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PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASE

TO: Kansas City, Kansas, Residents
FROM: John Droppelmann, Fire Marshal
DATE: January 1, 2024
SUBJECT: OPEN BURNING AND RECREATIONAL FIRES

The adopted fire code for Kansas City, Kansas, defines and establishes 3 classifications of outdoor fires:

- 1) Open Burning is by Fire Department issued permits during 2 times of the year.
 - The month of April and October 16 through November 15.
 - Must follow specific restrictions as specified by City ordinances.
- 2) Recreational fires are allowable anytime of the year under the following conditions:
 - Must be inside of a ringed fire pit with a 3-foot diameter or less.
 - 'Seasoned Firewood' may only be stacked 2 feet high.
 - Must be constantly attended until completely extinguished
 - Must have a functioning water source immediately available for control.
 - May not be used to 'dispose' of yard waste, construction lumber, or rubbish.
 - Must be 25 feet from a structure, property line or combustible material.
 - Prohibited when 'Red Flag/High Fire Danger' weather conditions exist.
- 3) Special permit fires issued from the Health Department's Air Quality office must be approved by the Fire Marshal. The rules and restrictions for the permit application process can be found on the City's web page. Permit categories are:
 - Fire Safety Training Burn Permit
 - Agricultural Burn Permit
 - Ceremonial/Recreational Bonfire Burn Permit
 - Commercial land clearing with use of an Air Curtain Destructor

-All outdoor fires of any classification must be attended at all times and an approved extinguishment source must be kept near the fire for immediate use.

-Residents conducting recreational fires may still be issued a municipal summons for causing a public or private nuisance if a neighbor requests to counter-sign the summons.