



### § 91.13

A permit, duly issued by the Building and Zoning Department of the village must be obtained for bonfires.

Bonfires may be permitted only for a publicly sponsored celebration or event, or for an organization-sponsored event, or for a public or private school-sponsored event and shall be subject to meeting all requirements of the bonfire permit application obtained from and filed with the Building and Zoning Department of the village.

*Bonfire permit issuance.* Any person, firm or corporation requesting a permit for a bonfire shall submit an application, containing at a minimum the purpose of the proposed burning, nature and the quantities of material to be burned, and location of the burning site to the Building and Zoning Department of the village upon a form provided by the Building and Zoning Department of the village, which shall have the authority to approve such permits. The Building and Zoning Department of the village will use the standards as set forth in the International Fire Code at the time of application. All bonfire permit requests shall be subject to the following conditions:

- (1) *Notification.* An application for a bonfire shall be submitted in writing at least 10 days before the fire is set. The bonfire shall not be ignited prior to an on-site inspection of the location where the bonfire is to take place and shall be subject to any and all conditions and restrictions the Building and Zoning Department and the Wauconda Fire District may impose for the safety of life and property. The permit holder must call the Wauconda Fire District and the Wauconda Police Department at least 30 minutes prior to lighting the bonfire. Failure to make this notification may result in the revocation of the permit.
- (2) *Owner.* All permits shall be requested by and issued only to the owner of land upon which the bonfire is to be kindled.
- (3) *Attendance.* A responsible party, over the age 18, shall constantly attend the bonfire until the fire is completely extinguished at the end of the permit time. Fire-extinguishing equipment shall be available for immediate use.
- (4) *Location requirements.* The location for a bonfire shall not be less than 50 feet from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet of any structure.
- (5) *Dimension.* A bonfire shall not be more than 5 feet in diameter and 5 feet or less in height.
- (6) *Duration.* A bonfire shall not burn longer than 4 hours and shall be completely extinguished no later than midnight.
- (7) The Building and Zoning Department of the village or its designated enforcement representative may prohibit a bonfire when he reasonably determines that it creates a nuisance due to smoke or odor emissions when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances or if the bonfire is hazardous and presents a safety hazard to life or property. The Building and Zoning Department or its designee may order the complete extinguishment, by the permit holder, of any bonfire that the Building and Zoning Department or its designee prohibits or any such fire that adds to a hazardous situation.
- (8) Fuel for the bonfire will consist of only seasoned, dry firewood and be ignited with a small quantity of paper. The burning of garbage, refuse, rubbish, unseasoned firewood, commercial waste, construction debris, manure, leaves, brush, grass clippings, landscape waste, etc. and all items other than seasoned firewood is strictly prohibited.
- (9) *Limitations.* Maximum of 2 bonfires per year.

*Control of fires within the village.* If, in the opinion of the Building and Zoning Department of the village, or its designee, weather conditions are such that the starting or continuation of burning is a risk to life, health or property within the village, they shall have the right to declare that any and all burning shall cease immediately until further notice.

*Wauconda Fire District involvement.* In the event the Wauconda Fire District is called to control and/or extinguish any open fire, the Wauconda Fire District shall be compensated a rate as specified in ILCS Ch. 70, § 11/f.

(1978 Code, § 7-11-13) (Ord. 88-O-41, passed 11-1-1988; Am. Ord. 2009-O-54, passed 10-20-2009)