

Fire Marshal's Office

(631) 329-3473 Town of East Hampton Fax (631) 329-9403

300 Pantigo Place, Suite 111, East Hampton, NY 11937

Beach Fires

BEACH FIRE - An outdoor fire burning wood materials other than rubbish on a beach where the fuel being burned is not contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, barbeque grill or barbeque pit and has a total fuel area of thirty (30) inches or less in diameter and twenty four (24) inches or less in height from natural grade for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes. All beach fires must comply with the regulations contained in Section 141-19.

§ 14M9 A. Beach Fire Regulations

1. Beach fires shall not be started or maintained less than fifty (50) feet from any beach grass, vegetation, tent, fence, building or permanent structure, nor within one hundred (100) feet of any lifeguard stand. Should there not be enough beach to comply with the fifty (50) foot setback, the location of a beach fire may be reduced to twenty-five (25) feet from any beach grass, vegetation, tent, fence, building, or permanent structure, but in no instance may a beach fire be located less than twenty-five (25) feet from any beach grass, vegetation, tent, fence, building, or permanent structure. *(Ed. Fires of greater dimension are considered "Bon Fires" and "Open Burning" and as such require a Burning Permit. An unauthorized open burning or bon fire will result in the immediate issuance of a citation.)*
2. Only clean wood shall be used for a beach fire. No chemically treated wood, or wood with paint or nails, nor wood or plastic pallets shall be used.
3. Metal, plastic or glass shall not be placed or thrown into the fire.
4. No beach fire shall be left unattended.
5. A Fire Marshal, Marine Patrol Officer or Police Officer may require that a beach fire be extinguished when deemed to be dangerous due to wind conditions or size or whenever atmospheric or other circumstances present an increased fire hazard.
6. No beach fire shall be started, kindled or maintained if the prevailing wind velocity exceeds twenty (20) miles per hour. However, the Fire Marshal, Marine Patrol Officer, or Police Officer may exercise discretion in requiring that a fire be extinguished when wind velocity exceeds ten (10) miles per hour.
7. A pail or bucket of water must be kept within ten (10) feet of the beach fire at all times.
8. Beach fires must be fully extinguished prior to 11:59 p.m.
9. A beach fire must be fully and completely extinguished with water. No burning, smoldering, smoking, hot embers or debris shall be left on the beach. No beach fire shall be buried with sand. *(Ed. People walking or jogging the beach are often*

injured from stepping unknowingly on the remains of buried beach fires, thought to have been extinguished.)

10. All fire debris must be removed and disposed of properly and the site must be restored to its natural condition at the conclusion of the night.