

Can I have fires outside?

Outside Burning Within Boundaries of the Green Valley Fire District

The District has adopted and abides by the International Fire Code and adopted amendments. This is a national model code and used widely throughout the country and by most local Fire Departments.

The Code specifically addresses the types of outdoor fires that are permitted (Section 307). In brief you can have a "recreational fire", which is described as burning materials other than rubbish and has a total fire area of no more than 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height. This fire can be used for "pleasure, cooking, warming, or similar purposes.

The code states such fires shall not be within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material. Attendance at such fires is required as is extinguishing devices such as a portable extinguisher of at least 4-A rating, a water hose, or other approved devices.

Also note the Fire District, per the adopted code, has the authority to order extinguishment of an approved fire if it is determine that it is creating a "hazardous or objectionable situation". This means that if smoke etc. is causing an issue with neighbors or is deemed a safety or health issue the District can act.

In summary, you can have a recreational fire if all requirements mentioned above are met. It is important to keep in mind these types of fires are NOT to be used to burn rubbish, which may be defined as trash, branches, yard debris, leaves, etc