

**OCEAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL  
INSTRUCTIONS FOR BONFIRES**

Bonfire Permit Requirements

1. Fires:
  - A. The kindling of any ground fire is permitted only on the beach between the high tide and low tide marks.
  - B. LEAVING A FIRE UNATTENDED IS PROHIBITED!
  - C. Bonfire material must be placed in a pit approximately one (1) foot deep and (3) feet larger than the outer edge of the bonfire material. Material should be stacked no higher than three (3) feet.
  - D. Bonfire material must not consist of salt treated lumber, tar paper, contents containing any rubber products, creosote treated lumber, glue impregnated material, plastic, foam or trash.
  - E. Flammable and/or combustible liquids must not be utilized for fueling the bonfires.
  - F. Upon completion of the bonfire, all ashes and leftover material must be thoroughly wet down and disposed of in the proper container(s). Material and/or hot ashes shall not be buried in the sand or disposed of in a trash dumpster.
2. Cleanup and restoration of the site must be completed by the expiration date and time set forth by this permit. The person obtaining the permit is responsible for providing the trash bags, stacking of the trash and placing all the trash in the proper containers.
3. All persons encompassed in this permit must vacate the bonfire site no later than the date and time set forth by this permit.
4. Groups under the age of 18 must be chaperoned by an adult twenty-one (21) years of age or older. **FOR SUCH GROUPS, THE PERMIT WILL ONLY BE ISSUED TO THE CHAPERONE**
5. Servicing of the bonfire site will be accomplished by hand carrying the equipment and supplies to the site. Vehicles shall not service the bonfire site.
6. The person obtaining the permit must be present during the hours of the bonfire. They must have in their possession a copy of this permit and present it upon request of a Fire Official or Police Officer. The Town of Ocean City reserves the right to check for permit compliance at any time.
7. Unsuitable wind or weather conditions must be taken into consideration prior to and during the actual bonfire, adverse conditions may cause the revocation of this permit.

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6. Application for the permit must be made in person at the Fire Marshals Office, located at City Hall 301 Baltimore Ave, during regular office hours, 8:30AM – 5:00 PM Monday through Friday. **Please schedule an appointment two (2) – three (3) weeks prior to the date of the scheduled bonfire date.** Permit Fee is \$75.00 in the form of a check or a money order payable to the Mayor and City Council.
  
7. A security deposit of \$100.00 is required in the form of a check made payable to the Mayor and City Council. The security deposit is to ensure that the person obtaining the permit will comply with the conditions of the permit and that the site is left in the same or better condition than it was when first occupied. Anytime the permit is canceled for any reason of non-compliance the deposit will be forfeited. The person obtaining the permit will be subject to receiving a bill of collection for any additional cost for cleanup of the site that exceeded the amount of the security deposit. The security deposit will be returned to the applicant if all provisions of the permit are compliant and that the site is left in the same or better condition than it was when first occupied.

Revised 07/14/2009

**OCEAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL  
APPLICATION FOR BONFIRE**

**Submit application to:  
Office of the Fire Marshal  
P.O. Box 158  
Ocean City, MD 21843**

**For Information Contact:  
Office of the Fire Marshal  
P.O. Box 158  
Ocean City, MD 21843  
Phone Number 410-289-8780**

**PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY AND COMPLETE ALL AREAS OF THE APPLICATION**

Date of proposed bonfire: \_\_\_\_\_ Time requested for Bonfire: \_\_\_\_\_ Maximum- 12:00 AM

Name and complete address of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Ocean City/local address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers that the Applicant may be reached at: Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean City/Local Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Bonfire Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean City, MD

Note: The issuance of the permit is based upon the information contained in this application only, and does not cover unsatisfactory conditions resulting from errors, omissions or failure to clearly indicate conditions. Any change(s) to the application shall be submitted to the Office of the Fire Marshal for review.

I hereby certify that I am aware of the conditions and requirements for having a bonfire and agree to comply with the conditions and requirements. I understand that failure to comply with the conditions would mean cancellation of this permit and possible denial of future permits.

Applicants Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**For Official Use Only Below**

Application received \_\_\_\_\_ Permit application # \_\_\_\_\_

Deputy Fire Marshal Assigned \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed and ready for invoicing \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant notified permit is ready for issuance \_\_\_\_\_

Revised 7/14/09

**TOWN OF OCEAN CITY OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL  
APPLICATION FOR BONFIRE**