



Open Burning Guidelines

Neenah-Menasha
Fire Rescue

125 E. Columbian Ave.
Neenah, WI 54956
(920) 886-6200

All outdoor fires are prohibited in the Cities of Neenah and Menasha, unless you have obtained a proper prior from NMFR.

The intent of both Cities is to give citizens the opportunity to have recreational fires at single-family and two-family dwellings provided that such fires are in strict compliance with restrictions relating to recreational fires, detailed in the city municipal code. Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue, the City of Neenah Police Department, and the City of Menasha Police Department, are responsible for enforcing ordinance language to ensure fire & life safety, as well as minimizing nuisance complaints.

Enforcement will require an investigation into **all** complaints and an independent determination by Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue, or the appropriate Law Enforcement agency, to determine proper compliance with the municipal code.

Recreational fires are only allowed from 4:00 p.m. to Midnight.



A recreational fire is defined as a campfire for the purpose of recreation and personal enjoyment. ***Bonfires are strictly prohibited in both municipalities.***

- Recreational fires shall be a minimum of 10 ft. from any building, structure, shed, garage, fence or any other combustible material.
- Fires shall be burned in either an in-ground fire pit, or a portable fire pit. A fire pit is defined as a structure or device intended to contain and control outdoor wood fires. This includes a structure, which although not portable, is designed to contain or control outdoor wood fires. Fires may be burned in a fire pit and shall be surrounded on the outside by a non-combustible surface.
- All recreational fires shall have a diameter no greater than 30" and flames shall not extend more than 2' above the fire pit.
- You are not allowed to burn garbage, recyclable items, trash, treated or painted lumber, or any petroleum-based materials. Only clean dry firewood is allowed to be burned in fire pits.

Outdoor cooking is allowed without a permit. However, this must be in a device or structure specifically designed for cooking, eg: a grill.

If you are planning an outdoor fire, wind speed is an important thing to take note of. You may not burn when sustained wind speeds are in excess of 7 mph.



Recreational fires must be attended to at all times by at least one responsible adult, age 18 years or older, until the fire is completely extinguished.

Adequate fire suppression equipment must be immediately available to control or extinguish the recreational fire. This may include a fire extinguisher and/or garden hose. If the fire appears to be getting out of control, ***please immediately call 911.***



This brochure is to provide guidance regarding the recreational burning ordinances adopted by the City of Neenah and the City of Menasha. This brochure does not contain complete specifications regarding the specific rules and regulations detailed in the actual ordinance.

When you obtain a permit you will be provided with a copy of the ordinance from the municipality in which you reside. It is your responsibility to ensure that you review, understand, and fully comply with the recreational burning ordinance, as written, for your specific municipality.

Permits can be obtained from city hall in the city in which you reside.

Neenah City Hall
Treasurer's Office
211 Walnut St.
Neenah, WI 54956
(920)886-6144

Menasha City Hall
Treasurer's Office
100 Main St., Suite 200
Menasha, WI 54952
(920)967-3630

If you have any questions regarding open burning, please do not hesitate to call Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue or the City Hall in your municipality.

As a reminder, you will need:

- A permit from the municipality that you reside in. Permits are only good for the calendar year and must be renewed each year. The cost for a permit set by the City of Menasha is \$20.00 and the City of Neenah is \$17.00.
- You must be in full compliance of the local recreational burning ordinance and have your permit available upon request.
- Adequate fire suppression equipment shall be immediately available at all times when burning.