



## REGULATIONS PROHIBIT OPEN BURNING

Open burning is regulated by the laws set forth by Title 17, Section 104 of the Fire Prevention Code and Title 12, Section 108 of the Howard County Code.

Howard County law prohibits open fires except for cooking and recreational fires.

The burning of leaves, twigs, trash, yard waste and building materials is **not permitted**.

### Open fires are prohibited except for:

#### Cooking Fires:

- The non-commercial cooking of food is regulated by the Fire Prevention Code.
- A cooking fire is considered to be:
  - An outdoor fireplace, fire pit, barbeque grill or other similar device used solely for the purpose of preparing food.
  - In-ground fire pit used for cooking that does not exceed 2 ft. in diameter and 1 ft in depth, and is surrounded by a non-combustible fire ring.
  - In-ground earth-covered fire pits used for roasting food.
- Grills, hibachis, gas-fired grills, chimineas, luminaries, fire pits, or other similar devices used for cooking, heating or other purposes shall not be used or kindled on a balcony, under an overhanging portion of a building or structure, or within 15 feet of a building or structure. Howard County Fire and Rescue may approve electric grills that do not use an alternative fuel.
- Manufactured chimineas, luminaries, fire pits, and similar devices shall be equipped with spark arrestors and the fire area shall not exceed 3 ft. in diameter and 2 ft. in height.

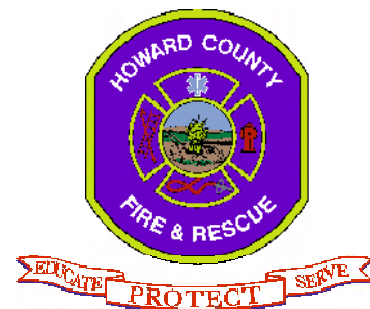
### Open fires are prohibited except for:

#### Recreational Fires:

- Recreational fires or “Bonfires” are regulated and require a permit issued by the Howard County Fire Marshal’s Office.
- A recreational fire is considered to be:
  - The outside burning of material for pleasure, religious ceremony, cooking, or similar purposes, and is subject to the rules and regulations set forth by the authority having jurisdiction.

#### Permitted by the Health Dept.:

- The Health Officer may issue written permission for open fires under approved conditions, such as land clearing and agricultural operations.
- For information contact Howard County Health Dept. 410-313-2640



For more information contact Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services, Fire Marshal’s Office at **410-313-6040** TTY 410-313-2323