

Outdoor Fireplace Requirements

Building & Safety Division 100 Civic Center Drive Lake Forest, CA 92630 (949) 461-3470

- 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 5' 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 Planning Division in Community Development Department for
 Zoning Code setback requirements.
- Outdoor fireplaces without chimneys and less than 6' in height do not require a building permit.
 Plumbing permit for the gas line is required.
- 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.
- Wood burning fireplace is prohibited by SCAQMD Rule #445.