Bonfire or Recreational Fires

The following guidelines are based on the 2003 International Fire Code, as adopted by the Basalt & Rural Fire Protection District. In the event of fire burning bans (“Red Flag” warnings, etc.) or other restrictive orders from federal, state or local governments, additional regulations may apply. Please consult the Basalt Fire Department when a campfire is being developed.

When building a fire pit for a bonfire or recreational fire:

- Build a fire pit that is 3 feet or less in diameter.
- The pit shall be no closer than 25 feet to any structure.
- While the pit is not required to be lined with concrete or masonry, a liner will further reduce the fire hazard of a recreational fire.
- A height of 2 feet of combustible material may be loaded into the fire pit.
- While a fire is burning, a person(s) shall be in continual attendance until the fire is out and the extinguished material is cold and without sparks.
- Fire extinguishing tools such as water, dirt, sand, shovels, rakes and/or a 4A rated (minimum) extinguisher will be in close proximity.
- Open burning of materials which may produce offensive or objectionable odors and smoke are strictly prohibited.
- Before a fire is started and after it is out, please call Pitkin County Dispatch at (970) 920-5310 to inform them that a fire is planned. They will be able to notify the public as necessary.
- The Basalt Fire Department may extinguish the fire if a hazardous condition exists.

We hope that the above guidelines will provide useful information for your open fire plans. Your cooperation in conforming to the above is greatly appreciated. Feel free to call with any questions.