



Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue

355 4th Street Bennett, CO 80102
Office: 303-644-3572 | Fax: 303-644-3401
Info@BennettFireRescue.org

Fires & Open Burning Guidelines

Unincorporated Adams & Arapahoe Counties
International Fire Code & CDPHE APCD Conditions

What is Open Burning?

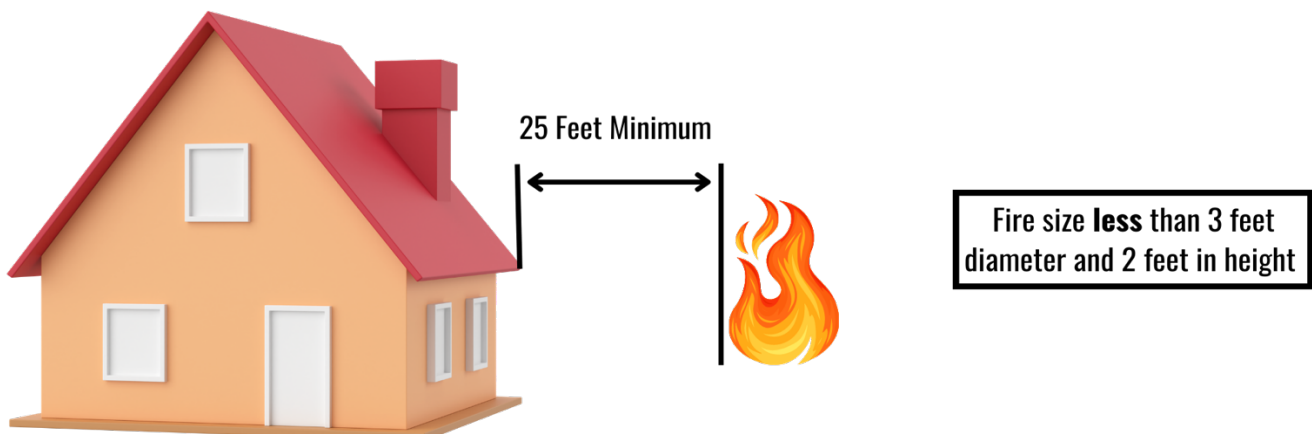
Open burning is the burning of any material or substance, including rubbish, wastepaper, wood, vegetative material or any other flammable material, in the ambient air on any open premises, or on any public street, alley, or other land adjacent to such premises, or in a receptacle where emissions are released directly into the air without passing through a chimney or stack. Generally, anytime you light a fire outdoors, you are open burning.

Prohibited Open Burning:

- Burning of material that contains food wastes, plastic, coated or treated wood products, rubber, insulation, tires, car bodies, insulated wire, motor oil, aerosol cans, hazardous or toxic materials, or other materials that will produce substantial amounts of smoke and particulates.
- Burning of wood residue, which includes bark, sawdust, slabs, chips, shavings, mill trim, and other wood products derived from wood processing.
- Burning of construction debris (includes both clean and treated wood).
- Burning of buildings or structures for demolition purposes.
- Burning of material for which a practical alternative method of disposal exists.
- **Open burning shall be prohibited within the Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue in Adams and Arapahoe counties between the dates of November 1st and March 31st. (Exemptions include: Recreational Burning, Burning of approved Class A household materials in one 55 gal size drum or less as described in the Open Burning FAQ at (<https://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/openburn>))**

Open Burning General Requirements:

- **Fires not exceeding 3ft in diameter and 2ft in height:** shall not be conducted within **25 ft** of a structure or combustible material. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 25 ft of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition. (i.e., Weeds, Vegetation, Vehicles, Power Poles, Fences, etc.)

