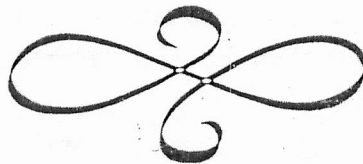




VILLAGE OF TWIN LAKES

FIRE AND BURNING REGULATIONS

Chapter 8.20



Village of Twin Lakes
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New Code Requirements

The Village of Twin Lakes continues to **discourage burning of any wood or yard waste** as a means of disposal. It encourages residents to find alternate means of disposal including use of the Village-provided drop off site for Yard Waste on the north east corner of Burlington Avenue and Industrial Drive (near the Public Works Facility). However, it is understood that some residents still desire to burn as a means of disposal.

In October 2003, the Village of Twin Lakes completed a review of the fire and burning regulations of the Village Code. At a Special Meeting, the Village Board adopted Ordinance No. 2003-10-1, which completely revised these regulations. This brochure is intended to provide basic information about the regulations for use by homeowners and others in the Village.

- ◆ **Fires are prohibited** - Fires are prohibited in the Village unless they adhere to the regulations outlined in this brochure and in the Village Code.

General Regulations for All Fires

- ◆ **Burning Prohibited in Certain Areas.**
Burning is allowed on private property only. No burning is allowed on or in streets, alleys, gutters, ditch lines, other drainage ways, fire lanes, within 15 feet of the ordinary high water mark, nor closer than 10 feet from any building, or closer than 15 feet from a property line.
- ◆ **Certain Materials Prohibited.** Only

branches, logs or dry leaves may be burned. Wood or material treated with chemical preservatives, artificial finishes such as varnish, stain, or paint, or other such substance which is not naturally occurring on the wood are prohibited. In addition, the burning of rubbish, trash, junk or construction material is prohibited

- ◆ **Only Specified Containers.** Fires may only be maintained in containers specifically designed for that purpose. The use of drums, barrels, garbage containers or other similar containers, whether in whole or in part, is expressly prohibited.
- ◆ **Burning May be Banned.** If conditions exist which could cause a health or safety hazard, the Village may ban all open burning.
- ◆ **Fires Must be Attended.** All fires, regardless of whether or not they are within a container, must be attended by an adult at all times until the fire is completely extinguished. This person must be able to control or extinguish the fire if necessary. They must also be able to call for help if needed.
- ◆ **Fires May Not Disturb the Public.** Smoke, material, or heat from any fire shall not be an annoyance or discomfort to the public.
- ◆ **Fires May Be Extinguished.** Village Police and Fire Department Officers may order fires extinguished if it creates a safety concern.
- ◆ **Fire Department May Be Called.** If the Fire Department is called to extinguish a fire, the responsible party is subject to a charge for the Department's time and equipment.

Fires Allowed Without Permit

The following fires are allowed without a permit provided that they **comply with all other regulations.**

- ◆ **Leaf Fires.** Fires for the purpose of burning leaves and plant clippings, not including wood, and only on private property are allowed between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. from September 1 through May 31.
- ◆ **Cooking Fires.** Fires for the purpose of cooking or preparing foods are allowed. They must be in a container built for this purpose made of metal, concrete, brick, stone, or clay. Fires using a liquid or gas fuel must use required safety devices. Commercially available grills may be used within 10 feet of a building, provided separation is maintained to prevent damage to the building/structure
- ◆ **Recreation Fires.** Fires for the purpose of recreation (e.g., campfires) are allowed. These fires shall contain only wood (not construction lumber) and not leaves or other material. The flame may not exceed 4 feet in height and the fire shall not be greater than 30 inches in diameter. These fires must be surrounded by metal, concrete, brick, stone or earth or in a metal, concrete, brick, stone, or clay container.
- ◆ **Patio Torches/Candles.** Small torches or candles for decoration or ambiance are allowed provided measures are taken to prevent damage to structures.

Other Code Requirements

The Village Code provides for other regulations related to fires. A few of those are outlined below.

- ◆ **Bonfires.** Bonfires are defined as any fire which is not described in the Village Code and, generally, are those which are not described in this brochure. It does not include building, structure or vehicle fires.
- ◆ **Permit Required.** Permits are required for any person, organization, firm or corporation who wishes to have a bonfire within the Village limits. Permits are received from the Fire Chief or his designee through the Police Department at 877-9056.
- ◆ **Bonfire Restrictions.** Bonfires are not allowed within 150 feet of any building or in any place or at a time when the bonfire would be dangerous to persons or property.
- ◆ **Other Regulations.** Details of these regulations as well as other regulations may be found in Chapter 8.20 of the Village Code. This pamphlet is not the complete regulation and is intended as a guide.
- ◆ **Penalty.** Violations of these regulations are subject to fines up to \$500, in addition to Court costs and possible payment of restitution for damage.