



**APPLICATION TO OBTAIN A PERMIT
FOR RECREATIONAL FIRES**

FIRE SITE: LOCATION OF FIRE: _____

DATE OF FIRE: _____

TIME/DURATION OF FIRE: _____

PURPOSE OF FIRE: _____

MATERIAL TYPE: _____

VOLUME: _____

APPLICANT NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

I have read and understand the guidelines/regulations for Recreational Fires which are listed on the attachment of application.

Signature

Date

West Chicago Fire District Approval
PERMIT ISSUED

Michael L. Guttman
City Administrator

Date

***PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM AT LEAST 1 WEEK BEFORE THE FIRE**

By submitting this form electronically I acknowledge that I have read and understand the regulations governing Recreational Fires in West Chicago. I agree to abide by such regulations, which are included below.

Sec. 11-101. Open burning.

(a) *Definitions.*

- (1) *Open burning:* The combustion of any refuse or yard/landscape waste outside of a building on the ground or in a container.
- (2) *Yard waste:* All accumulations of grass or shrubbery cuttings, leaves, and other materials accumulated as the result of the care of lawns, shrubbery, vines and trees.
- (3) *Refuse:* Any discarded combustible or noncombustible material including trash, garbage, sludge, and landscaped waste.
- (4) *Recreational fires:* Fires such as bonfires, campfires, and similar types of open burning of any kind. It shall not include cooking on barbecue grills.
- (5) *Controlled burning:* Approved outdoor fireplaces and/or fire pits, whether pre-manufactured or built-in-place, and similar types of burning of any kind, but not cooking on barbecue grills.

(b) *Open or uncontrolled burning prohibited.* It shall be unlawful for any person to cause or allow any open or uncontrolled burning at any site, at any time within the city.

(c) *Controlled burning permitted.* Controlled burning is permitted within the city when in compliance with the following guidelines:

- (1) The unit/area shall be a minimum of fifteen (15) feet from any structure (house/garage/shed/etc.) and placed on a noncombustible surface, such as a concrete or brick patio, or, in an open lawn area.
- (2) Only untreated wood shall be burned. Leaves, compost, brush, waste materials of any kind, holiday decorations and/or Christmas trees shall be prohibited.
- (3) A fire-extinguishing medium, (garden hose, fire extinguisher, etc.) must be located within visible proximity of the fire and available for immediate emergency use.
- (4) The fire shall be constantly attended by a competent person until completely extinguished.
- (5) The fire shall not burn for more than six (6) hours.
- (6) Burning is prohibited when atmospheric conditions, such as high winds, or other local circumstances make such fires hazardous.
- (7) The city or fire district may order the extinguishment of any burning that creates a nuisance by the emission of smoke or noxious gases upon a neighboring property, or contributes to a hazardous condition to health or life safety.
- (8) Prior to the first fire of any calendar year, the fire district may require an inspection to confirm compliance with the above guidelines.

(d) *Burning in unapproved chambers prohibited.* It shall be unlawful for any person to cause or allow the burning of any refuse including landscape waste in any chamber not

specifically designed for the purpose and approved by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to regulations adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board or specified by this section.

- (e) *Exceptions; permits.* Resource management burning such as the annual West Chicago Prairie burn-off and recreational fires are not covered by these regulations. The city administrator shall issue permits for these types of open burning. The city administrator shall consult the West Chicago Fire Protection District before issuing the permit.

(Ord. No. 879, Art. IX, 5-17-65; Ord. No. 2340, § 2, 10-15-90; Ord. No. 2488, § 2, 10-7-91; Ord. No. 05-O-0001, § 1(Exh. A), 4-4-2005)