



## **Voorhees Township Fire Department**

### **Fire Safety Codes and Ordinances**

The Voorhees Township Fire Department, in regards to the safety and well-being of the residents, would like to inform you of the New Jersey State Fire Code and Voorhees Township Ordinance relating to the use and storage of barbeques and decorative open-flame devices in town homes and multi-family dwellings. If you are part of an Association, please contact the management office to comply with all rules and regulations they require. These laws apply to ALL propane and charcoal grills and smokers.

- The use of electric grills and smokers are allowed, but we ask that they be used safely. The final code applies to "Tiki Torches" and any other type of flame producing decorative device such as candles and mosquito candles as an example.
- Any time these items are used, it should be done safely and a fire extinguisher should be readily available in case of a fire related emergency.
- When Smoking use a proper non-flammable receptacle, ensure extinguishment, must be emptied regularly. Receptacles should be kept away from combustible materials.

The codes are as follows: Voorhees Township Ordinance 312-17 B.

- Barbeques. No person shall operate, use or maintain any open fire or any device commonly known as a "barbeque" in or on any apartment unit, porch, balcony, patio or any other private area of an apartment or multiple-family unit.
- The patio wood-burning unit shall be located at least 15 feet from the nearest structure which is not on the same property as the patio wood-burning unit. The unit shall not be located less than 10 feet from combustible structures on the same property or on any decks, porches and balconies. N.J.A.C. 5:70-3, 308.1.4: Open-flame cooking devices Charcoal burners, other open-flame cooking devices shall not be operated or stored on combustible balconies or decks or within 5 feet of combustible construction.

N.J.A.C. 5:70-3, 308.1.4.1 Liquefied-petroleum-gas-fueled cooking devices: LP-gas burners having an LP-gas container with a water capacity greater than 2.5 pounds (nominal 1 pound (0.454 kg) LP gas capacity) shall not be located on combustible balconies or within 10 feet (3048 mm) of combustible construction. Portable LP gas cooking equipment such as barbeque grills shall not be stored or used:

- On any porch, balcony, or any other portion of a building;
- Within any room or space of a building;
- Within 5 feet (1524 mm) of any combustible exterior wall;

- Within 5 feet (1524 mm), vertically or horizontally, of an opening in any wall;
- Under any building overhang.
- Candelabras with flame-lighted candles shall be securely fastened in place to prevent overturning, and shall be located away from occupants using the area and away from possible contact with drapes, curtains or other combustibles.
- General. No person shall store or park, or cause to store or park, any internal combustion engine, vehicle or equipment (including but not limited to: motorcycle, moped, dirt bike, lawnmower, weed trimmer, snow blower or any such equipment) within or on any apartment or multifamily dwelling unit, porch, balcony, covered patio, entrance, exit, common area, laundry room, basement or mechanical room, or any other private area of an apartment or multifamily dwelling.

General Prohibition. Open burning and outdoor burning are prohibited in the Township of Voorhees unless the burning is specifically permitted by this article.

Open burning of refuse. Open burning of refuse is prohibited.

Burning trees, logs, brush, stumps, leaves, and grass clippings. Open burning of trees, logs, brush, stumps, leaves and grass clippings is prohibited.

Liability. A person utilizing or maintaining an outdoor fire shall be responsible for all fire-suppression costs and other liability resulting from damage caused by the fire.

Right of entry and inspection. The Fire Official, his/her designee may inspect any property for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with the provisions of this article.

Enforcement; violations and penalties.

(a) The Fire Official, his/her designee and the Township of Voorhees are authorized to enforce the provisions of this article.

(b) The Fire Official, at any time and with just cause, has the right to revoke a permit.

The Voorhees Township Fire Department is concerned for the safety of the residents of Voorhees Township and we hope that you will help us in our endeavor.

<https://www.vtfd66.org/>

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