

Sidney Fire & Emergency Services - City Open Burning Investigation Form (rev. 4.18.24)

Incident Address: _____ Incident Date: _____

Property Owner: _____ Phone #: _____

Responsible Adult: _____ Phone #: _____

Responsible Adult Address: _____ Incident #: _____

COOKING

USING THIS SECTION

Apartment Buildings (3 or more units): Cooking is allowed on balconies or within 10 feet of the structure if any of the following conditions apply:

N/A TRUE FALSE

A *pre-plumbed* natural gas line is fueling the grill.

Balcony/Outdoor Area is sprinkled.

Camping Stove style propane grill being used with max cylinder size of one pound.

Electric grill is being used.

* Note: For one & two family dwellings, any type of outdoor cooking grill permitted.

CAMPFIRES & OTHER MAKESHIFT OPEN BURNING

USING THIS SECTION

N/A TRUE FALSE

Fire is located a minimum of 25 ft from the structure or other combustibles.

Provisions have been made to prevent the spread of fire to within 25 ft of structure.

Fire size is no larger than 3 ft wide by 2 ft high.

The fire is not being used for "waste disposal" purposes (see definition)

Only CLEAN WOOD or equivalent is being burned (see definition)

A means of extinguishment is nearby and ready to be used (see definition)

Fire is being constantly attended by an adult (18 years or older)

Smoke is not objectionable or offensive (see definition)

The fire does not create a hazardous situation due to local circumstances (see definition)

PATIO APPLIANCES

USING THIS SECTION

N/A TRUE FALSE

Appliance is located a minimum of 15 ft from structure (see definition)

* Note: If screens are in place around burn chamber and appliance is designed to sit on combustibles, it can be on a combustible deck BUT must still be a minimum of 15 ft from structure.

The fire is not being used for "waste disposal" purposes (see definition)

Only CLEAN WOOD or equivalent is being burned (see definition)

A means of extinguishment is nearby and ready to be used (see definition)

Fire is being constantly attended by an adult (18 years or older)

Smoke is not objectionable or offensive (see definition)

The fire does not create a hazardous situation due to local circumstances (see definition)

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:

(Completed form to Deputy Chief)

Deputy Chief Review

Forwarded to Law Director

Fire Permitted

Fire Not Permitted

Fire Extinguished

Responsible Adult Signature: _____

Officer in Charge: _____

DEFINITIONS:

"OPEN BURNING":	You are open burning any time you light an outdoor fire without a chimney or stack (Ohio EPA) * Note: Besides cooking, ceremonial and recreational uses, open burning is also allowed during cold weather for the warmth of outdoor workers.
"WASTE DISPOSAL":	Open burning being conducted for the disposal of waste materials. Examples of waste materials include: garbage, food waste, plant material such as trimmings, branches, stumps, brush, weeds, grass, shrubbery, yard trimmings and crop residues, and any other waste produced during residential activities at one-two-three properties (City Ordinance).
"CLEAN WOOD or equivalent":	Clean seasoned firewood, natural gas or equivalent, or any clean burning fuel with emissions that are equivalent or lower than those created from the burning of seasoned firewood (City Ordinance).
"MEANS OF EXTINGUISHMENT":	Fire extinguisher or other approved (by you) on-site extinguishment equipment/means such as dirt, sand, water barrel/bucket, garden hose or water truck that are immediately available for use (2011 OFC).
"PATIO APPLIANCE":	Include any devices designed to burn wood and have a total fuel area of three feet in diameter and two feet or less in height for pleasure, cooking, warmth or similar purposes. Patio appliances may be portable or stationery and include outdoor fireplaces. An outdoor solid-fuel-burning fireplace may be constructed of steel, concrete, clay or other noncombustible material. An outdoor fireplace may be open in design or may be equipped with a small hearth opening and a short chimney. Patio appliances incorporating a screen encompassing all open areas of the burn chamber and are designed to prevent ignition through conduction through its base may be placed on a combustible desk but must still be 15 feet from the structure (2011 OFC & City Ordinance)
"OBJECTIONABLE or OFFENSIVE SMOKE":	Open burning that is offensive or objectionable because of smoke/odor emissions or when atmospheric or local circumstances make such fires hazardous. Smoke cannot obscure visibility of roadways, railroad tracks or air fields (2011 OFS & Ohio EPA).
"LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES":	These include circumstances where open burning is officially prohibited due to dry/drought conditions, air pollution warnings, etc (Ohio EPA).

POTENTIAL PENALTIES for serious violations and/or repeated violations:

Both the Responsible Person AND the Owner can be subject to the following penalties for violation of the City Open Burning Ordinance:

- * Guilty of a Third Degree Misdemeanor
- * AND shall be fined not more than five-hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisoned not more than 60 days, or both.
- * For cases that do not warrant Court appearance, the Responsible Person and Owner can be the recipient of an order/letter to desist from the City Law Director.