

OVERVIEW

- A recreational fire permit is required to have a recreational wood burning fire in the City of Grand Rapids.
- **Self-contained gas or propane fire containers are allowed within the City and do not require a permit - but please follow the manufacturer's instructions and, if applicable, check with your landlord or condo association.**
- With a permit, burning is only allowed between 7 am and 10 pm.
- **Only seasoned dry firewood may be burned. Burning of yard waste, leaves, trash, refuse, building materials, or other items is prohibited.**
- Burning is prohibited on high-risk days, Ozone Action Days, or any day designated as unsafe by the Fire Chief.
- **Recreational fire complaints can be directed as follows:**
 - **If an immediate health concern is present, please call 911.**
 - **All other complaints can be directed to 311 during normal business hours.**
- If you have questions about the permitting process, please contact the Development Center at 616-456-4100.

Please note that the City reserves the right to revoke permits or re-notify neighbors within 120 feet based on a pattern of violations.



City of Grand Rapids Development Center

 1120 Monroe Ave. NW Ste. 300
Grand Rapids

 devcenter@grcity.us

 616-456-4100

 grandrapidsmi.gov



RECREATIONAL FIRE PERMITS

HOW TO APPLY &
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

**LEARN MORE AT GRANDRAPIDSMI.GOV/
RECREATIONAL-FIRES**



MAKE PUBLIC HEALTH YOUR PRIORITY

The resources below provide helpful information about minimizing the negative effects of wood burning on public health and the environment.

- <https://www.epa.gov/burnwise/backyard-recreational-fires>
- https://www.lung.org/local-content/_content-items/our-initiatives/current-initiatives/learn-before-you-burn.html
- <https://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3310-85746--,00.html>

**PLEASE ENJOY YOUR
RECREATIONAL FIRE
RESPONSIBLY AND BE
COURTEOUS OF NEIGHBORS.**

APPLY NOW!

**WWW.GRANDRAPIDSMI.GOV
/REC-FIRE-PERMIT**

TALK TO YOUR NEIGHBORS

- All properties located within 120 feet will be notified and given an opportunity to object.
- Objections can be filed within 21 days of the application and will be evaluated by City staff on the basis of public health, safety, and welfare.
- If an objection is accepted, the application will be denied.
- The permit will be issued if there are no objections or if no objections are accepted.

PROPERTY REQUIREMENTS

- No more than 2 dwelling units on property
- Have written permission from the landlord and/or property owner, if you're renting

SITE DRAWING REQUIREMENTS

At the time of application, please submit a site drawing that illustrates:

- Location of property lines
- All buildings/structures on property
- Fences on property/property line
- Location of overhead wires
- Location of proposed fire container
- Garden hose, fire extinguisher, or other means of extinguisher

CONTAINER PLACEMENT

- Fire containers/pits cannot be placed in the front yard and must be 20 feet away from the following:
 - Lot line
 - Road
 - Building
 - Alley or fence
 - Any combustible materials
 - Overhead line (15 feet)
- Garden hose or extinguisher located nearby

CONTAINER & BURNING REQUIREMENTS

Fires may be in portable containers or in-ground pits meeting the following requirements:

- No larger than 3 feet wide, 3 feet deep, or 3 feet tall
- Made of non-combustible materials
- Covered by a screen or spark cover
- Only seasoned dry firewood may be burned
- Burning of yard waste, leaves, trash, refuse, or building materials is prohibited

PERMIT RENEWAL

Recreational fire permits are valid for one year after the date of issuance. You'll need to reapply annually to renew your permit. We will re-notify neighbors within 120 feet and evaluate any objections filed within 21 days before issuing a renewal permit.