



# Backyard **Fire** Pits

part of safe summer fun!

- **Use clean, dry firewood.**
- **Be a good neighbour, keep your fire under control.**
- **Don't burn things that cause dense smoke and offensive odours.**

The rule is 3m (9ft, 10in) away from the house, deck, fence or anything combustible.

A fire pit can be up to 0.6m (2ft) tall, up to 1m (3ft, 3in) wide, with enclosed sides made of brick, concrete blocks, heavy-gauge metal or other non-combustible material. A metal mesh screen with 12.5mm (1/2in) openings (or smaller) must be used.

If you use a free-standing, mesh-enclosed fire pit or a clay firepot, it still must be 3m (9ft, 10in) away from anything combustible. Put a layer of sand or gravel in the bottom of a clay firepot to prevent burning through.

A heat-resistant brick or rock fireplace must be 1m (3ft, 3in) away from anything combustible. The fire chamber can be up to 1.25m (4ft) wide, with a base between 0.4m (1ft, 3in) and 0.6m (2 ft) deep, and a 2.5m (8ft) chimney. The base must be 0.3m (1ft) higher than the surrounding area.

## **Farms Only - Burning Barrels**

A burning barrel should have enclosed sides made of brick, concrete blocks, heavy-gauge metal or other non-combustible material. The following items can be burned in a burning barrel:

- Grass and weeds
- Leaves and branches from tree pruning
- Brush and fallen trees on newly cleared land
- Non-preserved treated wood from construction or demolition of buildings
- Household refuse.

## **Fire bans**

The fire chief can declare a complete ban on all burning within the city. The Fire department or RCMP, or a peace officer may ask you to extinguish your fire when a fire ban is in effect or if you are not complying with the regulations.

This is a summary of fire pit regulations in the Emergency Services Bylaw B-13/2008. Please refer to the actual bylaw on [www.airdrie.ca](http://www.airdrie.ca) for more detailed information.

