



The Unitarian Universalist Community of Charlotte Fire Pit Use Policy Guidelines 2024

We hope our community firepit provides an inviting and fun gathering space for team meetings, classes for children, youth and adults, as well as social opportunities. The purpose of this policy is to allow for safe and responsible use of our community firepit by members and guests of the UUCC.

In addition to this policy, all applicable federal, state and local laws are to be followed.

Process for Reserving Firepit

To reserve use of the firepit for an activity or event, please complete a Team Activity/Event Request Form. Return the form to the staff liaison or team chairperson that closest aligns with the program area requesting to use the space.

The Office Administrator will check the facility use calendar and any pending facility requests for conflicts. All reservations are tentative and subject to availability. Requests from the Board of Trustees and/or Teams are given priority.

Rules and Guidelines for Use of Firepit

- To use the firepit you must turn in a Team Activity/Event Request Form to the Office Administrator and receive confirmation from UUCC staff.
- A point of contact must be identified as the safety patroller and their responsibility is to ensure that these fire safety protocols are being followed and ready to extinguish flames as warranted.
- The firepit cannot be used if the area is under a no burn alert.
- The firepit cannot be used when wind is over 15 mph.
- Kindling, firewood, and a lighter will be supplied in a locked storage bin near the firepit. The point of contact is responsible for ensuring that any unused firewood is returned to the storage bin and the bin locked.
- Before and after use, ensure that the firepit and area immediately surrounding the firepit are clear of clutter and debris.
- Do not place anything other than untreated wood and paper into the fire.



- Self-burning logs such as Duraflame logs are not to be used, nor are accelerants such as gas or flammable liquids to be used.
- While cooking food over the fire is permissible, do not discard food into the firepit.
- The size of the fire must remain within the confines of the firepit.
- An adult must always remain present while the firepit is in use.
- The fire must always be attended until it is extinguished.
- Before leaving the firepit area you must extinguish the fire. To do so, use the spray setting on the hose to douse the fire until no flames, sparks, or glowing embers remain.
- After extinguishing the fire place the cover over the firepit and neatly recoil and return the hose.
- No alcohol is allowed when using the fire pit as a part of the meeting or gathering.

Before use of the fire pit make sure you have easy access to water in case of an emergency and extinguish the fire at the conclusion of your gathering.

To do this you must:

- ✓ Walk to hose bib located on the left side of the fence near the small playground (Playground 3).
- ✓ Turn the water key on the bib to the left to turn the water on.
- ✓ On the hose splitter, turn the left black valve to the "on" position.
- ✓ Unreel the hose with connected spray nozzle from the hose housing and place it near the fire pit area. The hose with the connected spray nozzle must stay next to the firepit area during the entire period it is in use.
- ✓ Turn on the nozzle as needed to extinguish any fires. Always extinguish the fire when use is complete.
- ✓ Walk the hose with the connected spray nozzle back to the hose housing.
- ✓ Turn off water by turning the water key to the right, then turn the water valve back to the off position.
- ✓ Use a crank on the side of the housing to wrap hose properly.