

2006 International Fire Code®

In an effort to prevent fire related damage to life and property. The City of Mesa has adopted and is enforcing the 2006 International Fire Code®.



The following FIRE DEFINITIONS have been established by the City of Mesa Fire and Medical Prevention Division used for code enforcement.

Warming Fires: To provide warmth for human beings. This fire is no larger than what would be standard in a household fire place. A warming fire typically is 5 logs or less, 3' or less in diameter, and 2' high or less inside a containment area with an adequate water source for extinguishment. Farming operations may only use approved oil-burning devices designed for frost protection. (No Burn Permit Required)

Recreational Fire: This type of fire is for special gatherings (i.e., scouts, church groups, clubs, and parties). A typical recreation fire will be ten logs or less, 4 feet or less in diameter, and four feet high or less inside a containment area with an adequate water source for extinguishment. (No Burn Permit Required)

Barbeque Pit: Permanent Outdoor Pit or Smoker designed only for cooking, constructed of concrete, concrete block, brick or steel with an adequate water source for extinguishment. (8x8 or Smaller - No Burn Permit Required)

Bonfire: Large pile of wood that will attract people to see what is burning. This can be a traffic problem. (i.e., school homecoming, rallies, and special events). Bonfires are defined as greater than 4 feet and no more than 8 feet in diameter with a maximum height of 6 feet with an adequate water source for extinguishment.

(Burn Permit Required)



Commute Solutions/Trip Reduction Program:
602-262-7433 (RIDE) or **www.ShareTheRide.com**

Transit Information:
602-253-5000 or **www.valleymetro.org**

City of Mesa Air Quality Page:
www.mesaaz.gov/residents/environmental/air-quality

Get text messages or e-mail alerts or download the
CLEAN AIR MAKE MORE App:
www.CleanAirMakeMore.com

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Air
Quality Update at:
602-771-2367 or **adeq.gov/environ/air**

Maricopa Air Quality Department:
http://www.maricopa.gov/aq/

Report serious offenders to the Maricopa County Air
Quality Department at:
602-506-6010

Environmental & Sustainability (Construction Dust,
Environmental Issues): **480-644-3599**

Smoke Free Arizona:
1-800-429-6676

Open Burning & Recreational Fires



Please ensure all open burning and recreational fires within the City of Mesa are consistent with the information provided in this pamphlet. If you have any additional questions, please contact the **City of Mesa Fire and Medical Prevention Division** at:

480.644.2622

20 E. Main St. Ste. 650

Mesa, Arizona 85201

www.mesaaz.gov/residents/fire-medical/fire-prevention

What Is a NO BURN day?

The purpose of the NO BURN DAY restriction is to avoid adding pollution to our air when the forecast advises air quality will approach or exceed the federal health standard. When this happens, the Maricopa County Air Quality Department issues a NO BURN DAY that restricts all burning activity including fireplaces, fire pits or open outdoor fires within a 24-hour period, starting at midnight.

Is today a NO BURN day?

You may check if today is a no burn day at:

602-506-6400

www.CleanAirMakeMore.com

Is my fire prohibited?

PROHIBITED OPEN BURNING of trash, pallets, scrap dimensional lumber, weeds, leaves, yard debris, trees, or any other rubbish at all times and/or fire that releases smoke directly into the air without passing through a chimney or smokestack from an enclosed chamber that does not meet the definitions of legal fires as established by the Mesa Fire and Medical Prevention Division.

(See "FIRE DEFINITIONS" in this pamphlet).

Do I need a burn permit?

WARMING FIRES, RECREATIONAL FIRES AND BBQ PITS (8X8 & Smaller) and SMOKERS, such as cooking for immediate human use or warmth, a chiminea, container, branding of animals, or orchard heaters for frost protection, do not require a permit, but are still subject to Maricopa County NO BURN DAYS. **BONFIRES require a permit** issued by the Mesa Fire and Medical Prevention Division. Permits require at least a 48-hour notice. To obtain a burn permit, call (480) 644-2622, 7:00-5:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday. (See the International Fire Code (IFC) 307.2).

Where can I have a fire?

WARMING FIRES AND RECREATIONAL FIRES shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or any combustible material. Conditions that could cause a recreational fire to spread within 25 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition (see IFC 307.4.2).

BONFIRES shall be at least 50 feet from any structure or combustible material, unless the fire is contained in a barbecue pit/smoker. Conditions which could cause a bonfire or any open burn to spread within 50 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition (see IFC 307.4).

Can I leave a fire?

ALL OPEN BURNS, BONFIRES & RECREATIONAL AND WARMING FIRES to include portable outdoor fireplaces, shall be constantly attended by an adult at least 18 years of age or older, until the fire is completely extinguished. Per the 2006 IFC, a minimum of one portable fire extinguisher 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 extinguishment. (see IFC 906).

Can I be ordered to extinguish my fire?

It is very important to note that any fire, regardless of permit, that is offensive or objectionable to the public due to smoke emissions, or when atmospheric conditions, or local circumstances make the fire hazardous are prohibited (see IFC 307.1.1).

The fire code official is authorized to order the extinguishment of any fire, even by a permit holder that creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation, such as smoke emissions (see IFC 307.3).

Penalties for illegal burning

Possible penalties for conducting any fire that does not fully comply within the 2006 IFC include a Class One Misdemeanor that is punishable by a fine of up to \$2,500 and/or by imprisonment for up to 6 months for EACH DAY of violation (see City of Mesa ORDINANCE 4789, Title 7, Chapter 2, Section 7). **Note: The Mesa Fire and Medical Prevention Division does not issue large scale open burn permits; these must be obtained through the Maricopa County Air Quality Department at 602-506-6010. Open outdoor fires in an air curtain destructor require a Title V permit from ADEQ and a burn plan approved by Maricopa County Air Quality. Call (602) 506-6010 for more details.**