SYNOPSIS OF FIRE PERMIT LAWS AND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
From RSA 227-L:17 and Res 5600

Liability - Any person, firm or corporation causing or kindling a fire without a permit, when a permit is required, and also any person by whose negligence or the negligence of his agents any fire shall be caused, is liable to the town for all expenses incurred in attending or extinguishing such fire. **If fire escapes from control you may be held liable for:** 1. Payment of damage to property of another; 2. Payment of suppression costs to the town; 3. Prosecution for failure to comply with regulations.

Penalty - Any person violating any provision of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and any person who causes or kindles a fire by any means, willfully or recklessly, which shall endanger a woodland shall be guilty of a misdemeanor if a natural person, or guilty of a felony if any other person.

Category I Fire - means a small controlled fire, such as a camp or cooking fire, **no greater than 2 feet in diameter** contained within a ring of fire resistive material or in a portable fireplace and, except for public & private campgrounds or picnic sites, **located at least 25 feet from structures.** A category I fire, conditions permitting, may be kindled with a permit at any time of day whether raining or not.

Category II Fire - means a controlled fire, such as a camp or cooking fire, **no greater than 4 feet in diameter** contained within a ring of fire resistive material or in a portable fireplace and **located at least 50 feet from structures.** A category II fire, conditions permitting, may only be kindled with a permit between the hours of 5:00 pm and 9:00 am unless it is actually raining.

Category III Fire - means any other fire, not a category I or category II fire or a fire greater than 4 feet in diameter or a fire not contained within a ring of resistive material and **located at least 50 feet from structures.** A category III fire, conditions permitting, may only be kindled with a permit between the hours of 5:00 pm and 9:00 am unless it is actually raining. May be issued for up to seven days.

Permittee - means a landowner or a person having written permission from the landowner. Permittee must be 18 years of age or older.

Permission - No person shall kindle a fire upon the land of another without written permission from the owner, agent or caretaker thereof.

Kindle - means from the point of ignition to the time of complete extinguishment.

Completely extinguished - means to extinguish so that it emits no smoke, heat or flames. The term does not include a buried fire.

Attended - means that an individual responsible for the fire and capable of extinguishing the fire is on the same property as the fire, is able to immediately extinguish the fire, and has the fire in plain view.

Raining - means sustained precipitation that is actively occurring of sufficient intensity and duration so as to prevent fire from spreading in woodland fuels.

Seasonal Permit - means a permit issued on an annual basis for a category I or II fire.

Specified Material – The Only material to be burned under this permit is clean, untreated wood or brush less than 5 inches in diameter, and meets applicable air resources regulations.

ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES!

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