

Fire Pit Safety



- Before you consider lighting your fire pit, you must check current and predicted weather condition. Never burn under dry, windy conditions. Embers can easily spread the fire to nearby woodlots or even your home.
- Always keep fire extinguisher or garden hose close by at all times. If your fire escapes containment and you can't extinguish it quickly, call 911.
- Clear all brush and other flammables from around your fire pit. Ensure that grass has been trimmed to a height lower than 4-inches.
- Only use properly seasoned, dry, split wood for fuel. Do not burn trash or pressure-treated wood. Burning pressure-treated wood releases toxins and chemicals into the air that can be harmful to your health.
- Learn how to properly start a wood fire using tiny pieces of kindling, then small twigs with larger pieces above them. Don't use accelerants like gasoline or lighter fluid.
- Use a screen or spark arrestor or screen to prevent sparks and embers from flying out.
- Plan for time to allow the fire to burn out on its own. Always maintain a competent watch. If you must leave the fire unattended, be sure to fully extinguish with water and stirring the ashes until cool to the touch.
- Allow ashes to cool overnight by spreading them out in a thin layer over the fire pit's surface. Remove the ashes the next day using a shovel and place them into a metal bucket with a lid. Ashes can stay hot for a while, so having a metal bucket with a secure lid will prevent them from blowing out and possibly igniting a fire.

