



Guidelines for Bonfires

A permit is required for any bonfire in Toms River Township, in accordance with the ***NJ Uniform Fire Code***. This is a Type 1 permit and the application fee is currently \$54.00. Permit applications can be obtained from the fire prevention bureau by downloading the application from our website:

www.trfireprevention.com

Permit SHALL be applied for a minimum of 72 hours prior to event. Failure to pay for permit will cause the event to be cancelled.

Prior to obtaining a permit from the Bureau of Fire Prevention, a permit shall be obtained from the NJ State Forest Fire Service by calling **(609)726-9010**

Bonfires are prohibited on any Township beach. Chapter 185 of the Township Code – “Beach Fires” – was repealed on 08/24/10.

The applicant shall also notify the Toms River Township Fire Dispatcher at least one hour prior to the start of the bonfire, and again once the bonfire has been completely extinguished. Please call the Toms River Fire Dispatch non-emergency number **(732) 349-2285** and ask for the fire dispatcher.

The site of the bonfire shall be completely cleaned of any burned/unburned fuels and restored to the original condition of the area prior to the bonfire.

The use of flammable or combustible liquids is prohibited from igniting the bonfire. A small quantity of paper shall be used to ignite the bonfire.

An Adult must be present to ignite the fire. The Adult SHALL remain present during the event and for a minimum of 30 minutes after extinguishment to ensure the fire is out.

Inspection by the Fire Prevention Bureau is required prior to ignition, please provide an approximate time of event in order to schedule inspection.

The following ***NJ Uniform Fire Code*** requirements shall also be required in order for a permit to be issued or remain valid:

307.4.1 Bonfires. *A bonfire shall not be conducted within 50 feet of a structure or combustible material unless the fire is contained in a barbecue pit. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 50 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.*

Toms River Bureau of Fire Prevention
33 Washington Street
P. O. Box 728
Toms River, New Jersey 08753
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307.4.1.1 Bonfire size and duration. *A bonfire shall not be more than 5 feet by 5 feet by 5 feet in dimension and shall not burn longer than 3 hours. The maximum size and duration of a bonfire shall not be increased by the fire official unless it is determined that the fire safety requirements of the situation and the desirable duration of burn warrant the increase.*

307.4.1.2 Material. *Fuel for a bonfire shall consist only of seasoned dry firewood and shall be ignited with a small quantity of paper. The fire shall not be utilized for waste disposal purposes, and the fuel shall be chosen to minimize the generation of air contaminants.*

307.5 Attendance. *Open burning, bonfires or recreational fires shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.*

Please call the Toms River Bureau of Fire Prevention if you should have any questions regarding these requirements.

Issued by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Esposito".

Kevin Esposito
Chief Inspector

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