

The City of Manistee recognizes the desire for individuals to have an outdoor fire at their home. Since most properties in the city share small areas it is necessary to be particularly cautious with the fire we sometime enjoy. The following rules are in place to ensure a safe manner in which to have a fire while being respectful to the adjoining properties.



In order for a fire to be considered “suitably contained” a fire must be contained within one of the following:

1. A commercially built container designed for recreation fires. Note these containers are widely available at hardware and department stores.

OR

2. The fire must be contained within a fire ring. The fire ring must be a continuous ring of non-combustible materials. This means that bricks should be grouted or tight fitting and stone would not be acceptable unless it is cut to be tight fitting. There must be a clear space around the outside of the ring in which no combustibles can be permitted. This would mean removal of any grass, weeds, etc. The clear space must be twice the diameter of the fire ring.



Example: if the fire ring is 2 feet across, there can be no combustibles within 4 feet of the ring. In this example the total area protected would be 10 feet across.

- Fires must be no less than 15 feet from any structure.
- Outdoor burning does not include any trash or waste materials of any kind.
- Outdoor burning does not include any leaves, branches or limbs.
- City residents should be reminded that there is a nuisance ordinance regarding smoke. This means that any complaints from neighbors could cause the City to request that the fire be extinguished.
- Finally, compliance with all city rules and regulations does not authorize open burning when a DNR or National Forest Service burning ban is in effect. If a burning ban is in effect, residents must exercise caution and wait until conditions improve.

If you have any questions, please contact the [City Fire Department](#) at 231.723.1549