



# OPEN FIRES AND FIRE PITS

**EMERGENCY: Phone 911**

**NON-EMERGENCY: Phone 311 or email [311@winnipeg.ca](mailto:311@winnipeg.ca)**

**CONSISTENT REPORTING is CRITICAL to receive enforcement.**

Not all fire pits require permits. Fires must be in some type of contained environment and not on open grass. Fire pits are enforced through the City of Winnipeg Neighbourhood Liveability By-Law (Pg 44)

## **RECOMMENDED REPORTING for OPEN FIRES / FIRE PITS**

- If possible, speak to your neighbor in person to share your concerns. Try to develop a positive relationship. You may want to leave a flyer in the mailbox if you are unable to speak to your neighbour. A flyer on this topic has been created for you to print and leave in the mailbox. Flyers can be found on this website under 'RESIDENTS'

### **When reporting to 311**

- Report if the fire is in a receptacle, or on the ground in no container
- Report how close the fire is to combustible materials (ie: proximity to a fence, car, garage, etc) A fire pit must be at least 3 metres (10 feet) from any combustible buildings, structures, fences, trees, or overhead wires, etc.
- Report specifically where the pit is located (ie: back yard, south east corner)
- Report how often fires are held at this address
- Report if you think the fire is under adult supervision
- Report what is being burned in the fire. Plastic, rubber, tree prunings and grass are strictly prohibited
- Report if there is a party occurring and if you think alcohol is involved
- Report if you've reported open fire previously at this location
- Report if you think it may be a rental property (If the property is rented, the tenant must provide written consent from the owner or owner's agent, granting permission for the intended fire pit use.)
- Take 3-4 photos and email when you report



*Fort Richmond • University Heights*  
**NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION**  
[www.NeighbourhoodAssociation.ca](http://www.NeighbourhoodAssociation.ca)

**EXPECTED RESPONSE from the CITY:**

- The By-law Enforcement Officer will respond within 10 business days to conduct an investigation at the reported address.
- The By-law Enforcement Officer may issue a Compliance Order to have the resident relocate or remove the fire pit. The resident will be allowed time to comply.
- If the fire occurs again and is not in a contained environment, report and the By Law Enforcement Officer will return and seek compliance.
- Every inspection and repeat follow up inspections are documented, knowing that if compliance does not occur, the Officer will issue a Court Order. To stand up in Court and be enforced, the charge must be accompanied by solid documentation showing the Officer did everything in his power to reach compliance.

The City of Winnipeg has an informative webpage on [open air fires and fire pits](#).