

# Burning in the City of Harker Heights

**NO OPEN BURNING IS ALLOWED WITHIN THE INCORPORATED CITY LIMITS OF HARKER HEIGHTS WITHOUT A PERMIT, OTHER THAN RECREATIONAL FIRES THAT MEET THE CONDITIONS OUTLINED BELOW.**

## Legal Burning:

### **Recreational Fires**

- Must be in approved containers to include non-combustible chimney, outdoor fireplace, fire pit, or other method approved by the Fire Code Official
- Limited to a maximum of three feet in diameter and two feet in height
- Openings must be covered i.e. a wire mesh or other screening material cover, to prevent passage of embers
- No such fire or container used for open burning may be used on any porch, deck, balcony, or other portion of a building; within any room, space, or under any building overhang.
- Shall not be operated within 15' of a structure or combustible material
- Shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished

**Fire Permits may be obtained through the Fire Marshal's Office for the maintenance and development of property:**

- Permits are only issued to specific areas of the city
- Applicants must meet requirements as outlined in City Ordinance as well as TECQ Guidelines

**Open burning that is offensive or objectionable because of smoke emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous-shall be prohibited.**

**Extinguishment Authority:** The Fire Code Official is authorized to order the extinguishment by the permit holder, another person responsible or the fire department of open burning that has not been permitted, is in violation of permit requirements, or that creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation.

## Illegal Burning:

### **Open Burning of Natural Materials**

- Burning without a permit from the Fire Marshal's Office can result in a fine up to \$2,000 under Section 10.99 Harker Heights Code of Ordinances

**Burning of materials other than natural products is a violation of state law.**

**Burning of Prohibited Materials to Include but not Limited to:**

- Tires
- Natural or synthetic rubber
- Insulation on electrical wire or cable
- Plastics
- Treated lumber
- Non-wood construction or demolition materials
- Potentially explosive materials
- Heavy oils
- Asphaltic materials
- Chemical waste
- Carpet
- Furniture

**Violations are a Class A Misdemeanor punishable up to a fine of \$4,000 and/or jail time up to 1 year.**