Burn Bans and Restrictions

The Fire Marshal has the authority to enact a burn restriction or burn ban for the City of Colorado Springs. Criteria used to determine when these conditions are initiated include: weather, fuel moistures, cooperator status, local and regional fire activity and national preparedness levels (which influences suppression aircraft availability). These elements are closely monitored by the Wildfire Mitigation Administrator and Fire Marshal. When predetermined criteria are met the appropriate condition is implemented. Immediate public notifications are made to the media through press releases and on the city website of such orders. The chart below outlines what is allowed during burn restrictions and burn bans:

Products	Burn Restrictions	Burn Ban
Blasting, Welding & Torches	Yes, by permit ONLY	Yes, by permit ONLY
Bonfires	No	No
Model Rockets	Yes, by permit ONLY	No
Open/Prescribed Burning	No	No
Outdoor Smoking	Yes, in designated areas; smoking materials must be disposed of in a non-combustible container. NO SMOKING IN ANY CITY PARKS AND OPEN SPACES.	Yes, in designated areas; smoking materials must be disposed of in a non-combustible container. NO SMOKING IN ANY CITY PARKS AND OPEN SPACES.
Recreational Fires*	No	No
Fireplaces (Portable propane and fixed)**	Yes, if fueled by wood, pellets, charcoal (must have a spark arrestor with these fuel types), liquid gas (LPG).	Yes, only if fueled by liquid gas (LPG)
Outdoor Cooking	Yes	Yes, only if fueled by liquid gas (LPG)

*** Fire pits are considered "recreational" and therefore CANNOT be used when the Colorado Springs Fire Department has enacted a Fire Restriction or Fire Ban**

**** "Fireplaces" refers to charcoal or gas grills, smokers and other devices intended for cooking meals. It does NOT include fire pits -- even with "spark arresters" -- as they are considered recreational only.**

Penalties for Violations

Person(s) failing to comply with a burn restriction or burn ban shall be punished in accordance with the general penalty of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs as amended (1.1.201). A careless fire that threatens or damages property is arson and shall be prosecuted as such.

Burning Leaves, Trash or Rubbish

The City of Colorado Springs has defined the burning of debris, rubbish, or trash outdoors as an illegal activity. Further, the burning of debris, rubbish, or trash is not allowed in indoor fireplaces either.

Violations should be reported to the CSFD Division of the Fire Marshal @ 719-385-5978.