

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING OPEN FIRES IN THE TOWN OF FOUR OAKS

Section 1. Open Fires – Prohibited

Section 2. Open Fires – Outdoor Appliances

Section 3. Fire Prevention Code Adopted

Section 4. Exception

Section 5. Penalty

Section 6. Effective Date

Statutory Reference: G.S. 160A-174

Section 1. Open Fires – Prohibited

No open fires are permitted in the town for the purpose of burning leaves, trash, or other combustible material. Private incinerators of metal or brick and mortar type construction shall be considered open-burning, and their use is prohibited.

Section 2. Open Fires – Outdoor Appliances

The use of outdoor appliances, limited to fireplaces, fire-pits, and barbecue grills, for preparing family meals and recreational purposes is exempt under this section. Only natural firewood, LP gas, natural gas, commercially available fire logs, and charcoal may be used in these outdoor appliances. Any outdoor appliance in use must be supervised by a competent adult and have a usable extinguishing device (fire extinguisher, water hose, etc.) within twenty-five (25) feet. Smoke conditions that are considered a nuisance to neighboring properties shall not be permitted.

Section 3. Fire Prevention Code Adopted

The current edition of the North Carolina Fire Prevention Code (North Carolina State Building Code, Volume V, Fire Prevention), as adopted and published by the North Carolina Building Code Council and as amended, is adopted by reference as fully as though set forth herein as the fire prevention code for the town.

Section 4. Exception

If a unique situation develops wherein the burning of combustible materials becomes necessary (ex., burning of a dwelling, burning of agricultural properties within the city limits), the property owner may apply at the Four Oaks Town Hall for a special burning permit. The Fire Chief, by authority of the Town Board, will then determine the sufficiency of the application and render a decision as to whether or not the burning may take place.

Section 5. Penalty

In accordance with G.S. 160A-175, violation of any provision hereof shall be a misdemeanor as provided in G.S. 14-4, punishable on conviction by a fine of more than \$50.00 but not exceeding \$500.00.

Section 6. Effective Date

This ordinance shall become effective as of December 15, 2025, and shall supersede any such ordinance that may have been in effect prior to that date.

ADOPTED, THIS THE 15TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2025.



Mike Hines, Mayor

Attest:



Rhonda Lee, Town Clerk

