



FIRE-MEDICAL DEPT

Guideline

Date: October 9, 2008 (revised 04/15/2020)

To: Bon Fire Applicants

From: City of Peoria Fire-Medical Department – Fire Prevention Division

Subject: Bonfire Requirements

Effective immediately, this guideline will detail the minimum requirements of the 2018 edition of the *International Fire Code* and the City of Peoria Fire-Medical Department for conducting an approved bonfire in association with a planned event. Bonfires are only authorized for large, planned events such as school functions, holiday celebrations or camp celebrations where all of the distance requirements can be met. An operational permit is required to be issued by the Peoria Fire-Medical Department – Fire Prevention Division prior to the event. The application and site plan are to be submitted to the Fire Prevention Office, ten (10) business days prior to the event for review and issuance of a permit. The following items are required for any bonfire and will be verified by the Fire Inspector on site **prior to igniting the bonfire** and shall be maintained during the entire event.

- The bonfire shall not be erected and/or conducted within fifty (50) feet of a structure or any combustible material and provisions are to be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within fifty (50) feet of any structure or combustible material. This distance requirement is to also include surrounding items such as electrical power lines, transformers, trees, vehicles and utility boxes that could be damaged and/or become involved in the fire (IFC 307.4).
- A designated person is to be identified and shall be assigned to attend the bonfire a minimum of one (1) hour prior to the planned event and is to remain until such time as the bonfire has been fully extinguished. This person shall have the responsibility to summon the Fire Department in the event that the fire spreads (IFC 307.5).
- A minimum of one (1) 4-A rated portable fire extinguisher or other approved on site fire extinguishing methods such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck shall be available and in place for immediate utilization (IFC 307.5).
- No loose paper, cardboard or other like material shall be used in the making of the bonfire. The burning of rubbish is prohibited in the bonfire (IFC 302.1).
- Flammable liquids **shall not** be applied to the bonfire until approval is given from the Fire Inspector on site and shall have their containers removed to a safe distance from the bonfire prior to igniting. The site shall be secured to prevent persons not authorized from gaining access (IFC 307.1).

- All fire lanes to the site are to remain clear and open during the entire event (IFC 503.4).
- All persons attending the event shall be kept at a safe distance as determined by the Fire Inspector on site from the actual bonfire by rope, guards, barricades or other approved methods. The distance shall be adjusted should weather or other safety conditions dictate.
- The bonfire **shall not** be ignited until final approval is given from the Fire Inspector on site (IFC 307.1).
- The Fire Inspector on site shall notify the local fire station(s) and dispatch of the event.
- The Fire Inspector on site has the authority to stop the event at any time and have the bonfire extinguished for any weather or safety reason such as sustained winds or uncontrolled crowds or should the bonfire become an objectionable situation (IFC 307.3).
- **NOTE:** It is the responsibility of the applicant to comply with all state, county and local air quality requirements including any necessary permits from other agencies. **It is the responsibility of the applicant to verify if Maricopa County Air Quality Department has declared a “No Burn Day”.** Check their website at cleanairmakemore.com for more information. Granting of a permit from the Fire Department does not waive the requirements of other agencies (IFC 307.2.1).