



City Ordinance 11-7 *It is unlawful to burn trash, waste, or rubbish in the City of Brenham.*

Fire Code: Open burning - An operational permit is required for the kindling or maintaining of an open fire or a fire on any public street, alley, road, or other public or private ground. Instructions and stipulations of the permit shall be adhered to.
Exception: Recreational fires.

There are proper ways to enjoy fire outdoors that are safe.

International Fire Code 2021 Edition

- Recreational Fires are allowed
- Portable and non-portable outdoor fireplaces are allowed
- Bonfires and Open Burning are allowed only with a permit.

Each of the allowable types of outdoor burning has specific conditions that must be met to be in compliance with the Fire Code,

RUBBISH (TRASH). Combustible and noncombustible waste materials, including residue from the burning of coal, wood, cork, or other combustible material, paper, rags, cartons, tin cans, metals, mineral matter, glass crockery, dust and discarded refrigerators, and heating, cooking, or incinerator type appliances.

RECREATIONAL FIRE. An outdoor fire burning materials other than rubbish where the fuel being burned is not contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, portable outdoor fireplace, barbeque grill or barbeque pit and has a total fuel area of 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth, or similar purposes.

For further information or questions:

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979-337-7300

Email:

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Web:

https://www.cityofbrenham.org/city_government/departments/fire_department/index.php



Brenham Fire Department
Fire Marshal
101N Chappell Hill
Brenham, Texas 77833

Our mission is to protect the lives and property of the citizens of Brenham and Washington County through collaborative response, prevention, and education. Expanding our future, preserving the past with courage, respect, and trust.



A guide to understand rules for Bonfires, Open Burning, Outdoor Fireplaces, Recreational fires, and Rubbish Fires.

**BRENHAM
FIRE
DEPARTMENT**



City Ordinances, and State Regulations for outdoor burning.



Outdoor fireplace, Portable outdoor fireplace, Barbeque Grill, Barbeque pit, or Chimineas are all within the same category of use.



Portable outdoor fireplaces shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall have a screened cover or spark arrestor.

Location and Distance

- If the items piled together that are being burned are larger than 3 feet in diameter and higher than 2 feet in height, then it is an open burn or bonfire and is not authorized without a permit.
- A Bonfire or Open Burn must be conducted at least 50 feet from any structure or combustible material. Also, any conditions or materials that would cause fire to spread to within 50 feet of a structure must be removed. The distance will increase as the size of the fire increases.
- Recreational Fires are fires that have items piled together that are being burned and are less than 3 feet in diameter and less than 2 feet in height. The minimum distance from any structure, with provisions to keep the fire from spreading, must be at least 25 feet.
- Portable outdoor fireplaces which include outdoor fireplace, portable outdoor fireplace, BBQ grills, BBQ pits, or chimineas must be used a minimum of 15 feet away from any structure or combustible materials, the manufacturer instructions must be followed, and a screened cover or spark arrestor must be used.

Attendance. Open burning, bonfires, recreational fires, and use of portable outdoor fireplaces shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. No fewer than one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.

Open burning shall be prohibited when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous. This would include high winds in excess of 23 mph, an outdoor burn ban (does not prohibit the use of outdoor fireplaces-barbeque grills) or keeping fires downwind of or at least 300 feet away from, any neighboring structure that contains sensitive receptors. ***Sensitive receptors are people or other organisms that may have a significantly increased sensitivity or exposure to contaminants by virtue of their age and health.***



Extinguishment authority. Where open burning creates or adds to a hazardous situation, or a required permit for open burning has not been obtained, the Fire Department under the authority of the *fire code official* is authorized to order the extinguishment of the open burning.