

Town of Princeton – Fire Pit Policy

1. Allowed Fire Pits

Recreational fire pits are allowed without a permit if they meet all of the following:

- Fire is for recreation only (not debris burning).
- Fire pit is constructed of metal, stone, or masonry.
- Fire pit is no larger than 3 feet wide and 2 feet tall.
- Only clean, dry firewood may be burned.

2. Location Requirements

Fire pits must be placed:

- At least 25 feet from any structure, porch, deck, shed, or vehicle.
- At least 10 feet from property lines.
- On a stable, non-combustible surface (dirt, gravel, concrete, pavers).
- Away from overhead hazards (trees, power lines, awnings).

3. Supervision & Safety

- Fire must be attended at all times by an adult.
- A water source (hose or bucket) must be within reach.
- Fire must be fully extinguished before leaving the area.
- No accelerants (gasoline, kerosene, lighter fluid) may be used.

4. Prohibited Materials

The following may NOT be burned:

- Yard debris (leaves, limbs, pine straw)
- Household trash
- Construction materials
- Plastics, rubber, or treated wood
- Furniture or mattresses

(NCDEQ open burning rules)

5. Nuisance & Smoke Control

Fire pits may not:

- Produce smoke that crosses property lines
- Create a nuisance for neighbors
- Obstruct visibility on streets
- Occur during burn bans, high winds, or drought conditions

The Town or Fire Department may order any fire to be extinguished immediately if unsafe.

6. Enforcement

Violations may result in:

- Verbal or written warning
- Civil penalty
- Cost recovery for Fire Department response
- Prohibition on further burning at the property