



City of Waverly

Building & Zoning Department
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Outdoor Fireplaces (Permanently Constructed)

Outdoor fireplaces do not include barbeque grills that are primarily for outdoor cooking. A building permit **is** required for a fire pit, but **not** for a chiminea or portable fire pit.

Definitions of “**Outdoor Fireplace**”:

Fire Pits – Building permit required

Usually constructed of steel, concrete or stone, and constructed above ground with heavy steel screen covering.

Portable Fire Pit:

Defined as: a structure that is manufactured and intended to confine and control outdoor wood fires. Designed as a portable or moveable fire pit.

Chimineas:

Defined as: an outdoor patio fireplace, usually made from clay, intended to confine and control outdoor fires with controlled burning.

Barrels, half barrels, drums or similarly constructed devices are **NOT** Fire pits, and are **NOT ALLOWED!**

Requirements for all “Outdoor Fireplaces”

- A minimum of a ten foot clearance between an outdoor fireplace and combustible materials
- Shall be constructed of concrete or an approved non-combustible material
- Fuel fire area and openings shall be completely enclosed by a spark guard (Wire mesh no greater than 1/2” square openings)
- Vent stacks, chimneys and chimineas shall have a steel screen cover made of heavy wire mesh
- Size of the fuel area shall not be larger than 3' in diameter and a height of no more than 3'
- Outdoor fireplaces shall be placed on a stable non-combustible surface such as a concrete pad and only at grade level.
- Burn untreated wood or approved fireplace starter logs
- Limit the amount of material being burnt to ensure the flames are confined inside the fuel area of the fireplace. Do not allow the flames to extend above the pit or chimney
- It is important to keep a water supply, garden hose or fire extinguisher readily available in case of emergency
- Do not burn an outdoor fireplace when winds are blowing over 12mph or when weather conditions are extremely dry
- All outdoor fireplaces must be under supervision by a person over the age of 18
- Fires must be completely extinguished and embers cooled prior to 12:00 Midnight
- Smoke shall not create a nuisance for neighbors

OPEN BURNING – open burning is NOT allowed inside the corporate limits.

Barbeque Grills – The use of a charcoal grill should always be placed on a stable non-combustible surface such as a concrete pad and only at grade level.

The burning of trash, plastic, or any other material that creates hazardous or unwanted fumes is prohibited. Only Firewood or similar material appropriate for Fireplace use can be burned in the city limits.

Submittal Documents Required:

Site Plan – A site plan showing the location of the fire pit and the dimensions to any combustible materials, house, garage, deck, etc.

Building Plans – a plan that shows the type of materials to be used and any additional information necessary depending on the design of the fire pit.

Inspections Required:

- Final Inspection - After completion of the Fire Pit

Please allow a 24-hour notice when calling for an inspection. To obtain a building permit or schedule a Inspection Contact the City of Waverly at (402) 786-2312 ext 1

This informational sheet is a summary guideline and is not conclusive of all codes and requirements.