

Outdoor Fireplace Requirements

- Building permit structural calculations are required for outdoor fireplace over 6' in height, measuring from grade to top of spark arrester.
- Plumbing permit is required for gas line if provided.
- Spark arrester is required for fireplace chimney.
- Chimneys of outdoor fireplaces are required by the Building Code to have a minimum 7' setback from the property line and 10' setback from buildings. The 10' setback from buildings may be exempt if the Zoning Code allows the chimney at least 2' above any roof within 10' of the chimney. Applicant should also check with the information desk in the Development Processing Center for Zoning Code setback requirements.
- Outdoor fireplaces without chimneys and less than 6' in height are considered as barbeques. No setback requirements.
- Outdoor fireplaces, barbeques and combustible construction are not allowed in Zone A of Fuel Modification Zones. Applicant should check with the Orange County Fire Authority for location of Fuel Modification Zones. In many cases, Zone A encroaches into side and rear setbacks.
- Minimum 2" clear space is required between fireplaces and combustible construction.
- Prior to issuance, Fire Authority approval must be obtained. Please refer to the OCFA fireplace form located on their website, www.OCFA.org.
- Wood burning fireplace is prohibited by SCAQMD Rule #445.