

This pamphlet describes open burning regulations for the City of Grand Island as set by City Code §16-11. All fires in the city require a permit from the Fire Department with the exception of cooking and recreational fires.



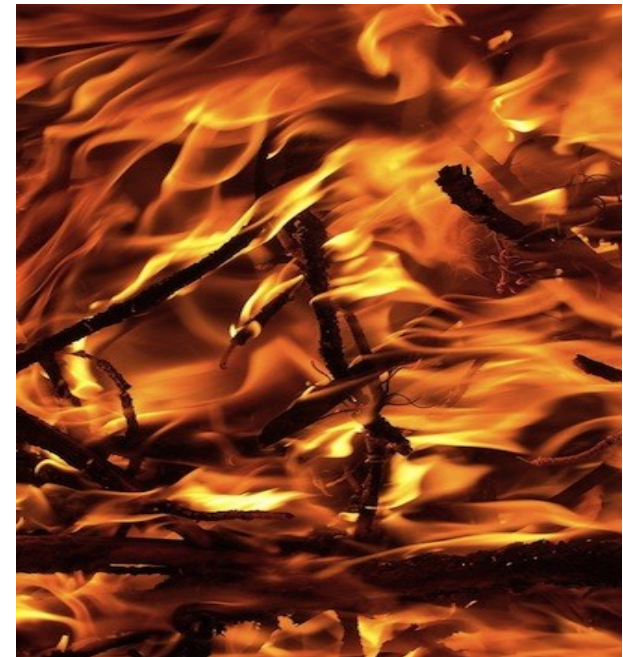
Grand Island Fire Dept.  
100 E. First St.  
Grand Island, NE 68801

Phone: 308-385-5444 ext. 220  
Fax: 308-385-5423  
[www.grand-island.com/fire](http://www.grand-island.com/fire)

If you have any questions regarding open burning regulations or would like to apply for a permit, please contact Fire Administration at 308-385-5444 ext. 220 or visit the office at City Hall, 100 E. First St.



## Open Burning Regulations



## What is open burning?

Open burning is an outdoor fire where wood or any combustible materials are burned for one of the following reasons: cooking, recreational, training, and destruction of material.

### Permit required burning

Open burning of yard waste is allowed twice a year for 14 days beginning on the third Sunday in April and 14 days beginning the second Sunday in October. Hours for burning are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Fires for the purpose of training, clearing land for development, destroying dangerous and diseased trees, and essential agriculture operation, may require a permit from the Dept. of Environmental Quality.

Permits are available at Fire Administration in City Hall, 100 E. First St. and have a \$10 fee.

### Requirements for burning yard waste

Only organic waste grown on the property may be burned.

Burn piles greater than three feet in diameter or two feet high must be 50 feet from any manmade structure.

Burn piles smaller than three feet in diameter or two feet high must

be 25 feet from any manmade structure.

Fire must be attended at all times by an adult and have a reliable water supply at the ready.

No burning is allowed when wind speeds is 15 mph or greater.

**Recreational fires**– No permit required.

Only small fires are allowed (maximum three-foot diameter by two-foot height) that are contained in a non-combustible chiminea, outdoor fireplace, fire pit, or other approved method.

All openings in the container must be covered with wire mesh or other screening materials that will prevent the passage of sparks and embers.

Fires must be kept at least 15 feet from structures. Only non-milled, non-treated, dry and seasoned wood may be burned (no construction lumber).

Fires must be constantly attended by an adult and have a reliable water supply at the ready.

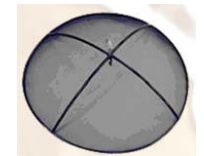
### Examples of approved containers for recreational fires.



Chiminea  
Outdoor Fire-  
place



Mesh Lid



Fire Pit

### FAQ

*I'm concerned when my neighbors use their outdoor fireplaces in their backyards. They follow all regulations, but the smoke bothers me. What can I do?* The Fire Department can order any fire to be extinguished that doesn't comply with all regulations, creates a hazardous condition, or poses a health risk. The department generally will not intervene if there is only an unpleasant odor or drifting smoke.

*Can I burn milled lumber in an outdoor fire?* No, only untreated seasoned wood may be burned, also no yard waste can be burned in a recreational fire.

*Can our group have a bonfire?* Yes, recognized non-profit or governmental agencies may have a ceremonial, educational, or recreational fire. But, a permit must be issued by the Fire Department.