

OUTDOOR FIREPLACE & CHIMINEAS SAFETY



With more people using outdoor fireplaces and chimineas than ever before, it is important to always remember that anytime you work with fire there is a chance of losing control of it or getting burned.

Keep safety in mind when setting up, using and cleaning up after any outdoor fire.



Outdoor Fireplaces & Chimineas

In recent years, the use of outdoor fireplaces and chimineas has become very popular. If you plan to buy or use one, you should always be aware of any regulations governing their use and any special considerations connected with a device with the potential for fire. The city code prohibits the open burning of any trash or other material. Campfires and bonfires are also prohibited unless a special permit is obtained from the fire department. To aid residents, the City offers free brush pickup in the spring and leaf pickup in the fall. Brush and leaf drop off dates are scheduled throughout the summer.

Considerations:

- Even though these devices are legal, there are certain restrictions that apply to their use.
- Do not use one of these devices for the disposal of waste, trash, construction materials or landscape waste.
- Follow the manufacturer's safety guidelines and instructions.
- The location for any bonfire or campfire shall not be less than 25 feet from any structure and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 25 feet of any structure. The location of commercially manufactured steel or ceramic portable fireplaces, including chimineas and portable fire pits, shall not be less than 15 feet from any structure.
- Maintain at least three (3) feet of clearance from any combustible material or item.
- Only use dry seasoned firewood ignited with a small amount of clean dry paper.
- Do not use during a high wind condition.
- Using some type of non combustible surface underneath to catch sparks, dropping coals, embers or ashes, i.e. a metal drop pan.
- Any situation where the smoke from one of these devices is objectionable or offensive to the community.
- A burn permit may be revoked at the discretion of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department.

General Safety:

- Never use gasoline, kerosene, starter fluids or any other substance that may create a rapid build-up of fire.
- DO NOT use any of these outdoor devices inside your home.
- These units are not intended as a primary heating source.
- Properly dispose of the ashes once the fire is out. Allow them to cool for 48 hours before disposing, otherwise, douse with plenty of water and NEVER place them in plastic, paper, or wooden containers, only metal.



Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department

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