



LOWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT



OPEN/OUTSIDE BURNING REGULATIONS AND GUIDLEINES

The Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and the Lowell Fire Department limit open burning for public health and safety reasons. Per MassDEP open burning is prohibited in 22 densely built and populated cities and towns.

THE FOLLOWING ARE COMMUNITIES WHERE OPEN BURNING IS PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES:

Arlington, Belmont, Boston, Brookline, Cambridge, Chelsea, Chicopee, Everett, Fall River, Holyoke, Lawrence, **Lowell**, Malden, Medford, New Bedford, Newton, Somerville, Springfield, Waltham, Watertown, West Springfield, Worcester

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PER 310 CMR 7.07 (3) (E) AND 527 CMR 1.0 §10.10.6

Pursuant to 310 CMR 7.07 (3) (e), Lowell is one of 22 communities in the Commonwealth in which open burning is **NOT PERMITTED**. This does not apply to the use of charcoal and propane grills for cooking meeting all the requirements within. Burning is not allowed in fire pits, chimineas or outdoor wood burning fireplaces/stoves. See examples below:



Chimineas



Fire Place



Fire Pit

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EXCEPTIONS:

Lowell Fire authorizes the use of Propane or Natural gas fired heating appliances (fire pits or fireplaces) as they don't produce smoke, flying embers and are small in size. All authorized appliances must be used per manufacturers specifications and follow Lowell Fire's guidelines. Please see examples below:



COOKING AND HEATING APPLIANCES ARE ALLOWED ONLY IF THEY MEET THE FOLLOWING 527 CMR 1.0 REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be 10' from any structure or building
- Solid fuel cooking and heating appliances are prohibited from use or storage on any balcony
- Cannot be above the ground floor unless an egress stairway leading directly off the deck is installed or a sprinkler system is installed per the state building code
- Propane containers shall not be stored in or pass through any building
- Cooking or heating appliances shall not block or obstruct any ingress or egress
- Appliances cannot be under any combustible overhangs or roofs unless a sprinkler system is installed per state building code
- Hard piped appliances must be permitted and inspected by Lowell Fire Prevention and the City Gas/Plumbing Inspector

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PLEASE FOLLOW THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES WHEN USING PROPANE OR NATURAL GAS FIRED APPLIANCES FOR COOKING OR HEATING:

- Place appliances 10-feet away from the house. Make sure they are not under eaves, overhanging branches or against the side of the building or deck railings.
- Appliances can be used on open (no roof) first floor porches, decks or patios if there is an egress stairway directly off the deck to the ground, or it is at ground level.
- Propane/Natural gas fire pits should never be used indoors or on fire escapes.
- Keep children and pets three feet away from all cooking or heating appliances. Create a circle of safety.
- Never leave a cooking or heating appliance unattended.
- If you smell gas while using the appliance, immediately shut off the gas valve at the tank. If unable to stop leak call the fire department. Do not move the appliance.
- Shut off gas valve at the tank after each use, and before disconnecting the propane tank or gas line.
- If the flame goes out, turn the appliance and gas off and wait 15 minutes before relighting.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding open/outside burning regulations please call Lowell Fire Prevention @ 978-459-5554 or 5557