

BUTLER TOWNSHIP REMINDS RESIDENTS OF OUTDOOR FIRE HAZARDS DURING HEAT WAVE

BUTLER TOWNSHIP, PA (07-09-20) – With another day above 90 degrees, and more forecasted, Butler Township Fire Chief Chris Switala would like to remind residents of the increased risk for outdoor fires. Even with some of the rain we've had, grass is starting to brown, and brush and yard waste are becoming dry, making conditions more favorable for ignition and fire spread. A small brush fire quickly started on Monday in Butler Township due to a smoldering ember from discarded fire pit ashes.

Burning of yard waste is not permitted in Butler Township during the summer months. Burning of yard waste is only allowed in Butler Township during the months of March, April, September, October, and November (MASON), and only in accordance with regulations posted online.

Recreational fires are allowed, with no permit required. However, caution must be exercised, and the following guidance must be followed:

1. Only clean dry wood may be burned (No treated or painted lumber, rubbish, or yard waste)
2. Fire size is limited to 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height
3. Fires must be at least 25 feet from a structure or combustible material
4. Fires must be at least 10 feet away from any street or property line
5. Fires must be constantly attended
6. An approved means of extinguishment must be readily available (fire extinguisher, garden hose, water bucket)
7. Patio fire pits and chimineas must be used in accordance with manufacturer instructions
8. **Conditions must not be conducive to fire spread (dry conditions or high winds)**

As firefighters, we especially don't want to respond to fires on these extremely hot days. Heat stress can quickly cause heat exhaustion or heat stroke to a firefighter working in full protective gear. Please do your part to remain careful.

Visit www.butlertwp.org for more information.

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