

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to get a permit to have a recreational fire?

NO. Campfires and outdoor fireplace equipment, whether for cooking food, pleasure, religious, ceremonial, warmth, recreational, or similar purposes are allowed without notification to or permission from the Holland Fire Department, provided the fire complies with the requirements of the 2012 International Fire Code Section 307.

May I have a Bonfire or fire larger than 3ft diameter and 2ft high?

NO. Not without a permit and burn plan that has been approved by the Fire Marshal. Please contact FM Bret Groendyke @ 616-355-1024 to obtain permit.

What materials can never be burned?

- materials containing rubber, grease, and asphalt or made from petroleum, such as tires, cars and auto parts, plastics, or plastic-coated wire;
- garbage--any wastes created in the process of handling, preparing, cooking, or consumption of food;
- dead animals
- yard waste and brush
- construction materials

Is a burn barrel an approved container?

NO. Burn barrels generally are used to burn trash and yard waste, are not made to contain fires, and are taller than the permitted 2 ft height allowed.

If my neighbor complains, will the Fire Department investigate?

YES. The Fire Department will investigate all complaints of open burning. Provided the fire complies with the requirements of the 2018 International Fire Code Section 307, it will be permitted to burn. The Fire Department will prohibit open burning that is offensive or objectionable due to smoke or odor emissions when atmospheric conditions make such fires hazardous or endangering to persons.

Could I be cited for my fire?

YES. If you fail to follow the regulations established by fire code Section 307 you could be cited. The Holland Fire Department provides education and will issue a warning for the first violation. Holland Police Department will be notified of repeat offenders for follow-up enforcement.