



Palm Harbor Fire Rescue

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Promoting Safety through Education

RE: CAMPFIRES, OPEN FLAME OUTDOOR COOKING, OPEN BURNING

Pinellas County Ordinance Ref.

ARTICLE V – OPEN BURNING

Sec. 58-207. Except as otherwise provided by law or ordinance, a person convicted of violation of this article shall be punished by fine not to exceed \$500.00 or by imprisonment in the county jail for the term not exceeding 60 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment. With respect to violations of this code that are continuous with respect to time, each day the violation continues is a separate offence.

The AHJ (Fire Department) shall have the legal authority to prohibit any or all open fires when atmospheric conditions or local circumstance make such fire hazardous. If no complaints of smoke or pollution, the following section may be allowed:

Sec. 58-216. Permitted open burning. A campfire or other fire will be allowed that is used solely for recreational purposes, for ceremonial occasions, for outdoor noncommercial preparation of food, or on cold days for warming of outdoor workers, *as long as excessive visible emissions are not emitted.*

Safety Guideline shall be implemented at all times:

- ❖ Permitted open burning - fires shall be located not less than 25ft from any structure or combustible material unless contained in an *approved manner* (Outdoor fireplaces, containers, all shall have spark arresting screens in place).
- ❖ Conditions that could cause a fire to spread to within 25ft of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.
- ❖ Open fires and cooking fires shall be constantly attended by a competent person until such fire is extinguished. This person shall have a viable water supply or agents available to extinguish fire/glowing embers at all times.
- ❖ Open containers, pits, fireplaces, shall not be larger than 5 foot in diameter.
- ❖ Glowing embers shall be controlled / prevented from endangering any structure, conveyance, property of others.

Examples of fires not allowed: The burning of such material listed below shall be construed as in violation of the county ordinance and legal action shall be imposed. Note: No permits are issued for the following within the jurisdiction of Palm Harbor Special Fire Control District

- ❖ The burning of land clearing debris such as trees, shrubs, vegetation, leaves.
- ❖ The burning of household trash, rubbish, furniture or furnishings.
- ❖ The burning of any construction or storm debris.

The above information is intended as a guideline for person(s) wishing to engage in the use of recreational / ceremonial fires as set forth by the authority having jurisdiction. If you have any further question or need further information please contact the Palm Harbor Fire Prevention Division at any time during business hours.

Thank You

Frank Lowman

Frank Lowman, FPO
Fire Marshal Office
Fire Prevention Division