

# *Burning Bylaw Fact Sheet*

---

## Medicine Hat Police Service Municipal Bylaw & Enforcement Section

Permits are required for **fire pits, outdoor fireplaces** and **barbecues (fire receptacles)** for the purpose of cooking or obtaining warmth, provided the appliances for cooking or obtaining warmth are not used on the property of the resident, or in a public area at a location approved by the authority having jurisdiction. **Manufactured and approved barbecues are exempt.**

Fire pits, outdoor fireplaces and barbecues shall meet the following requirements:

1. A minimum of 3 metres (10 feet) clearance shall be maintained from any **buildings, property lines, overhead wires, trees or any combustible materials.**
2. Installations shall have **enclosed sides**, a **minimum height** of 450mm (18 inches from ground level) and a **maximum width** of 900mm (36 inches).
3. Installations shall be made of bricks, concrete blocks, heavy gauge metal or other suitable non-combustible components.
4. A spark arrestor mesh screen of ½ inch expanded metal (or equivalent) to contain sparks shall be provided for over the fire.
5. Only **clean** fuel shall be used (clean, dry wood or charcoal).
6. Fires **must** be supervised at all times.

**Refuse or waste materials shall not be burned as this will create dense smoke or offensive odours.**

**Permits are issued by the Fire Department ph: 403-529-8282.**

Medicine Hat Police Service  
Municipal Bylaw & Enforcement Section

---

884 -2nd Street SE  
Medicine Hat, AB  
T1A 8H2

Phone: 403-529-8481  
Fax: 403-529-8444  
[www.medicinehatpolice.com](http://www.medicinehatpolice.com)



*Serving and Protecting with Pride Through Progressive and Professional Policing*

