

# Administrative Order # 2017 - 1

## Guidelines for Open Burning, Recreational Fires & Bonfires

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**Open Burning:** Burning of refuse, leaves and trimmings **is prohibited** by Manheim Township Ordinance 2004 - 8: amended Section 307.2.2, which reads as follows:

"Refuse, leaves and trimmings shall not be burned outdoors on the premises in any manner whatsoever."

*Exception:* Properties with 10 or more acres with an active agricultural farming operation are permitted to burn agricultural by-products only (no household refuse, construction materials or similar materials.)

An Annual Agricultural Burning Permit is required for farm related burning.

### **Recreational Fires:**

Definition: An outdoor fire burning materials other than rubbish having a total fuel area of 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height for the purpose of pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes.

Recreational fires **do not** require a fire permit under the following conditions:

1. Fires shall be no more than 3 feet in diameter and no more than 2 feet in height.
2. Fires shall be at least 25 feet from any structure, property line and combustible material.
3. Fires shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished.
4. A portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating or a garden hose shall be readily available for immediate use.
5. Recreational fires shall be completely extinguished no later than 10 PM.

### **Bonfires:**

Definition: An outdoor fire used for ceremonial purposes and is greater than 3 feet in diameter and more than 2 feet in height. Each Bonfire **requires** a bonfire permit for specific date and time

A fire permit application must be completed and submitted along with the permit fee and site plan indicating the location of the bonfire with distances to all buildings and property lines identified.

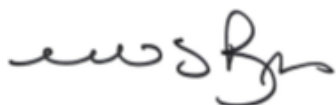
Bonfires must comply with the following conditions:

1. The minimum required distance from a building and property line is 50 feet.
2. Bonfires shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished.
3. A portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating or a garden hose shall be available for immediate use.
4. Bonfires shall be extinguished no later than 10 PM.

**The Township Fire Code Official shall prohibit any open burning that is offensive or objectionable because of smoke or odor emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances cause hazardous fire conditions.**

**The Township Fire Code Official is authorized to order the extinguishment by the responsible party or the Fire Department of any burning which creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable condition. Repeat offenders may lose the privilege of open burning and/or may require compliance through legal action. All open burning is prohibited during any official Lancaster County Burn Ban resolution.**

Issued by:



Andrew S Bowman, Director of Code Compliance

Effective Date: **March 3, 2017**