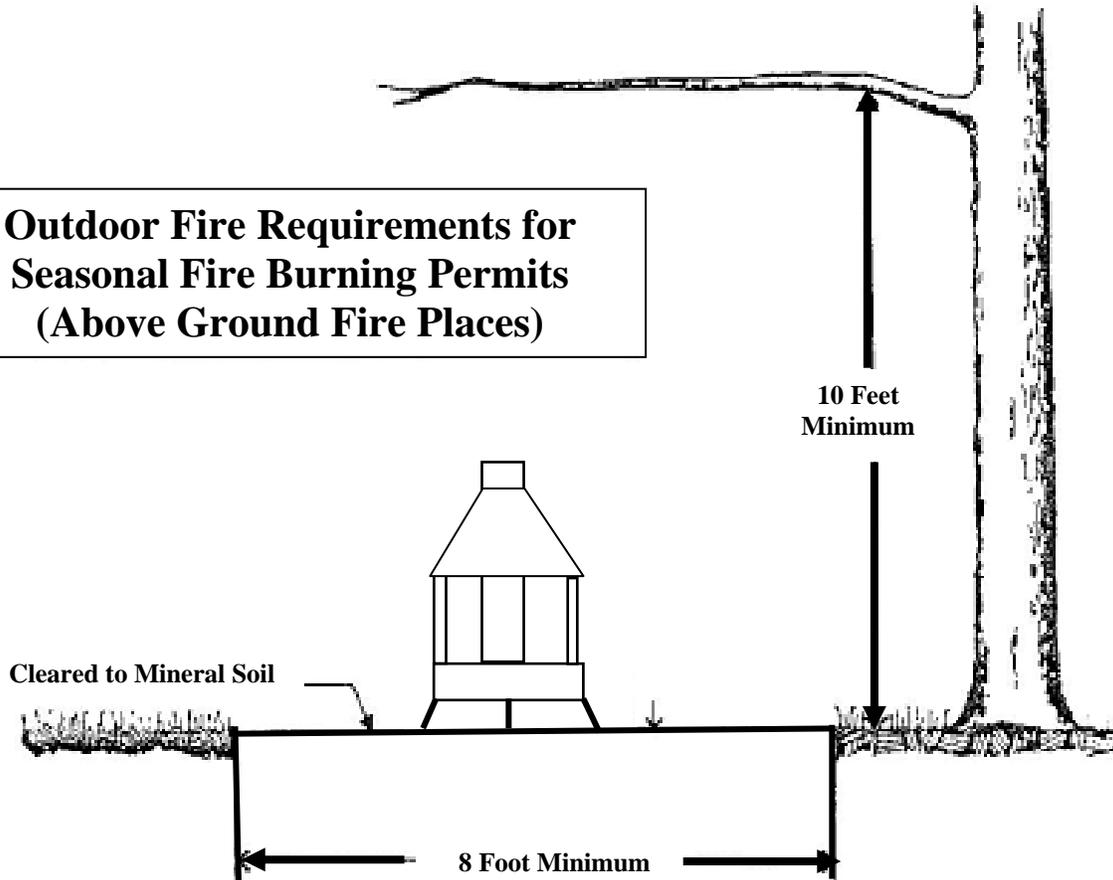
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Outdoor Fire Requirements for Seasonal Fire Burning Permits (Above Ground Fire Places)





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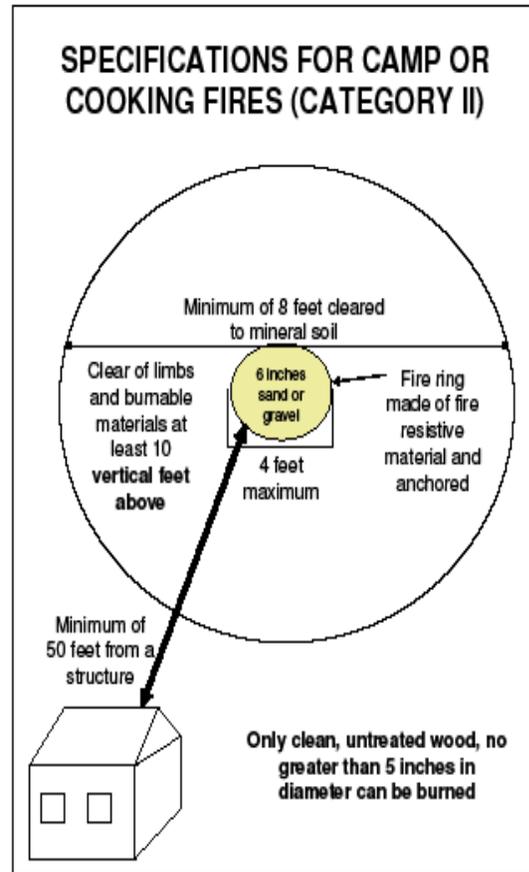
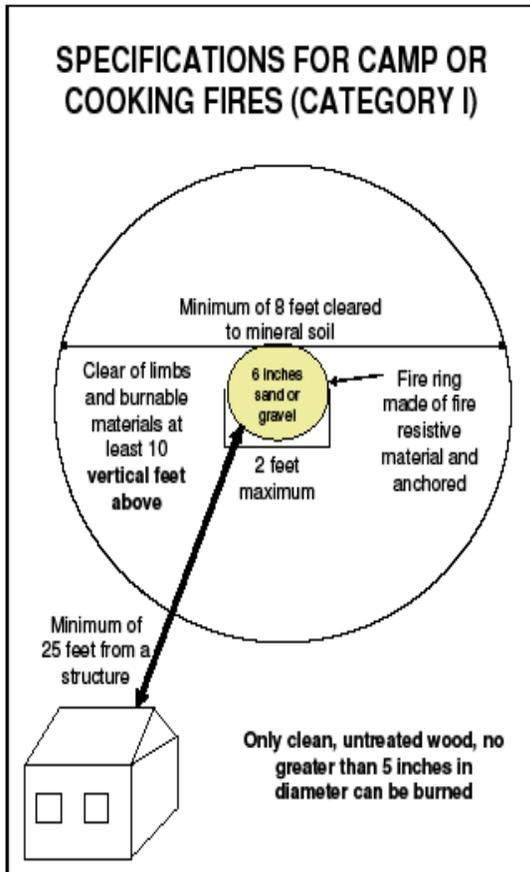
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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FOREST PROTECTION BUREAU



If you require any assistance please call
424-3690