

CRR POLICY 1302: CONSTRUCTION & USE OF RECREATIONAL FIRE PITS, FIRE BOWLS, CHIMINEAS OR SIMILAR APPURTENANCES



Created: May 24, 2017 Revised: July 11, 2019 Effective Date: Immediate
Community Risk Management Division – 928-204-8926

This policy is promulgated in accordance with Section 104.1 of the 2012 International Fire Code and is an official interpretation of Section 307 of the 2012 International Fire Code.

The following shall apply to the construction and use of recreational fire pits, fire bowls chimineas and similar appurtenances (hereafter referred to as “fire pits”). Section 307.1 of the International Fire Code reads as follows: “**A person shall not kindle or maintain or authorize to be kindled or maintained any *open burning* unless conducted and approved in accordance with Sections 307.1.1 through 307.5.**” It is the opinion of the Fire Marshal that the following requirements are pertinent to the construction and use of recreational fire pits, fire bowls and similar appurtenances located within the boundaries of the Sedona Fire District.

- 1) The Sedona Fire District shall not be liable for damages resulting from the installation, construction, use and/or misuse of fire pits.
- 2) This interpretation does not absolve the user of said fire pits from complying with other applicable laws, rules, regulations or ordinances.
- 3) Recreational burning shall comply with all seasonal fire restrictions (fire pits fueled solely by Liquefied Propane Gas (LPG) or Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) shall be exempt from this provision).
- 4) When a fire pit is in use, it shall be constantly attended by a competent person at least 18 years of age. The attendant shall monitor the use of the fire pit until the fire is fully extinguished. Disposal of ashes shall be in a metal container with a tight fitting lid and the container shall be placed on a non-combustible surface.
- 5) For wood burning fire pits, only dry seasoned firewood shall be used as fuel. Firewood shall not be stacked higher than 24 inches in the fire pit. The burning of trash, yard debris, or construction materials shall be prohibited.
- 6) The installation and use of fire pits requires the permission of the landowner.
- 7) The installation of permanent fire pits may require the issuance of a city or county permit. Check with your local building and planning department for requirements.
- 8) The installation and use of fire pits shall be in accordance with all manufacturers guidelines
- 9) The burn area of a fire pit shall not exceed 36 inches in diameter.
- 10) Fire pits shall be no less than 15 feet from any building or structure. Exceptions shall be approved by the Fire Marshal’s office.
- 11) A clear area, free of combustibles, no less than 36 inches wide shall be maintained in the immediate vicinity of the fire pit at all times.
- 12) An approved means of fire suppression shall be available at all times that the fire pit is in use. Approved means may include but are not limited to; portable fire extinguisher, garden hose or other water supply, shovel and dirt.

Any comments or questions regarding the above information may be submitted to:

Community Risk Reduction Division
Sedona Fire District
2860 Southwest Drive
Sedona, AZ 86336

crm@sedonafire.org