

SOUTHERN MARIN FIRE DEPARTMENT



Fire Protection Standard 521

BONFIRES AND RECREATIONAL FIRES

Date: August 1, 2009

Revision: _____

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This standard has been developed pursuant to Chapter 3 of the California Fire Code as adopted by ordinance by the City of Mill Valley. It is intended that this standard be used as a guide in establishing the minimum requirements for fire and life safety relative to bonfires.

I. Permits

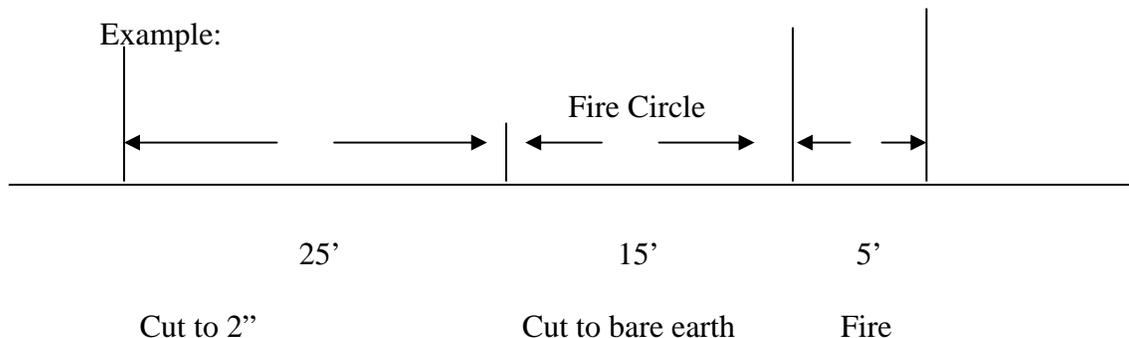
- A. A Fire Department permit is required to kindle any bonfire or recreational campfire on public or private property. A permit application shall be completed and returned to the Fire Department with the application fee for processing.

Exception: Any campfire in an approved barbeque pit at a County and State Park.

- B. Confirmation shall be received by the Fire Department that the intended fire complies with all regulations of the Bay Area Pollution Control District or is exempt therefrom. Copies of permits required by the Bay Area Pollution Control District shall be submitted to the Fire Department as a part of the application process.
- C. The Fire Department permit, when issued, shall be kept at all time in the possession of the permittee or responsible party on-site during the hours of burning established within the guidelines of the permit.

II. Conditions of Permit

- A. Areas for burning shall be approved and designated by the Fire Marshal prior to issuing any permit.
- B. Areas shall be cleared of all vegetation (to bare earth) for a distance of not less than the total width times the height of the fire circle.



An additional 25' of brush, grass, overhanging trees and other shrubbery shall be cleared to within 2" from the ground level.

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- C. The fire circle shall be constructed of rocks or other similar non-combustible materials or an approved barbecue pit. The height of the rocks of the circle perimeter shall be (in inches) the same as the diameter of the circle (in feet). This is to prevent burning pieces from rolling away from the fire circle.
- D. Fires shall be constantly attended by a competent adult until such fire is extinguished.
- E. The Fire Chief may prohibit any or all bonfires, including permit revocation, when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous.
- F. A garden hose connected to a suitable water supply shall be readily available for use. The garden hose shall be capable of reaching at least to the outermost diameter of the fire circle.
- G. A minimum of one 2 ½ gallon pressurized water extinguisher shall be located within 30' travel distance from the fire circle. The permittee shall be knowledgeable and trained in the handling and operation of such fire extinguisher.