

Outdoor Propane Fire Pits Safety Tips



Fire Pits Safety Tips on campus

- Determine the placement of your fire pit in the selected outdoor space.
- Always position the fire pit more than 7.6 metres (25 feet) from building walls, windows, and doors as well as air intakes.
- Ensure that the area around your fire pit is free from combustible materials.
- One metre (36 inches) of clearance is required between all sides of the appliance and its surrounding.
- Keep away from potentially flammable debris.
- Always keep the propane tank in an upright position.
- Always have an ABC fire extinguisher fully charged and ready for use. Fire extinguishers can be picked up at Protection Services at 141 Louis Pasteur and/or Roger-Guindon Hall, room 213. You must leave a piece of ID.
- Follow safe practices to turn on and turn off your fire pit.

City of Ottawa recommendations for outdoor fireplace

- A permit is not required for propane fireplace.
- An outdoor fireplace must:
 - be ULC/CSA approved for use in Canada



- have a safe clearance from combustibles
- be refueled safely (follow the manufacturer's instructions)
- not be used to burn wood, tree limbs, branches, and/or non-compostable material.

Using a propane tank

- Place and secure it on a firm base, away from excessive heat.
- When connecting your cylinder, note that the cylinder-valve connection has a left-hand thread. This can only be used with appliances approved for propane.
- After you have connected the cylinder, check for leaks. Use soapy water or a leak detector - never use matches or other open flames.
- Fully open the cylinder valve so that it operates properly.
- Always use a pressure-reducing regulator.

Codes and Standards that apply

- Ontario Fire Code, Regulation 213/07 Subsection 5.6.2, 2015 Edition
- NFPA 1 Fire Code, 2021 Edition
- NFPA 58 Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code, 2021 Edition
- City of Ottawa Outdoor fire safety regulation

IMPORTANT – An email request must be submitted to the Fire Safety Coordinator at least 5 days prior to using propane fire pits on campus.