

## AGE REQUIREMENTS:

Permits are issued to persons 18 years or older. Participants under the age of 18 shall be chaperoned by an adult EIGHTEEN (18) years of age or older. FOR SUCH GROUPS, THE PERMIT WILL ONLY BE ISSUED TO THE CHAPERONE. Children shall be accompanied by an adult at all times when near a recreational fire.

## THE PERMIT:

The person obtaining the permit must be present during the hours of the bonfire. The approved bonfire permit shall be presented upon request of a Fire Official or Law Enforcement Officer. The South Walton Fire District reserves the right to check for permit compliance at any time.

For your convenience, visit [swfd.org/beach-safety/bonfire-permit-request](http://swfd.org/beach-safety/bonfire-permit-request) to obtain your temporary beach bonfire permit on-line.

Or

Applicants may choose to obtain a permit in person **Monday through Friday, 8am-4pm at:**

**South Walton Fire District  
911 N County Highway 393  
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459  
850-267-1307**

Contact us at [beachbonfire@swfd.org](mailto:beachbonfire@swfd.org)  
for more information



Sea turtles have long called South Walton's sandy white beaches their home. Females return every two years generally between May 1<sup>st</sup> until October 31<sup>st</sup> to nest and deserve our respect and consideration.

**It is most important that beach bonfires shall be at least 200 feet away from any Sea Turtle nest.**

By leaving the beach clear of debris such as chairs, tents, umbrellas, fences etc. and by clearing other potential obstructions such as holes or hills, we can ensure the turtle has a safe path to a nesting site.

In late summer and early fall when the hatchlings begin to emerge, turn off lights near the beach that may disorientate the turtles' crawl to the surf.

For more information visit:

[www.southwالتonturtlewatch.com](http://www.southwالتonturtlewatch.com)



# BEACH BONFIRE GUIDELINES



**South Walton Fire District**

911 N County Road 393  
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459  
[www.swfd.org](http://www.swfd.org)

## LOCATION:

Bonfires are allowed at most public beach accesses which are identified by an access number located at the beginning of each boardwalk. Accesses not clearly marked are privately owned and will require written permission from the property owner before a permit is issued.

**For an authorization form contact [beachbonfire@swfd.org](mailto:beachbonfire@swfd.org)**

## CONTAINER:

Bonfire material shall be placed in a metal container such as a galvanized tub, fire pit or burn barrel and shall be no larger than four (4) feet in diameter. **The container shall have an attached bottom.** There shall be a minimum of (3) feet clearance from the outer edge of the container at all times from any combustible materials.

**BONFIRE MATERIAL SHALL BE STACKED TO ENSURE THE FLAME REACHES NO HIGHER THAN FOUR (4) FEET.**

## MATERIAL:

Flammable and/or combustible liquids shall not be utilized for fueling the bonfires. Use paper and matches rather than lighter fluid/gasoline to ignite your fire.

Bonfire material shall not consist of pressure treated lumber, tar paper, contents containing any rubber products, creosote treated lumber, glue impregnated material, plastic, foam, or household trash. All burn material shall be free of nails or other metals.

## SET UP:

Servicing of the bonfire site will be accomplished by hand carrying the equipment and supplies to the site. Vehicles shall not service the bonfire site (unless you have a beach vehicle permit).



Applicants shall adhere to the following:

- ◆ **The fire pit, galvanized tub or burn barrel shall not be buried in the sand at any time during use or after the fire.**
- ◆ **Shall be 100 feet away from habitable structures**
- ◆ **Shall be 200 feet away from sea turtle nests**
- ◆ **Shall be 50 feet away from vehicles, public roads, other structures, plants and vegetation.**

## EXTINGUISHMENT:

Upon completion of the bonfire, all ashes and leftover material must be thoroughly extinguished and removed from the beach. Material and/or hot ashes shall not be buried in the sand or disposed of in a trash dumpster.

**KEEP A SOURCE OF WATER OR OTHER EXTINGUISHING DEVICE NEARBY.**

## CLEAN UP AND RESTORATION:

Cleanup and restoration of the site shall be completed by the expiration date and time set forth by the permit. The person obtaining the permit is responsible for providing the trash bags, removing of the trash and placing all the trash in the proper containers.



**Leave the area clean, dark & flat**

## WEATHER:

Unsuitable wind or weather conditions shall be taken into consideration prior to and during the actual bonfire; adverse conditions may cause the revocation of the permit.

**Refunds or rainchecks are not granted on the permits, so please plan your event carefully.**

**Never Leave a Fire Unattended**

