

ARTICLE III  
**Beach Bonfires**  
[Added 2-9-2015 by Ord. No. 2015-7C]

**§ 174-3. Permits for beach bonfires.**

A. Definitions. As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

BEACH BONFIRE — A contained fire constructed for the gathering of individuals on Borough public beaches.

B. Beach bonfire permit.

(1) No person shall use any public beach in the Borough for use of a bonfire without first obtaining a special event permit in accordance with § 174-1A through G of this chapter. **[Amended 12-29-2022 by Ord. No. 2022-32C]**

(2) A person seeking issuance of a special event permit to conduct a beach bonfire shall file a special event application with the Borough Clerk, together with a nonrefundable application fee of \$200.

(3) (Reserved)<sup>1</sup>

(4) The applicant must also execute a hold harmless indemnification agreement with the Borough of Beach Haven.

(5) The applicant must provide a Beach Haven address on application.

(6) A beach bonfire permit shall not be issued without authorization from the Borough Fire Official. **[Added 6-13-2022 by Ord. No. 2022-10C]**

C. Restrictions of beach bonfires.

(1) Bonfire permits will only be issued from September 16 through June 14 inclusive.

(2) Bonfires may only be held between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

(3) The area which may be utilized for a beach bonfire shall be designated by the Superintendent of Public Works or, in his absence, the Chief of Police. A beach bonfire shall not be conducted within 50 feet of a structure or combustible material unless the fire is contained in a barbecue pit. Conditions that could cause a fire to spread within 50 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition. **[Amended 6-13-2022 by Ord. No. 2022-10C]**

(4) Permittees shall not suffer, permit or allow loud or boisterous conduct during the bonfire which may endanger or be likely to endanger persons or property or which will harass or annoy neighboring property owners or tenants.

(5) No alcoholic beverages shall be permitted on the beach at any time during the bonfire.

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1. Editor's Note: Former Subsection B(3), regarding posting of a security deposit, was repealed 12-29-2022 by Ord. No. 2022-32C.

- (6) No person or group shall use or place on the Borough beaches any type of wood or similar flammable material containing nails, screws, staples or any other hazardous material which may remain on the beach after. Neither will any wood or similar material treated with creosote or any other hazardous substance be used on Borough beaches for beach bonfires or any other use. Wood must to be inspected immediately prior to the bonfire by the Beach Haven Police Department. Fuel for a bonfire shall consist only of seasoned dry firewood and shall be ignited with a small quantity of paper. The fire shall not be utilized for waste disposal purposes, and the fuel shall be chosen to minimize the generation of air contaminants. **[Amended 6-13-2022 by Ord. No. 2022-10C]**
  - (7) The Beach Haven Police Department and Beach Haven Public Works Department shall have exclusive authority to order the termination of the use of beaches by an applicant in the event that it is determined by either the Police Department or a representative of the Department of Public Works that the utilization of the beach is causing an eminent threat or obvious distraction to surrounding property owners or other persons utilizing the beach.
- D. Beach bonfire size and duration. A beach bonfire shall not be more than five feet by five by five feet in dimension and shall not burn longer than three hours. The maximum size and duration of a bonfire shall not be increased by the Fire Official unless it is determined that the firesafety requirements of the situation and the desirable duration of burn warrant the increase. **[Added 6-13-2022 by Ord. No. 2022-10C]**