



Ocean City Fire Department
Office of the Fire Marshal
301 Baltimore Ave, Ocean City, MD 21842
Phone: 410-289-8780 / Fax: 410-289-8767



Permit Requirements and Application for the use of LP/NG Outdoor Fire Appliance(s)

These regulations shall be applicable for the use of Listed Liquefied Propane (LP) and/or Natural Gas (NG) gas-fired Outdoor Fire Appliances located within the Town of Ocean City. For the purposes of these regulations, the following definitions shall apply:

Outdoor open flame fire appliance – Portable or fixed LP/NG heat and flame producing equipment utilized for the purposes of providing heating or decorative/recreational use. Appliances may be permanently installed to a fuel supply or may utilize an integrated 20lb cylinder. Examples: Gas fire pits, fire pit tables, patio flame burners, chimeneas, etc.

Patio Heater – Portable LP / NG heating appliances utilized for outdoor heating, typically supplied by an integrated 20lb cylinder and outfitted with flame screens or similar protection. Patio heaters utilized in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations in one-and-two family dwellings and townhouse-style structures do not require a permit but remain subject to the requirements outlined below.

General Requirements for All Outdoor Fire Appliances

1. Only manufactured, listed LP/NG supplied outdoor fire appliances shall be utilized. Cutt/spec sheets must be submitted on the listed equipment at the time of application. Homemade appliances shall not be permitted.
2. Outdoor fire appliances utilized in a commercial application shall be listed for commercial use, installed by competent personnel and used in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.
3. Outdoor fire appliances shall be visually inspected by the applicant before each use. Hoses shall be checked for physical damage and leaks.
4. Outdoor fire appliances shall not be permitted within enclosed spaces or tents.
5. A minimum 10-lb. (4A) Fire Extinguisher or other approved extinguishing equipment (such as a garden hose), must be readily available.
6. Outdoor fire appliances shall not be used during adverse weather conditions.
7. Storage of gas cylinders awaiting use shall not be permitted within structures.
8. The outdoor fire appliance permit will not be issued to subjects under 18 years of age.
9. A competent adult must be in constant attendance until the appliance has been turned off and allowed to cool down. **LEAVING AN OUTDOOR GAS FIRE APPLIANCE UNATTENDED IS PROHIBITED!**



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10. Outdoor fire appliances utilizing open flames (fire pits, chimeneas, etc.) are prohibited from use in the following locations, in addition to any additional limitations outlined in the manufacturer's recommendations:
 - within twenty feet (20') of any part of a structure, to include overhangs and decks.
 - on any wooden decks or combustible surfaces, regardless of proximity to a structure
 - within ten feet (10') of any combustible and/or flammable material
11. A solid barrier of non-combustible construction shall be constructed around any outdoor open flame fire appliance to prevent unintentional contact with the appliance and related burn injuries.
12. Patio heaters (outfitted with flame screens or other similar protection) may be used on ground floor patios/decks within the 20ft distance requirement above, provided that they are used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Patio heaters are prohibited from use in the following locations, in addition to any additional limitations outlined in the manufacturer's recommendations:
 - Rooftop decks of assembly occupancies
 - Within five feet (5') of any means of egress
 - Within ten feet (10') of any combustible/flammable material
 - Within ten feet (10') of any building or deck overhang

Permanent/Fixed Installations

13. **A site plan (drawing) must be submitted with the application.** The site plan must indicate the location of the appliances as it relates to egresses, structures, and flammable and/or combustible materials.
14. In addition to the main gas supply shut off, an accessible shut off valve terminating the gas supply shall be located at the individual appliance.
15. Application for a permit must be obtained from Office of the Fire Marshal during regular office hours. Permit fee is payable, in the form of a check or money order, to "Mayor and City Council of Ocean City," in the amount of \$50.00.
16. **Upon installation of permanently installed LP/NG Gas fire appliance(s) and annually thereafter, the appliance(s) shall be inspected by an inspection agency accepted by the Town of Ocean City. **The inspection agency certificate must be submitted with the permit application.****
17. A copy of this permit and regulations must be present on site and available upon request by a Fire Authority and/or Police Officer. The Town of Ocean City reserves the right to check for permit compliance at any time.
20. **When use of the appliance is conducted in an unsafe manner and/or during adverse weather conditions, or when the use of the appliance results in Nuisance Alarms for the fire department, the Fire Authority and/or Police Officer shall have use of the appliance cease, even if the Property Owner/Applicant is otherwise in compliance with this policy.**



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Application for LP/NG Outdoor Fire Appliance(s)

Submit application via email: OCFM@oceancitymd.gov
 Or by mail: **Office of the Fire Marshal**
P.O. Box 158
Ocean City, MD 21843

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

Proposed Use Location (Property/Business Name): _____

Address: _____ Ocean City, MD

Applicant Name (Please Print): _____

Applicant Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Applicant Phone Numbers: _____ Other: _____

Applicant Email Address: _____

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 have read and understand the conditions and requirements for having this permit 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: _____