



GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF APPROVED CHIMINEAS, OUTDOOR FIRE PITS, AND FIREPLACES 2019

Chimineas, outdoor fire pits, and outdoor fireplaces have gained in popularity over the past several years. As with barbeques, these devices must be used in a safe manner in accordance with the following guidelines:



- Open burning in approved chimineas, outdoor fire pits and outdoor fireplaces shall be allowed without a permit at single-family homes, duplexes, and town homes providing the fire does not create a nuisance. (Exception: units are not allowed within mobile home parks or other densely populated areas.)
- Within public domains, a permit from the head of the fire department is required for open burning in approved chimineas, outdoor fire pits and outdoor fireplaces. Units must contain an approved spark/ember arrestor. Open burning must not create a nuisance.
- When used in a public domain, chimineas, outdoor fire pits, and outdoor fireplaces shall be placed on a non-combustible surface other than the ground to prevent damage (i.e. concrete blocks, bricks, or pavers).
- Chimineas, outdoor fire pits and outdoor fireplaces shall be placed on a non-combustible surface at grade level (not on a deck). Additionally, these devices shall not be placed on porches, roofs, balconies, or near any flammable or combustible material such as tents, campers, vehicles containing fuel, etc.
- There shall be no overhead obstructions of any kind while the device is in use. Obstructions shall include but not limited to: roofs, ceilings, decks, porches, overhangs, tree branches, clotheslines, tents, etc.
- Approved devices utilized for the purpose of open burning shall be used at least ten (10) feet away from any building or structure at all times.
- All approved outdoor burning devices shall have a competent operator (18 years of age or older) at all times.
- A means of extinguishment (fire extinguisher, garden hose, etc.) shall be located within close proximity of the approved outdoor burning device when in operation.
- All outdoor burning within an approved device shall be completely extinguished when concluded.
- The burning of yard waste, leaves, brush, vines, evergreen needles, treated lumber, garbage, paper products or anything other than firewood is prohibited.
- A fire, police or code enforcement officer may order any use of chimineas, outdoor fire pits, or outdoor fireplaces that creates a nuisance to be extinguished.
- Any violation of these guidelines may result in monetary fines for violation of open burning laws and Mass. General Laws.
- All chimineas, outdoor fire pits, and outdoor fireplaces should always be considered a hazard to children.