With the approaching summer season, comes the temptation to spend an evening huddled around a relaxing fire in the backyard with friends and family. During such situations it's easy to get complacent. A small fire, within a safe contained unit, can seem harmless. Safety precautions are necessary and should be emphasized and practiced in any event fire is present to prevent a potential hazard.

Before lighting an outdoor fire, check the weather forecast. Avoid windy conditions that will blow around embers. Also stay up to date on any burn bans or burn ordinances that might be in effect at different times during the year. Doing some house cleaning, like picking up leaves and other combustible materials around the pit is important to ensure the fire doesn't accidentally spread. Burning trash or discarded construction material is prohibited. Also, always know what is burning. Certain products, such as pressure treated wood, give off toxic fumes when burned which can be hazardous to your health if inhaled. Always have a container of water nearby and a garden hose on standby before starting the fire. Finally, keep the fire small. There's no need for a blazing bonfire. The bigger the fire, the greater the potential for disaster.

Use a container of water, or hose, and douse the fire until it is fully extinguished. Continue to monitor it. Leaving an extinguished fire prematurely can result in a re-kindle.

### DON'T LET THIS BE YOU!



CALL 911

If you have any questions or concerns about the utilization of a portable fire pit or fire place, please contact us.

### Moorestown Township Fire Prevention

225 North Lenola Rd. Moorestown, NJ 08057 (856) 234-1222 FAX: (856) 234-4248 info@fireprevention31.org



## "Prevention Though Education"

## Moorestown Township Fire Prevention asks you to please...



# PRACTICE FIRE PIT SAFETY

# Portable fireplaces & fire pits shall not be used:

#### PORTABLE FIREPLACES



An outdoor fire place is permitted, provided it has an enclosed chamber for combustion as well as a stack or chimney for exhaust. A chamber shall be regarded as enclosed when during the time of combustion, only apertures, ducts, stacks, flues or chimneys necessary to provide combustion air and permit the escape of exhaust gas are open.



### **1.** Within any building or dwelling unit.

- **2.** On any combustible porch, balcony, or any other combustible portion of a building.
- **3.** Within 10 feet of any combustible exterior wall.
- **4.** Within 10 feet, vertically or horizontally, of an opening in any wall.
- 5. Under any building overhang.
- **6.** Within 10 feet of any combustible landscaping or ground covering.

# Be sure to have some sort of extinguishing agent nearby at all times.





### PORTABLE OUTDOOR FIRE PITS



Portable fire pits, when in use, shall be covered with an approved grate or screened lid at all times. A fire pit that permits smoke to be emitted directly into the air *WITHOUT* passing through a grate or screen is prohibited.

