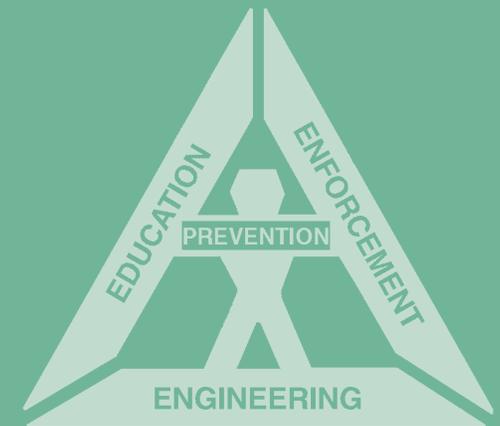


If you believe that someone is acting irresponsibly and is in violation of the open burning ordinance, contact the Downers Grove Police Department at (630) 434-5600 for enforcement. **It is up to the responding officer to determine if the fire meets the requirements of this ordinance.**

Should you have questions about open burning, contact the Fire Prevention Division at (630) 434-5983.

The open burning ordinance can be found on the Village website www.downers.us. Search for "Municipal Code," then click on Chapter 13-35.

Facts About Open Burning in Downers Grove



Downers Grove Fire Department
Fire Prevention Division
5420 Main Street
Downers Grove, IL 60515
Phone: 630/434-5983
Fax: 630/434-3500

FACT: Recreational campfires, defined as "a safely conducted and controlled outdoor fire utilized for comfort or relaxation" are allowed. (For information on the environmental impact of open wood burning, consult the US Environmental Protection Agency at www.epa.gov.)

However, all of the following rules of safety outlined in the ordinance must be adhered to:

- ◆ The fire shall not be used in such a manner as to emit offensive or objectionable smoke or odors or when other circumstances make such fires hazardous.
- ◆ The fire shall be under the control of and attended by a person 18 years of age or older at all times.
- ◆ A portable fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 4-A or other approved extinguishing agent such as sand, dirt, or water in sufficient quantity shall be available for immediate use.
- ◆ The fire shall not be permitted to create excessive flames, flying cinders, or smoke.
- ◆ The fire must be located at least 15 feet from any structure or dense brush.



- ◆ Fires must be conducted in an approved container, defined by the ordinance as "a commercially manufactured device specifically designed, intended, advertised, and utilized for the purpose of recreational campfires, such as chimneas or outdoor fireplaces." Such container must be located above ground and in no event shall be built into the ground or located below grade.
- ◆ Permits are not required for recreational fires. However, permits are required for bonfires, defined as "A safely controlled outdoor fire utilized for ceremonial purposes," and conducted by religious, educational or other not-for-profit organizations. Permits for bonfires may be obtained from the Fire Prevention Bureau at (630) 434-5983.

FACT: It is unlawful, under any circumstance, to burn cardboard, leaves, twigs, branches, grass clippings, construction materials, or other types of waste or refuse.



FACT: Approved wood for use in cooking, bonfires, or recreational fires is defined as seasoned dry firewood of dimensions appropriate to safely fit within the container that it is being burned in. Construction materials, such as plywood or wood that has been pressure-treated or treated by other means, are prohibited.

OUTDOOR COOKING FACTS:

- ◆ *Single family residence (including townhomes)*
For the purpose of cooking, the only allowable fuels are charcoal briquettes, natural gas, propane, approved wood, or commercially prepared seasoned wood chips.
- ◆ *Multi-family residence (including condominiums)*
Only approved, **enclosed** cooking devices intended for outdoor use that are fueled by natural gas or propane are allowed. Charcoal burners or other uncovered open-flame cooking devices are prohibited, as well as any other types of cooking fuel.

Examples of approved containers

