

Spartanburg Water System Policy and Procedures for Use of Water Supply Reservoirs

Policy for Portable Fire Rings

Adopted by the Commission of Public Works January 22, 2019

This policy is for the safe use of portable fire ring/fire pits on Spartanburg Water System (SWS) property and on permitted structures (docks/sitting areas).

Fire ring/pits are not allowed in any natural vegetated buffer area

- 1) An approved portable fire ring/pit must be easily moveable and no larger than 30-inches in diameter. It should have legs at least 4-inches in length so that it does not touch the surface it is sitting on. The fire ring/pit should also have a screen cover to prevent embers from being emitted that could result in a fire of the surrounding vegetation or structures.
- 2) The most important concern is safety of the user and the protection of the surroundings from accidental combustion. The user should follow all of the manufactures guidelines and applicable safety regulations for the safe use and operation of the fire ring/pit and to prevent personal injury or damage to private property.
- 3) The use of a portable fire ring/pit on SWS property and on permitted structures (docks/sitting areas) will require an annual renewable permit.

Note: For adjoining landowners at Lake Blalock, portable fire rings can only be used on permitted structures (docks). Fire rings/pits are not allowed on SWS property below the 720' MSL contour.

- 4) Spartanburg Water System shall not be responsible or liable for any personal injury or damage to personal property resulting from the use of a portable fire ring/pit.
- 5) The burning of rubbish, leaves, garbage or other refuse is not allowed on SWS property.
- 6) No person shall pollute the waters of the reservoirs or SWS property with waste of any kind. The permitted user is responsible for the safe and proper disposal of the ashes. The permitted user must properly cool the ashes and place them in a container suitable for proper disposal. The ashes are not allowed to be placed on SWS property or dumped into the water.
- 7) The permitted user shall be responsible for monitoring the conditions for safe burning and shall be aware of any alerts, advisories, or bans on burning that may be issued by the Department of Forestry or the Fire Marshall, and shall discontinue all burning activity until such bans are lifted. During periods of drought or when the Department of Forestry or Fire Marshall issues High Fire Conditions alerts, permits shall be deemed to be temporarily suspended.

- 8) The permitted user should take all appropriate precautions to prevent personal injury and property damage and ensure adequate horizontal and vertical clearance away from tree branches and other surrounding vegetation exists. It is suggested that a minimum of 15 feet of total clearance be maintained at all times.
- 9) It is recommended that the permitted user keep a fire extinguisher or hose nearby the entire time the fire ring/pit is in use.