

CHAPTER 7

FIRE PREVENTION AND FIRE PROTECTION

Part 1

Outdoor Fires

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PART 1
OUTDOOR FIRES

§7-101. Definitions.

Words used in this Part shall have their normal and customary meaning unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. Also the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

FIRE – not to include trivial combustions such as the lighting of matches, cigarette lighters or cigarettes.

OWNER – a tenant, owner, occupier or possessor of real estate within the Township.

PERSON – the masculine, feminine and neuter and shall include natural persons, firms, partnerships, corporations and unincorporated associations.

PUBLIC PROPERTY – streets and alleys ordained by the Township and other real estate owned by or dedicated to the Township.

STRUCTURE – does not include incinerators.

TOWNSHIP – Oxford Township, Adams County, Pennsylvania.

(Ord. 12, 11/30/1972, §1)

§7-102. Prohibited Acts.

It shall be unlawful for any person within the Township to:

- A. Kindle, light or maintain a fire on any public property.
- B. Kindle or maintain an outdoor fire anywhere between the time commencing one-half hour before sunset and ending one-half hour after sunrise.
- C. Haul or transport from any point outside the Township to any point within the Township, any material for the purpose of burning said material within the Township.
- D. Kindle, light or maintain an outdoor fire within 50 feet of any structure unless such fire is in a non-combustible container covered with a screen of 1/2 inch or smaller mesh.
- E. Kindle, light or maintain an outdoor fire within 15 feet of any structure.

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- F. Kindle, light or maintain an outside fire without making adequate provisions to keep such fire from spreading.
 - G. Kindle, light or maintain an outdoor fire unless the fire is attended by a person of 18 years or older with a tool readily available for extinguishing the fire.
 - H. Kindle, light or maintain an outdoor fire during any period in which the Township Supervisors have prohibited outdoor fires because of weather conditions and/or local conditions make such fires hazardous in the opinion of the Supervisors.
 - I. Allow weeds, grass, vines, brush or any combustible waste to accumulate at any place which would result in a fire hazard endangering any property.
 - J. Burn any discarded motor vehicles or any major parts or accessories thereof, without first obtaining the approval of the Township Supervisors, which approval shall designate a specific location.
 - K. Kindle, light or maintain any outdoor fire within the setback limitations provided for front, back and side boundaries in part of the Oxford Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance [Chapter 22]. [Ord. 5/7/1996]
 - L. A declaration of a burning ban by Adams County shall automatically act as a prohibition by Township Supervisors. [Ord. 99-3]
2. An owner on whose land an unlawful act is committed shall be equally responsible with the person actually committing that unlawful act unless the owner can prove the act was done without his knowledge or consent.

(Ord. 12, 11/30/1972, §2; as amended by Ord. 5/7/1996; and by Ord. 99-3; 4/6/1999)

§7-103. Nuisances.

Acts that are unlawful under this Part are hereby declared to be nuisances and the Township shall have the power to abate them and to recover the costs thereof with 10%.

(Ord. 12, 11/30/1972, §3)

§7-104. Penalties.

Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provision of this Part, upon conviction thereof in an action brought before a district justice in the manner provided for the enforcement of summary offenses under the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and, in default

of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 90 days. Each day that a violation of this Part continues or each Section of this Part which shall be found to have been violated shall constitute a separate offense. [Ord. 2003-31]

(Ord. 12, 11/30/1972, §4; as amended by Ord. 8/6/1996; and by Ord. 2003-31, 10/21/2003, §1)