



4/24/23

## **PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING OPEN BURNING**

To The Residents of Mount Joy Borough,

As the spring season and soon summer season get underway the Borough understand the desire for everyone to get outside and enjoy friends and family.

We understand that occasionally there maybe a desire to spend some of that time together around what is traditionally referred to as a "recreational fire". The Borough would like all residents to be aware of the current ordinances and regulations regarding "recreational fires" in Mount Joy Borough so that all may have a safe and enjoyable time.

Chapter 136 Fire Prevention of the Mount Joy Borough Code contains these cited sections reads as follows:

- 403.2 Recreational Fire: "An outdoor fire utilized to cook food for human consumption."
- 403.5 Location: " ... Fires in approved containers shall be permitted, provided that such fires are not less than 15ft (4572 mm) from any structure."
- 202.0 Definitions: "Structure: That which is built or constructed or a portion thereof."

The determination of this office is as follows. Recreational fires are permitted as long as any type of food item will, are, or have been prepared with in a reasonable amount of time and it is evident that food preparation has or will be occurring as determined by either the Borough Code Enforcement Officer, an Officer of the Fire Department of Mount Joy, or an Officer with the Mount Joy Borough Police Department upon response for a complaint of open burning. An "Approved Container" shall be any commercially available grill or firepit or any fire pit that has been constructed out of masonry or "hardscape" material with an approved zoning permit or letter of review by this office. The "Approved Container" shall be at minimum fifteen (15) feet from any "structure". This office will consider a "Structure" to be any building principle (house) or accessory (shed, garage) and any fence made of combustible material (wood, etc.). Failure to abide by this stated determination could result in enforcement action and penalties as described in Section 112 of Chapter 136 Fire Prevention of the Mount Joy Borough Code including arrest and summary citation.

Additionally, this office in the interest of Public Safety may determine that a "Burn Ban" is in effect for the Borough in line with State and County determinations of "Red Flag Warning" as published through the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Mount Joy Borough Ordinance prohibits open burning of solid waste and recyclable materials, including yard waste (i.e. grass and leaves)

If you have any questions regarding this Notice, please contact tis office at 717-653-2300 or zoning@mountjoypa.org

Respectfully,

Duane J Brady, Mount Joy Borough  
Zoning Officer/Building Code Official/Fire Code Official