



# PANAMA CITY BEACH FIRE RESCUE FIRE INSPECTIONS DIVISION

17007 Panama City Beach Parkway, Panama City Beach, Florida 32413  
(850) 233-5100 ext. 2413 fireinspections@pcbfl.gov

## BEACHSIDE FIRE GUIDELINES FOR COMPLIANCE



*A permit will not be issued without approval from a Fire Inspector. (A pre-inspection may be required for the issuance of any permit). The permit must be completed and filed with the City no later than 2 business days before the event for any location not previously approved for beachside permits. A maximum of 1 permit per numerical address or one for every 200 feet of Sandy Gulf Beach frontage, whichever is fewer.*

### **Seasonal Provisions:**

- Turtle Nesting Season begins May 1st and extends through October 31st.
- During Turtle Nesting Season additional requirements for the event site may apply.
- Fires conducted within 400ft require a mesh fence surrounding the perimeter of the pit
- No event will be held within 250ft of a known turtle nesting site.

### **General:**

- Events are permitted between 5:00 pm and 12:00 am, with cleanup completed by midnight.
- Applicants must be registered with the City of Panama City Beach as a Beach Service or Owner-Operator for beachside activities. Vendors must submit written authorization for any applicant acting on their behalf.
- Applicants must be at least 18 years old and assume liability for the event.
- The signed permit or City authorization must be on-site with the permit applicant during the event and be readily available for inspection by law enforcement or fire official.
- New applicants are subject to equipment inspections prior to the approval of permits.
- The permit applicant will assume all liability for extinguishment and clean-up of the entire site at the events end. Leave no trace ordinance will be followed and enforced.
- No event will be held within 250ft of a known turtle nesting site, 100ft of any habitable structures and 50ft from any vegetation, sea oats or other structures.
- A site plan must be provided indicating location of pit and distance from nesting sites, structures, dunes, etc.
- Only one fire pit property location is to be used per permit. No Exceptions.
- Property permission may be accepted and retained for one calendar year per location. If property ownership or management changes, then new permission must be obtained.
- Permit requests may be accepted for same-day events at previously approved property locations. These same-day requests must be made before 5PM via email to beachsidefire@pcbfl.gov in the following form:

Email Subject: BSF Request – *property location* – date

Body of email: *Property location*

*Date*

*Number of people attending*

*Number of pits*

*Vendor*

*Contact Phone Number*

- Fire extinguishment type on site for safety will be posted on application.
- Permitted fires must be fueled solely by propane or organic wood material via an elevated fire pit not to exceed three (3) feet in diameter and burning material shall be no higher than two (2) feet from the top of the burning container.



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- No burning of any type materials other than the gas from a propane fueled fire or organic wood materials. No building of materials such as 2x4s, creosote or wood containing glue, nails, glass, household garbage, or any other non-natural wood for burning that could cause injury to the public.
- No wood fire permits shall be issued if sustained wind conditions are greater than fifteen (15) miles per hour or gusts exceeding twenty (20) miles per hour.
- The burning material shall not touch the sandy beach and be elevated in a pit, drum or other non-flammable container, not placed in a hole in the sand.
- All burnt materials must be removed entirely from the beach by applicant and not buried, not placed in plastic trash receptacles on the beach nor discarded in the dunes. Use a metal trash receptacle for removal.
- Permits shall not be issued when PCBFR has good reason to believe that the proposed fire will endanger the public health, safety, welfare, or other people or property, or when the Florida Forest Service issues a no burn order.
- Issuance of a permit shall not excuse or relieve the applicant from any liability or responsibility for damages which may result from carelessness or neglect in setting, starting, looking after, or guarding a fire.
- Written, notarized permission is required from the property owner and/or acting agent for the Beach Service vendor to conduct business on the beachside property as well as permission for all customers and employees of the vendor to use the restrooms of the property.

#### Fees/Penalties:

- The fee for the issuance of the fire permit shall be \$50.00 for propane-fueled fire and \$75.00 for an organic wood fueled fire and allows for the approved one (1) pit per one (1) day event.
- All fees collected are non-refundable.
- Failure of adherence to the City of Panama City Beach fire rules will result in immediate extinguishment and responsible party held liable for any damages incurred.
- Failure to comply with Chapter 7 Article I Sec 7-11 of PCB Ordinances will result in fines against the responsible party of up to \$500 and constitutes as a Class 2 violation in compliance with Sec 7-502.
- Five (5) Class two (2) violations within one calendar year may result in suspension of any future permits.

*For further assistance, contact the Fire Inspections Division of Panama City Beach Fire Rescue.*

*Thank you for helping keep our community safe!*