
CITATIONS

Any party who has started or maintained a recreational fire shall pay any and all costs incurred by the city for any service related call as a result of a recreational fire not in compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

Citations shall be issued by the fire department for failure to comply with the above requirements and the property owner, renter, and/or lessee shall be held liable for any damages caused by any recreational fire, including the cost of the citation.

In addition to 7.07.16 (N) the permit holder will lose their current permit and privileges to burn in the city for a period of time determined by the fire chief.

OFD's mission is focused on saving lives and protecting property by:

- Creating a safer community to live and work.
- Providing the best and safest fire and first responder protection possible.
- Educating children, adults, and businesses on the dangers of fire.
- Developing fire/fall prevention programs for senior citizen communities.
- Being leaders and role models within the community.

*Desire to Serve, Ability to Perform,
and Courage to Act*



Onalaska Fire Department
415 Main Street
Onalaska, WI. 54650
Phone: (608) 781-9546



City of Onalaska Recreational Fire Safety Brochure



**Onalaska Fire
Department**



RECREATIONAL FIRE PERMIT AND USE REQUIREMENTS

7.07.15 Recreational Fire Permit Procedure

- A. **Permit Required.** No person shall start a recreational fire in the City of Onalaska without first having obtained a Recreational Fire Permit.
- B. **Permit Application.** Applicants for a Recreational Fire Permit must complete and return an application form furnished by the office of the City Clerk. At the time the application is submitted, a fee shall be paid as set forth on the City of Onalaska Fee Schedule, which shall be reviewed annually. The Recreational Fire Permit is valid for two (2) calendar years. In the event the applicant is a renter or lessee of the subject property, the applicant shall provide written documentation from the property owner giving permission for recreational fires at that property.
- C. **Issuance.** The City Clerk shall issue the permit upon approval of the application by the Fire Chief and upon the payment of the fee.
- D. **Suspension and/or Revocation of Permit.** The Fire Chief or authorized representative upon conducting an investigation may suspend or revoke the Recreational Burn Permit if a violation of this Section occurs by the permit holder, or other person burning a recreational fire on a property which is the subject of a

- E. **Permit.**
- E. **Penalty.** Any person violating any provision of this Section or any rule or regulation made hereunder may be subject to penalties as provided in Section 1.01.17 of the Code of Ordinances.

7.07.16 Additional Regulations for Recreational Fire Permits

- A. Recreational fires may occur from 7:00AM to 12:00AM. No person shall maintain a fire for more than four (4) continuous hours per day.
- B. Recreational fires shall be located a minimum of fifteen (15) feet from all buildings, structures, fences, combustible materials, and parcel lines.
- C. All recreational fires shall have a lid and/or ember screen while fire is active.
- D. No recreational fire may be started or allowed to continue burning unless such recreational fire is contained in a portable fire device or fire pit.
- E. All recreational fire pits shall have a diameter of no more than three (3) feet.
- F. Portable fire pits may be used in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and must be placed upon a noncombustible surface which extend beyond the boundary of the portable fire pit.
- G. No person may use a portable fire device above the ground floor of a residential dwelling except that portable fire devices are prohibited in Mobile Home/Manufactured Home Parks. For the purposes of this section, residential dwelling shall include bed and breakfasts. Portable fire devices are not allowed on commercial or industrial properties.
- H. Only clean, dry wood or untreated and unpainted lumber shall be burned. Materials for fire shall not include rubbish, garbage, recyclable items, material made of or coated with rubber,

- I. plastic, leather or petroleum-based materials, or contain any flammable or combustible liquids. In the event non-approved materials are being burned, the Fire Department may respond and extinguish the fire.
- I. Adequate fire suppression equipment shall be immediately available to control or extinguish a recreational fire.
- J. All recreational fires shall be attended at all times by at least one (1) responsible person eighteen (18) years of age or older from the ignition of the fire until the fire is completely extinguished.
- K. Smoke from any recreational fire shall not create a nuisance for neighboring property owners. The fire shall be extinguished immediately upon the complaint of a neighboring property owner in regard to nuisance smoke.
- L. The Fire Chief or authorized representative may temporarily declare a city-wide ban on all recreational fires when the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has designated or declared a fire danger of "high", "very high", or "extreme" for the area which includes City limits.
- M. No recreational fire shall be started or allowed to continue burning when the wind direction or speed will cause smoke, embers, or other burning materials to be carried by wind toward other combustible materials. No recreational fires are allowed when wind speed is greater than ten (10) miles per hour.
- N. The property owner and/or person who started a recreational fire shall hold the City of Onalaska harmless from any and all damages caused by a recreational fire. A person maintaining a recreational fire shall be responsible for all suppression costs and any liability resulting from damage caused by said fire.