

PORTSMOUTH CODE

Chapter 124 BURNING, OUTDOOR (Partial)

A Summary of the Portsmouth Burning Ordinance and the Rhode Island Fire Code as they relate to recreational fires, particularly on a beach

124-1. Compliance required.

All persons shall comply with the following fire protection and safety requirements.

124-2. Bonfires and other outdoor fires.

Outdoor burning of yard waste and bonfires shall be permitted only under the conditions set forth in this chapter. Only clean brush and untreated wood may be burned.

124-3. Permit required; prohibited acts.

No person shall kindle or maintain any open fire or authorize any such fire to be kindled or maintained on or in public or private property without having obtained a permit from the Fire Department. Permits can only be issued to residential homeowners in accordance with this chapter. Commercial and industrial operations are not permitted to burn.

124-4. Inspections.

No holder of a bonfire permit shall ignite the fire before it has been inspected by the Chief of the Fire Department or his designee, and no additional material shall be added to the fire subsequent to said inspection.

124-5. Owner to sign permit.

All permits shall be signed by the owner of the land on which the fire is located. The Chief of the Fire Department or his designee may require proof of ownership.

124-6. Location restricted.

No person shall kindle or maintain any open fire or authorize any such fire to be kindled or maintained on any private land, unless the location is not less than 50 feet from any structure and adequate provision is made to prevent fire from spreading to within 50 feet of any structure.

124-12 Violations and penalties.

Any person convicted of a violation of this chapter shall be subject to a fine as outlined below:

A. First offense: a fine of \$100 or 10 days in jail, or both.

B. Any offense thereafter: up to a fine of \$500 or 10 days in jail, or both.

Rhode Island NFPA 1- Fire Code

10.10.3 Outdoor Fires.

10.10.3.1* Outdoor fires shall not be built, ignited, or maintained in or upon hazardous fire areas, except by permit from the AHJ (Authority Having Jurisdiction i.e. The Fire Chief or his designee).

10.10.3.2 Permitted open fires shall be located not less than 50 ft (15 m) from any structure.

10.10.4.2 Burning hours shall be prescribed by the AHJ.

10.10.4.3 Recreational fires shall not be located within 25 ft (7.6 m) of a structure or combustible material unless contained in an approved manner.

10.10.5 Fire Attendant.

10.10.5.1 Open, recreational, and cooking fires shall be constantly attended by a competent person until such fire is extinguished.

10.10.5.2 This person shall have a garden hose connected to the water supply or other fire-extinguishing equipment readily available for use.