



# Campbell County Fire Department

JR Fox  
Deputy Fire Chief

Jeff Bender  
Fire Chief

Stuart Burnham  
Fire Marshal

## Rules for Burning in Campbell County

(Outside the City of Gillette)

This guide explains the rules for outdoor burning in Campbell County and the Town of Wright. These rules are based on the International Fire Code (IFC) and local fire restrictions.

The purpose of these rules is to help keep people, homes, property, livestock, and wildland areas safe.

---

### Recreational Fires and Outdoor Fireplaces

Recreational fires and portable outdoor fireplaces are allowed if ALL of the following rules are followed:

- The fire must be 3 feet or less in diameter.
- The fire must be no more than 2 feet high.
- The fire must be at least 15 feet away from buildings, fences, vehicles, hay, grass, or other combustible materials.
- The fire must be watched at all times by a responsible adult.
- The person watching the fire cannot be impaired by alcohol or drugs.
- Fire extinguishing equipment must be immediately available, including:
  - fire extinguisher,
  - water barrel,
  - garden hose,
  - water truck,
  - or heavy equipment.

Portable outdoor fireplaces must:

- have a spark arrestor if equipped with a chimney, and
- have a screen covering the opening.

Reference:

- IFC Section 202 Definitions
- IFC Section 307.5 Attendance
- IFC Section 307.6 Maintenance

---

"To provide Excellence in all Interactions through Professionalism"

106 Rohan Ave. Gillette WY 82716  
(p) 307-682-5319 | f) 307-686-2222  
www.ccfire.us

## **Notification Requirements**

Before conducting any open burning, notify the City of Gillette Communications Center at:

(307) 686-5250

Provide the following information:

- date and time of the burn,
  - exact location,
  - what materials are being burned,
  - name of the person responsible,
  - and contact phone number.
- 

## **Burning During Red Flag Warnings**

Burning is NOT allowed during Red Flag Warning conditions issued by the National Weather Service.

Red Flag Warnings mean weather conditions are dangerous and fires can spread rapidly.

---

## **Fire Restrictions**

Outdoor burning is be prohibited during fire restrictions issued by the Campbell County Commissioners/Campbell County Fire Department.

Examples include:

- Stage 1 Fire Restrictions
- Stage 2 Fire Restrictions
- Other emergency fire restrictions

During restrictions:

- open fires are prohibited,
- including campfires, warming fires, bonfires, and debris burning.

Reference:

- IFC Section 307.1.1 Prohibited Open Burning
-

## **Burning Trash or Debris During Restrictions**

If fire restrictions are in place, burning trash or debris may only be allowed:

- between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.,
- inside a container with a spark arrestor,
- and within a cleared area at least 10 feet in radius.

Always check current fire restrictions before burning.

---

## **Bonfires and Large Burns**

A permit from the Fire Marshal is required before:

- conducting a bonfire,
- large-scale range burning,
- wildlife management burns,
- pest or disease control burns,
- or silvicultural burning operations.

Bonfire rules:

- Bonfires must be at least 50 feet away from structures or combustible materials unless contained in an approved barbecue pit.
- Conditions that could allow the fire to spread must be removed before ignition.
- A written permit from the Fire Marshal is required.

Reference:

- IFC Section 307.4.1 Bonfires
- 

## **Fire Safety Requirements**

All fires must be safely maintained.

A responsible adult must:

- stay with the fire at all times,
- watch for changing wind conditions,
- and completely extinguish the fire before leaving.

Reference:

- IFC Section 307.5 Attendance
-

## **Extinguishment Authority**

The Fire Department may require a fire to be extinguished if:

- the fire becomes unsafe,
- weather conditions become dangerous,
- smoke affects occupied buildings or roadways,
- the fire creates a hazard,
- or required permits or notifications were not completed.

Reference:

- IFC Section 307.3 Extinguishment Authority
- 

## **Neighbor and Traffic Safety**

Please be respectful of neighbors and the public.

Burning must be extinguished if:

- smoke drifts into occupied buildings,
  - visibility affects road traffic,
  - or smoke creates hazardous conditions.
- 

## **Liability**

If a fire escapes and damages another person's property, the person responsible for the fire may be held financially responsible.

---

## **Definitions (IFC Section 202)**

### **Bonfire**

An outdoor fire used for ceremonial purposes.

### **Open Burning**

Burning materials outdoors where smoke goes directly into the air without passing through a chimney or enclosed container.

### **Portable Outdoor Fireplace**

A portable outdoor fireplace made from noncombustible materials such as steel, concrete, or clay.

## **Recreational Fire**

An outdoor fire used for pleasure, warmth, cooking, religious, or ceremonial purposes that:

- burns material other than rubbish,
  - is not inside a burn barrel or incinerator,
  - and is 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height.
- 

## **Important Reminder**

Even when burning is allowed:

- weather conditions can change quickly,
- wind can spread fire rapidly,
- and unsafe fires may be ordered extinguished at any time.

If you are unsure whether burning is allowed, contact the City of Gillette Public Safety Communications Center or the Campbell County Fire Department before burning.