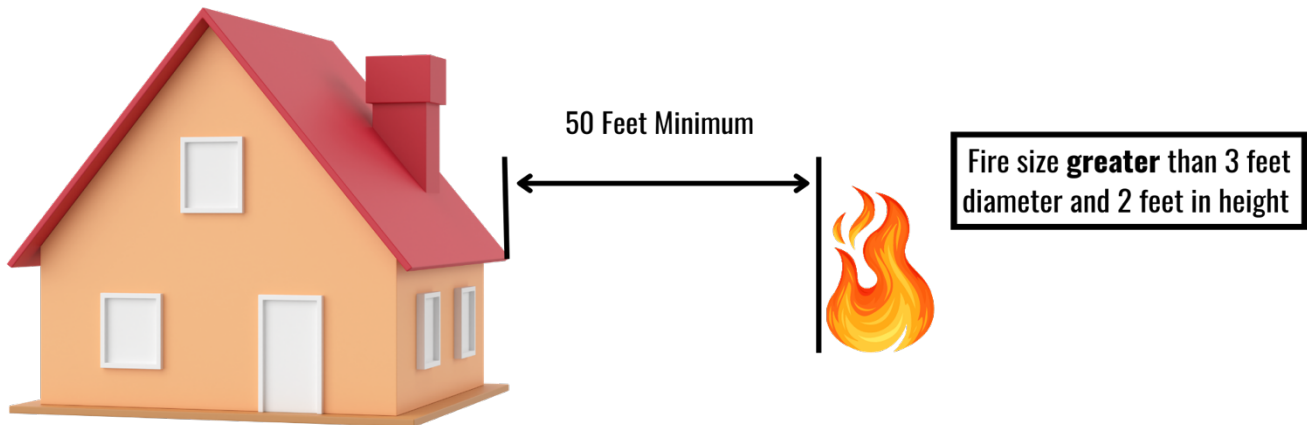




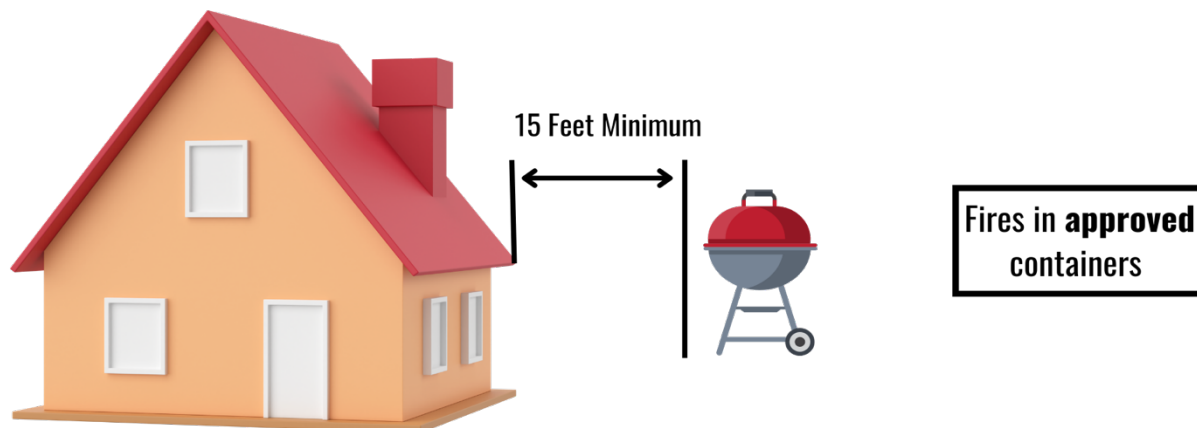
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- **Fire exceeding 3ft in diameter and 2ft in height:** shall not be conducted within **50 ft** of a structure or combustible material. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 50 ft of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition. (i.e., Weeds, Vegetation, Vehicles, Power Poles, Fences, etc.)



- **Fires in approved containers** (Store purchased Fire Bowls, outdoor fireplaces, BBQ Grills, 55 Gallon Drums, etc.) shall not be conducted within **15 ft** of a structure or combustible material. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 15 ft of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition. (i.e., Weeds, Vegetation, Vehicles, Power Poles, Fences, etc.)





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- All fires shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished.
- A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire extinguishing equipment, such as water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization. The method of extinguishment must be adequate for the size of fire and hazard present and approved by Bennett Watkins Fire Rescue before ignition of the fire.
- All fires shall be extinguished immediately if the wind speed exceeds 10 MPH.
- All fires shall be fully extinguished (no smoke showing) by dusk (sundown). Nighttime recreational fires shall be approved on a case-by-case basis and conducted with fire district approval only.
- Fires that will be offensive or objectionable because of smoke or odor emissions shall be extinguished immediately.
- Prior to ignition of any controlled burning, permission shall be acquired from Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue by either contacting the district office Monday-Friday 7:30am-4:00pm at 303-644-3572 or Metropolitan Area Communication Center (METCOM) Dispatch Non-Emergency Line 720-258-8911
- Inspection of controlled burns prior to ignition may be required at the discretion of Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue.
- Fires conducted without approval, containing prohibited materials, produce smoke or emissions that are offensive, or are rendered to be dangerous to life or property, or are conducted outside these guidelines shall be considered unlawful and extinguished. Persons violating these guidelines may be subject to civil or criminal penalties.
- All parties conducting approved controlled burns **must** have a free valid Colorado Open Burning Permit issued by the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment Air Pollution Control Division which can be found at <https://oitco.hylandcloud.com/POP/DocPop/DocPop.aspx?docid=4556851>
- A copy of this CDPHE permit must be submitted to Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue prior to your controlled burn receiving approval.
- For additional information regarding the State of Colorado rules and regulations on open burning please see the Open Burning FAQ at <https://oitco.hylandcloud.com/CDPHERMPop/docpop/docpop.aspx?clienttype=html&docid=11740103>