

OPEN FLAMES OR BURNING

New Jersey Uniform Fire Code

SECTION F-401.0 GENERAL

F-401.1 Scope: The following provisions shall control open flames, fire and burning on all premises.

SECTION F-402.0 OPEN FLAME OR LIGHT

F-402.1 General: A *person* shall not take or utilize an open flame or light in any structure, vessel, boat or any other place where highly *flammable*, combustible or *explosive* material is utilized or stored. All lighting appliances shall be well secured in a glass globe and wire mesh cage or a similar approved device.

F-402.2 Heating and lighting apparatus: Heating and lighting apparatus and equipment that is capable of igniting *flammable* materials of the types stored or handled shall not be utilized in the storage area of any warehouse storing rags, excelsior, hair or other highly *flammable* or combustible material; nor in the work area of any shop or factory utilized for the manufacture, repair or renovation of mattresses or bedding; nor in the work area of any establishment utilized for the upholstering of furniture.

F-402.4 Portable LP gas cooking equipment: Portable LP-gas cooking equipment such as barbecue grills shall not be stored or used:

1. On any porch, balcony or any other portion of a building;
2. Within any room or space of a building;
3. Within five feet of any combustible exterior wall;
4. Within five feet, vertically or horizontally, of an opening in any wall; or
5. Under any building overhang.

SECTION F-403.0 OPEN BURNING

F-403.1 General: A *person* shall not cause or allow *open burning* unless approved in accordance with this code.

F-403.2 Definitions: The following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this section and as stated elsewhere in this code, have the meanings shown herein.

Bonfire: An outdoor fire utilized for ceremonial purposes.

Open burning: The burning of any materials wherein products of combustion are emitted directly into the ambient air without passing through a stack or chimney from an enclosed chamber. For the purpose of this definition, a chamber shall be regarded as enclosed, when, during the time combustion occurs, only apertures, ducts, stacks, flues or chimneys necessary to provide combustion air and permit the escape of exhaust gas are open.

Recreational fire: An outdoor fire utilized to cook food for human consumption.

F-403.3 Allowable burning: *Open burning* shall be allowed without prior notification to the fire official for *recreational fires*, *highway safety flares*, smudge pots and similar occupational needs.

F-403.4 Approval required: *Open burning* shall be allowed after obtaining approval from the fire official for a *bonfire*.

F-403.4.1 Application: Applications for *open burning* shall be submitted in writing at least ten days before the fire is set and shall be in such form and contain such information as required by the fire official. Such applications shall contain, as a minimum, information regarding the purpose of the proposed burning, the

nature and quantities of material to be burned, the date when such burning will take place, the location of the burning site and the on-site fire-extinguishing equipment to be provided.

F-403.4.2 Agricultural burning permitted: The burning of herbaceous or infested plant life, the burning of orchard prunings and cuttings, prescribed burnings and the clearing of agricultural land by burning are prohibited by this subchapter, unless in accordance with a permit issued under the provisions of N.J.A.C. 7:27-2, administered by the State Forest Fire Service in the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

F-403.4.3 Open burning prohibited: The fire official shall prohibit *open burning* that will be offensive or objectionable due to smoke or odor emissions when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous. The fire official shall order the extinguishment, by the permit holder or the fire department, of any *open burning* that creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation.

F-403.5 Location: The location for any *open burning* shall not be less than 50 feet (15240 mm) from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet (15240 mm) of any structure. Fires in approved **containers** shall be permitted, provided that such fires are not less than 15 feet (4572 mm) from any structure.

F-403.6 Materials: *Open burning* shall not be utilized for waste disposal purposes, shall be of the minimum size for the intended purpose, and the fuel shall be chosen to minimize the generation and emission of air contaminants.

F-403.7 Attendance: Any *open burning* shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. At least one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating, two portable fire extinguishers with a minimum 2-A rating each, or other approved on-site fire extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.

F-403.8 Bonfire size and duration: A *bonfire* shall not be more than 5 feet (1524 mm) by 5 feet (1524 mm) by 5 feet (1524 mm) in dimension and shall not burn longer than 3 hours. The maximum size and duration of a *bonfire* shall not be increased by the fire official unless it is determined that fire safety requirements of the situation and the desirable duration of burn warrant the increase.

F-403.8.1 Material: Fuel for a *bonfire* shall consist only of seasoned dry firewood and shall be ignited with a small quantity of paper. The fire shall not be utilized for waste disposal purposes, and the fuel shall be chosen to minimize the generation of air contaminants.

F-403.8.2 Permit: All permits shall be requested by and issued to the *owner* of the land upon which the *bonfire* is to be kindled.

SECTION F-404.O USE OF TORCHES

F-404.1 General: Any *person* utilizing a torch or other flame-producing device for removing paint from any structure or for sealing of membrane roofs, or any similar use in or around any building, structure or combustible material shall provide at least one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating, two portable fire extinguishers with a minimum 2-A rating each, or a water hose connected to the water supply on the premises where such burning is done. In all cases, the *person* doing the burning shall remain on the premises 1 hour after the torch or flame-producing device is utilized.

F-404.2 Permit required: A permit shall be secured from the fire official prior to the utilization of a torch or flame-producing device to remove paint, to seal membrane roofs, or for any similar use in or around any building, structure or combustible material.

SECTION F-405.O ASPHALT (TAR) KETTLES

F-405.1 Deleted

F-405.2 Restrictions: Asphalt (tar) kettles shall not be utilized inside or on the roof of any structure. Fired asphalt (tar) kettles shall not be left unattended.

F-405.3 Fire protection: There shall be at least one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 20-B:C rating within 30 feet (9144 mm) of each asphalt (tar) kettle during the period such kettle is being utilized, and one additional portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 20-B:C rating on the roof being covered. Every kettle shall be equipped with a tight-fitting cover. A kettle, when in operation, shall be placed a safe distance away from any structure or combustible material.

F-405.4 LPG cylinder protection: Where *liquefied petroleum gas* (LPG) cylinders or *containers* are utilized for fueling asphalt (tar) kettles, the LPG cylinder shall be protected against tampering and vandalism.

1. When possible, all LPG cylinders and *containers* shall be placed in a secured area for protection against tampering.
2. Deleted
3. The storage of LPG cylinders on rooftops shall be prohibited.