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FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU – TOWNSHIP OF VERONA

RECREATIONAL FIRES & OPEN BURNING

Definition: An outdoor fire burning material other than rubbish where the fuel being burned is not contained in an incinerator, outdoor structural fireplace, barbeque grill or fire pit and has a total “fuel area” of three feet or less in diameter and two feet or less in height and is burned for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes. **Uniform Fire Code – New Jersey & IFC Chapter 2 Definitions – Section 202**

The use of a defined container must be that of which the container has been designed. These containers are commonly found in the nature of a store bought chimenea, barbequing grill, outdoor fireplace or fire pit. All of these devices are designed to contain heat in the “fuel area” via the sides and/or enclosure and expel the heat and exhaust gases through a cover designated by the manufacturer.

Additional tips to follow for use:

Use according to the manufacturer’s designed intention for use

Make use of all protective covers, screens or meshes

Heed to the concerns of others around you (neighbors) that may find the use offensive or objectionable – heavy smoke condition

Operate at a minimum required distance from a structure or building of 15 feet

Do not use within five feet of combustible construction

Never leave a burning device unattended

The device should not be used to burn trash, weeds, grass, leaves or other ground clippings

Open Burning, Recreational Fires and Portable Outdoor Fireplaces:
Uniform Fire Code – New Jersey & IFC – Chapter 3 – Section 307

Under the Uniform Fire Code – New Jersey and penalty of law, Open Burning is prohibited in the Township of Verona. This includes bon fires and campfires. Under certain circumstances, open burning **may** be allowed after a Fire Permit has been issued by the local Fire Official and/or the New Jersey Forest Fire Service.

Burning of tree stumps as a means of disposal is strictly prohibited in the Township of Verona.

Under proper guidelines and safety precautions, recreational fires are **ONLY** allowed to be burned at one or two family residences. These are fires that are shielded and provided with a grill or cover. These fire-burning devices are described as charcoal burners, liquid propane gas grills, outdoor fireplaces, chimeneas and fire pits. None of these devices or fire types may be used on the decks or balconies of multi-family residences, including town houses, condominiums and apartment buildings. However, these types of dwellings may have special areas designated for recreational fires. No fires in the Township of Verona may burn garbage, trash or debris or in any way create offensive or objectionable smoke emissions.

It is in the public interest that the provisions, prohibitions and regulations contained in this information be enacted as a matter of public policy and adopted for the purpose of securing and promoting the public health, comfort, safety and general welfare and quality of life of the residents of the Township of Verona.

Please forward any questions to the Fire Prevention Bureau online at **[Veronanj.org/fire prevention](http://Veronanj.org/fireprevention)** or 973 857-4761