

Bonfires/Open Burning/Recreational Fires

City of Moorhead

- Bonfires- a large outdoor fire used for ceremonial purposes. A permit must be obtained from the Fire Department Annex.
- Open Burning- the outdoor burning of natural vegetation to dispose of leaves, branches, and natural vegetative material. This is allowed under certain circumstances along river lots. Permits are free and available at the Fire Department Annex.
- Recreational Fires- the outdoor burning of materials other than rubbish contained in an outdoor fireplace or fire pit for recreational purposes. A permit is not required under the Minnesota State Fire Code at this time, but the following conditions must be met:
 1. The fire must never exceed three (3) feet in diameter by two (2) feet in height
 2. The fire must be at least twenty-five (25) feet from any structure or combustible material. (Including decks)
 3. A garden hose hooked to a reliable water source or a fire extinguisher with a 4A rating must be immediately accessible
 4. The fire must be constantly attended
 5. Only natural vegetative material may be used. (No treated lumber or rubbish)
 6. The Fire Department may order extinguishment for any reason it determines is necessary
 7. We recommend a screen over the fire to help contain sparks and brands. These are available on many models.

Permits are available at the Fire Department Annex, [111 12th Street North](#). Call (218) 299-5434 or stop by for more information.