







Winnipeg

LICENSING & BYLAW
ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Fire Pits, Fire Bowls, Chimneas, and Other Outdoor Receptacles

Updated Nov 2026

Winnipeg
Community Services
Services communautaires

A person may not set an open-air fire unless a permit has been issued by the City of Winnipeg Fire Prevention Branch (see the following exceptions).

A permit is not required for:

- Fires within an approved receptacle on a residential property
- Fires for ceremonial or religious purposes within an approved receptacle
- Portable barbeques operated in conformance with the manufacturer's instructions
- Appliances approved by the Canadian Gas Association (CGA) operated in conformance with the manufacturer's instructions
- Fires in City-provided fixtures in campgrounds or parks owned by the City of Winnipeg, such as outdoor firepits, barbeques, and fireplaces
- Burning conducted by Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service for training purposes

Note: Declared fire bans or wind speed can supersede these exceptions



An approved fire pit must:

- Be enclosed on all sides and constructed of masonry, concrete, heavy gauge metal, or other non-combustible materials
- Be at least 15 cm (6 in) in height above the surrounding grade but no more than 60 cm (24 in) in depth when measured from the top of the pit opening to the bottom of the pit
- Have an opening that does not exceed 75 cm (2.5 ft) in diameter or an area of .56 m^2 (6 ft^2) and in which neither the width nor length is greater than 75 cm (2.5 ft)
- Have a spark arrestor, grille, or mesh with openings no larger than 12 mm (1/2 in) and which is used to cover the entire area of the fire pit opening

Open fires must:

- Be supervised by a person 18 years of age or older
- Be kept under control
- Have a supply of water, sand, or means of extinguishing the fire readily accessible
- Never cause:
  - Reduced visibility on roads
  - Spread of fire beyond approved containment
- Not be set or maintained when the wind exceeds 25 km/hr
- Be at least 3 m (10 ft) from any combustible buildings, structures, fences, trees, overhead wires, etc.
- Only burn clean, dry, unpainted, and untreated wood and no grass, leaves, brush or tree prunings, or garbage
- Be in an approved receptacle only

An approved outdoor fireplace must:

- Be constructed of masonry, concrete, or heavy gauge metal
- Have a chimney as part of the fireplace
- Have the chimney opening covered by a spark arrestor, with openings no larger than 12 mm (1/2 in)
- Have a side opening to the fire chamber less than 0.56 m^2 (6 ft^2) in area, and 75 cm (2.5 ft) in width or length
- Have the side opening covered by a spark arrestor, with openings no larger than 12mm (1/2 in)

An approved outdoor barbeque must:

- Be constructed of masonry, concrete, or heavy gauge metal
- Be enclosed on all sides
- Have all openings covered by spark arrestors, with openings no larger than 12 mm (1/2 in)
- Have a cooking surface more than 75 cm (2.5 ft) and less than 120 cm (4 ft) above the ground level
- Have a cooking surface less than 75 cm (2.5 ft) in diameter or .56 m^2 (6 ft^2) in area

Warming fires must:

- Be a metal receptacle in good repair
- Have a maximum capacity of 225 litres (50 gallons)
- Have all openings covered by spark arrestors, with openings no larger than 12 mm (1/2 in)