

## General Standards

- All permits (other than Special Permits) shall be valid for the entire calendar year.
- No fire of any type shall produce smoke or odors that are toxic or noxious or that create a public nuisance or safety or health hazard to the surrounding area.
- Household waste fires, recreational fires, yard debris, special permit fires shall be constantly attended by a competent person until such fire is extinguished.
- The competent person responsible for the fire shall have a garden hose connected to a water supply, or other fire extinguishing equipment, readily available for use.
- The Fire Department retains the authority to prohibit and/or extinguish any outdoor fire at any time when atmospheric conditions or other local circumstances make such fires hazardous to persons or property.
- Prohibited Material: shall not be allowed in any type of fire, shall cause immediate revocation of burn permit, may result in a violation and penalty.
- Prohibited is: any garbage, plastic, wire insulation, automobile parts, tires, asphalt, petroleum product, petroleum treated material, rubber product, animal remains, industrial waste, or any other material which emits dense smoke or noxious odors when burned.



*Photo by Tom C. Taylor*

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## CITY OF GEARHART BURN REGULATIONS

\* RECREATIONAL

\* HOUSEHOLD WASTE

\* YARD DEBRIS

\* SPECIAL PERMIT FIRES



503-738-7838 (FIRE DEPT)  
503-738-5501 (CITY HALL)

## **RECREATIONAL FIRES**

### **Recreational Fire Standards.**

Recreational fires require a burn permit, issued by the Fire Department (or designee), and are allowed year-round under "Low and Moderate Fire Danger Level" unless otherwise prohibited by the Fire Department.

Recreational fires shall comply with the following standards:

A recreational fire (also known as a camp fire, cooking fire, warming fire or ceremonial fire) is a small, occasional, fire which is no larger than three (3) feet in diameter and two (2) feet high, contained in a non-combustible fire pit less than four (4) feet in diameter or a dug fire pit in the ground cleared of all combustibles (brush, grass, trees, etc.) 5 feet around (to clean dirt) and ten (10) feet above, burning only dry, clean firewood.

Recreational fires do include beach fires which are allowed without a permit. Beach fires shall be no closer than 50 feet from dune grass, are not allowed in driftwood, and must be extinguished prior to leaving.

## **Household Waste Fire Standards**

Household waste fires require a burn permit issued by the Gearhart Fire Department (or designee).

Household waste fires shall comply with the following standards:

Burn barrels are required to burn household waste.

Burn barrels and screens which are warped, cracked or corroded as to permit the passage of sparks shall not be operated.

Burn barrels shall not be located within fifteen (15) feet of any building or structure; clear of all combustibles (brush, grass, trees, etc.) 5 feet around and ten (10) feet above and generally should be positioned so that there is no direct exposure to buildings, wood fences, or piled combustible materials.

Anyone using a burn barrel shall make frequent checks to insure that no sparks are being emitted.

Shall be during daylight hours only.

Once Open Burn Restrictions have been placed in effect household waste fires are only allowed between daylight and 10:00 a.m., shall have a means of extinguishment readily available and attend at all times.

Household waste fire permits shall be terminated in the event the Oregon Department of Forestry places a burn ban due to "Moderate or High Fire Danger Level" or unless otherwise prohibited by the Fire Department

## **Yard Debris Fire Standards**

Yard debris fires require a burn permit issued by the Gearhart Fire Department (or designee).

Yard debris fires shall comply with the following standards:

Yard debris fires shall not exceed four feet in any dimension unless approved with a special permit.

Yard debris fires are not allowed during fire season declared by Oregon Department of Forestry or Open Burn Restrictions declared by the Clatsop County Defense Board.

Shall be during daylight hours only.

### **Special Permit Fire**

Commercial fires and/or a fire that does not fall into any other category shall require a special permit.

Special permits may allow fires on private property or public property larger than 4 feet in any dimension.

Special permit fires shall comply with all other restrictions.

Special permits requires the approval of the Fire Chief (or designee), and the City Administrator (or designee); and shall not take more than five (5) business days to approve or disapprove.

Special permit fires are date and time specific and shall be designated on the permit.