



# WEST BOYLSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

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## **GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF APPROVED CHIMENEAS, OUTDOOR FIRE-PITS AND FIREPLACES**

### **BURNING ISSUES CALL THE ON DUTY LINE (774) 450-3520**

Chimeneas, outdoor fire-pits and outdoor fireplaces have gained in popularity over the past several years, and they come in many shapes and sizes. As with barbeques these devices must be used in a safe manner with the following regulations and guidelines.

Under MGL 148 and International Fire Code (2009) cooking and recreational fire are allowed with the following regulations and guidelines:

Fire can't be more than 3' in diameter. By definition, a fire any larger than 3' is no longer considered a cooking or recreational fire. Fires shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible materials. (IFC)

It is required to keep a fire extinguisher, garden hose, or water bucket available for quick extinguishment (IFC)

Fire pits and recreation fire are not incinerators the burning of trash rubbish painted or stained wood and construction debris is prohibited (DEP)

Do not cause nuisance or health hazards to neighbors. FD will investigate and if deemed necessary, you may be instructed to extinguish the fire (MGL Chapter 148)

Never use accelerant to light any fire (MGL 148)

Chimeneas, outdoor fire-pits and outdoor fireplaces shall be placed on a non-combustible, level surface at grade (i.e. not on a deck). Additionally, these devices shall not be placed on porches, roofs, balconies, or near any flammable or combustible material (tents, campers, vehicles containing fuel, etc.)

All approved outdoor burning devices shall have a competent operator (18 years of age and older) at all times.

All outdoor burning within an approved device shall be completely extinguished when concluded.

Any violation of these guidelines may result in monetary fines for violation of opening burning laws.

All Chimeneas, outdoor fire-pits and outdoor fireplaces should always be considered a hazard to curious children.