

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WILDLAND FIRE DIVISION

GUIDELINES FOR
MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS
FOR OUTDOOR FIRE PITS

I. LOCATION

There shall be no overhanging branches or trees less than ten (10) feet above the fire pit. There shall be no stumps or wood piles within ten (10) feet of the outer perimeter of the fire pit.

II. FIRE PIT SITE

A. The fire pit must consist of at least three (3) sides. The fire pit (or fire ring) shall be in the center of the fire pit site. The fire pit (or fire ring) shall be surrounded by a three (3) foot wide ring minimum, cleared of all vegetation. (See Illustration of Outdoor Fire Pit Regulations)

B. The three (3) foot wide ring minimum shall be cleared to mineral soil and/or covered with gravel. A concrete pad of the same dimensions may be used in lieu of mineral soil or gravel.

C. An additional two (2) foot wide ring outside of the mineral/gravel/concrete ring may contain vegetation as long as it is three (3) inches in height or less.

[Letter D applicable for commercial locations only]

D. If the campfire site is surrounded by a road, the above B and C can be ignored.

III. FIRE PIT CONSTRUCTION.

A. The fire pit must consist of at least three (3) sides not less than ten (10) inches high.

B. The fire pit must be constructed of non-combustible materials which are fastened or mortared together and in good condition.

C. The fire pit shall be located on the fire pit site and will be immobile. (Steel fire pits must be staked down or somehow fastened to the site).