



Outdoor Fireplace / Fire Pit Inspection Guidelines

- Wood or charcoal ONLY burning appliances.**
- Must have a spark arrester.**
- Clearance from buildings and/or combustibles;**
Maintain a minimum of three meters (3M) clearance between the fireplace and any combustible objects and surfaces to prevent ignition from radiant heat.
- Base should be patio slabs, bricks or sand/gravel.**
- Types of materials burnt;**
Burn wood products only. Petroleum products, rubbish, grass, plastics, rubber or any materials that may flow out of the containment or cause excessive heat or smoke are **not** permitted.
- Amount of material being burnt;**
Limit the amount of material being burnt to ensure that flames are confined to the unit and do not extend into the chimney. Recommendations on the maximum amount of fuel to be used at one time may be included in the manufacturer's literature.
- Supervision;**
The operator must keep the unit under constant supervision when in use.
- Provision for fire protection;**
Provide adequate extinguishing agents (fire extinguisher, pail of water, garden hose, etc.)



Outdoor Fireplace / Fire Pot Inspection Guidelines

There is also the need to be aware of the potential for personal injuries with the use of these units, such as superficial burns from contact with the outside surface of the unit, ignition of clothing from sparks or open flames and injuries resulting from accidental tipping of the unit.

There shall be absolutely no burning in the outdoor fireplace / fire pots if the Ministry of Natural Resources issues a fire ban/restricted fire zone for this area.

In addition to the above, there may be concerns relating to smoke, health and safety that are not regulated under the *Ontario Fire Code*. Issues concerning air quality should be addressed through the Ministry of the Environment.

Pat Kennedy
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