



Traverse City Fire Department

500 W. Front Street
Traverse City, MI 49684

Telephone: (231) 922-4930
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307 Recreational Fires. *(Source: 2006 International Fire Code, as amended by the City of Traverse City)*

307.1 Recreational fires. A person shall not kindle or maintain or authorize to be kindled or maintained any recreational fire unless conducted and approved in accordance with this section. *(A recreational fire is defined as a small fire in an approved container and location for the purposes of personal enjoyment; i.e. cooking hot dogs, roasting marshmallows, relaxation, etc.) (Be safe and have fun!)*

307.1.1 Prohibited Recreational Fires. Recreational fires that are offensive or objectionable because of smoke or odor emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous shall be prohibited. *(Only natural wood is allowed to be burned. At no time should garbage, yard waste, treated or glued wood, or other products used in the building industry be burned.)*

307.2 Permit Required. A permit shall be obtained from the Fire Code Official in accordance with Section 105.6 prior to kindling a recreational fire. Application for such approval shall only be presented by and permits issued to the owner of the land upon which the recreational fire is to be kindled. *(Please call the fire department non-emergent number at 922-4930 ext 8. This will put you in contact with the duty officer, who will verbally issue a recreational fire permit.)*

307.3 Extinguishment Authority. The Fire Code Official is authorized to order the extinguishment by the permit holder, another person responsible or the fire department of recreational fires that creates or adds to a hazard or objectionable situation. *(Fire personnel responding to a complaint about your recreational fire may require extinguishment if it's determined a hazard exists; i.e. excessive smoke, odor, wind direction, unsafe burning conditions, etc.)*

307.4 Location. Recreational fires shall be conducted at a location approved by the Fire Code Official. *(An annual list of approved locations is maintained by the fire department. If you are not on the list, call the Fire Prevention non-emergent number at 922-4930 ext. 3.)*

307.4.1 Bonfires. This section is removed in its entirety. *(A bonfire is defined as a large fire used for ceremonial purposes; i.e. church, school, and special functions. A special bonfire permit may be granted if approved by the fire department.)*

307.5 Attendance. Recreational fires shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as a water barrel, garden hose, or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization. *(Please extinguish the fire with water when you are done. Stir the coals to ensure they are completely out before leaving the area.)*

