



SUMMER FIRE SAFETY CONCERNS: Barbecue Grills, Fire Pits, and Fire Places

- Each year, Wilkes-Barre's Fire Dept. responds to nearly two dozen open burning complaints and grill fires.
- The proper use of barbecue grills, outdoor fire pits, and fire places are outlined in the City's ordinances.
- Compliance is enforced by the Wilkes-Barre's Fire, Police, Health, and Code Enforcement Departments.
- Residents are asked to use barbecue grills, outdoor fire pits, and fire places responsibility and respectfully.

BARBECUE GRILLS:



- A grill consists of either an electric, propane, charcoal, wood, or other heat source.
- May not be used on any common covered area, balcony, or over-hanging portion on any residential dwelling.
- May not be used within five (5) feet of any part of a residential dwelling.
- Penalties for violating the Barbecue Grill Ordinance range from \$300 to \$1,000

FIRE PITs & FIRE PLACES:



- The fire must not constitute a nuisance.
- The fire must not be unattended.
- DO NOT use gasoline to start a fire
- The legal maximum size of an open fire is 1 ft high X 2 ft wide X 2 ft long
- Burn only clean, untreated wood in a commercially manufactured outdoor fire pit or outdoor fire place.
- The fire must be wholly contained in the fire pit and must be covered by a screen to control the emission of ash and embers.
- The fire must not be within 15 feet of combustible materials or adjacent property lines.
- There must not be more than one fire pit or fire place located on the lot.
- The fire must not be located on a lot containing more than two dwelling units or at a fraternity, sorority, or similar housing.
- The use of outdoor fire pits or fire places is not authorized between the hours of 12:00 AM and 6:00 AM.
- Open Burning penalties shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$250

Even if the burning would otherwise be allowed, no open burning shall occur if, in the discretion of the Wilkes-Barre Fire Department, said burning constitutes a nuisance by representing a danger to the public safety, health, or welfare.