

## FIRE PIT SPECIFICATIONS

The Fire Policy Ad Hoc Committee, made up of members from the Crystal Lakes Road and Recreation Board and its property owners, has developed specifications for the construction of safe and enjoyable fire pits. It is the mission of the committee to create specifications that are accomplishable by any property owner at minimal cost and effort.

In researching fire pit safety, the Committee found that the size, shape, materials and lid are the most important aspects of a safe fire pit. With that in mind, the Committee recommends that all fire pits in Crystal Lakes meet the following guidelines:

- Fire pit must be a permanent structure including base and sides constructed of rock, metal, masonry, or other non-flammable materials. Sides must be solid, with no air gaps. Examples include:

Rock: mortared natural or man-made rock

Metal: non-galvanized: pipe section, sheet metal box or circle, commercially made fire pit

*Because galvanized metals when heated can produce toxic materials and gases such as cyanide, fire pits with galvanized materials will not be approved.*

Masonry: mortared brick, concrete block, patio edging brick

Or any combination of the above.

Commercial gas fire pits of all designs are acceptable.

- Fire pit length/width/diameter must be no more than 36". \*\*

- Fire pit height/depth must be no less than 16" (above and below ground combined).

- Fire pit must have a solid cover of non-flammable material that fits well to prevent embers from escaping and is either heavy enough not to blow away or is securable with non-flammable straps.

- Fire pit must be in a well-controlled area without overhanging branches and a safe distance (a minimum of 15 feet) from flammable materials (trees, shrubs, buildings, propane tanks, etc). An area at least 5 feet around the pit must be cleaned down to mineral soil (cleared of pine needles, leaves, etc).

\*\* If a proposed fire pit exceeds 36", or is of a unique design, the property owner **must** submit plans to ACC for approval prior to building. Fire pits above 48" will not be approved. All fire pits will be inspected.

- Burning guidelines:

- Fire permits are required for all fires.

- Burning of inappropriate construction materials or slash piles is not permitted.

- All burning material must be contained within the fire pit.

- Flame height must not exceed 20" above the top of the pit (20" is approximately knee height).

- Minimum 5 gallons of water or charged hose at fire pit when there is a campfire.

A display of some suitable designs for fire pit construction will be posted in the entrance to the Basecamp Office.