



# City of Janesville **BURNING REGULATIONS**

## **OUTDOOR COOKING & RECREATIONAL FIRES**

The City of Janesville Fire Department encourages residents to enjoy outdoor cooking and recreational fires safely. Full details and rules for outdoor fires can be found in Janesville City Ordinance, Chapter 8.36, FIRE REGULATIONS.

### **CAN I INSTALL A CAMPFIRE PIT THAT USES NATURAL OR LP GAS?**

Gas-fed outdoor cooking and recreational fires are allowed but must follow the rules in the Fire Regulations ordinance. Some of the rules include:

- All burners, appliances, devices, and equipment must be tested and listed and must be installed and maintained according to the manufacturer's specifications.
- No solid combustible materials (including wood) may be burned in a gas-fed unit.
- A heating permit must be obtained before installing any gas piping.
- If a gas-fed appliance is incorporated into a structure, building, or other improvement, the Uniform Dwelling Code applies.
- Heating and building permits may be obtained by calling the Building Services Division at (608) 755-3060.

### **CAN I INSTALL A BRICK CAMPFIRE PIT?**

Masonry fire pits are only allowed if they were built/installed prior to October 27th, 2014, and have a minimum of 24 inches of masonry encircling the fire pit. All other masonry fire pits are prohibited.



303 Milton Avenue  
Janesville, WI 53545  
(608) 755-3056

Web: [www.ci.janesville.wi.us](http://www.ci.janesville.wi.us)

## **CAN I ENJOY A CAMPFIRE IN THE CITY LIMITS?**

Wood-fired outdoor cooking and recreational fires are allowed only in portable, commercially-manufactured devices intended for such use. No special permit is required.

The following rules apply:

- Devices must be used as an entire unit. Lids and screening must be in place while burning.
- Any device must be used a minimum of 25 feet from any material that can burn including things like buildings, lumber piles, wood piles, wooden fences, wooden decks, dry grass, or other combustible materials.
- Winds can create a safety hazard, so devices cannot be used if winds or gusts are 20 miles per hour or greater.
- Only clean, dry, natural wood and kindling may be burned. No trash or yard waste can be burned.
- No accelerants may be used to start the fire.
- All outdoor cooking and campfires must be constantly attended by a responsible adult and a garden hose connected to a water supply must be readily available until the fire is completely extinguished.
- All cooking and recreational fire devices shall be maintained in good repair and in a safe condition at all times.

## **ARE CAMPFIRES ALLOWED IN CITY PARKS?**

Campfires are allowed within a city park with a permit. For more information regarding permits please contact the Leisure Services Department at (608) 755-3025.

## **PLEASE BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR— ENJOY RECREATIONAL FIRES RESPONSIBLY**

Outdoor fires shall not be hazardous or create nuisance fire, smoke, or ashes. Citizens may report any such careless burning while it is occurring by calling the non-emergency Rock County Dispatch at (608) 757-2244.

If a police officer, code inspector, Fire Marshal, or other fire department employee or officer determines a nuisance is present, the fire shall be completely extinguished.

The first contact for outdoor fires which are creating a nuisance or are in violation of the burning ordinance will result in a verbal and/or written warning. Subsequent contacts will result in enforcement actions including fines and/or other penalties.