



# CITY OF INDIANOLA FIRE DEPARTMENT RECREATIONAL FIRES



The City of Indianola has adopted the International Fire Code, which permits recreational fires as long as regulations are followed. See Section 307 of the 2024 IFC for details.

A permit is not required for a recreational fire. See the general information and definitions below:

**Prohibited Open Burning:** Open burning that produces offensive or objectionable smoke or odors, especially when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous, is prohibited. Indianola Fire, Police and Code Enforcement personnel are authorized to order the extinguishment of open burning.

**Recreational Fire:** An outdoor fire that burns materials other than rubbish or refuse, where the fuel is not contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, barbecue grill or barbecue pit. The fire must have a total area of 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height. Recreational fires are intended for pleasure, religious or ceremonial purposes, cooking, warmth or similar uses.

**Bonfire:** An outdoor fire used for ceremonial purposes with a pile size that exceeds recreational fire limits. Approval and a permit must be obtained from the fire marshal before kindling a bonfire.

**Approved Container:** A noncombustible fireplace, fire pit or other noncombustible wood-burning appliance (such as a kiva or chiminea) is considered an approved container, provided all openings are protected with spark arrestors made of heavy iron, wire mesh or other noncombustible material with openings no larger than 1/4 inch.

**Locations for Controlled Burning:**

- Recreational fires (ground fires) must be at least 25 feet from structures, combustible materials and property lines.
- Fires in approved containers must be at least 15 feet from structures, combustibles and property lines.
- must be at least 50 feet from structures, combustibles and property lines. A permit is required.

**Attendance:** The fire shall be attended by a responsible adult at all times.

**Fire Extinguishment Equipment Options:** One or more of the following must be readily available when burning:

- A portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating
- A water hose

**Fuels Permitted:** Only the following fuels are allowed:

- Untreated wood
- Seasoned logs and branches
- Dry, seasoned firewood
- Coal

**Fuels Not Permitted:** Burning the following materials is prohibited:

- Painted, stained or treated wood
- Garbage
- Refuse
- Vegetation
- Grass clippings
- Leaves, sticks (yard waste)
- Rubber
- Plastic
- Flammable
- Combustible liquids such as paint or used oil