

North Dakota State University

Candles, Flames & Fire Safety

I. Introduction

It is the intent of this procedure to reduce or eliminate the potential threat of a fire by the improper use of open flames which may contribute to extensive property damage or loss of life at North Dakota State University. This is not intended to restrict the use of laboratory, facilities maintenance, or food service equipment used in normal operations.

II. Purpose

These guidelines are available to provide minimum health and safety information from the use of candles, flames and fire.

III. Goals

To recognize and understand the importance of reducing the risk of property damage, injury and death by learning and practicing fire safety.

IV. Guidelines

Open flame devices including, but not limited to, candles, incense, potpourri burners, bonfires, recreational fires, pyrotechnic devices, fire pits, or similar devices are prohibited on all University property, which includes academic buildings, offices, residence halls, residence apartments, and research extension centers.

- A. Exceptions for normal operations:
 - a. Food service operations
 - b. Laboratories
 - c. Facilities maintenance
- B. Prior-approval must be obtained from the University Police and Safety Office and may be granted on a case by case basis for:
 - a. Theatrical performances
 - b. Traditional ceremonies
 - c. Classroom demonstrations
 - d. Smoke foggers
 - e. Barbeque grills (only gas grills are allowed – see [grilling guidelines](#))
 - f. Open flames used in assembly occupancies must comply with the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association (IFC 308.1)
- C. An approved fire extinguisher shall be available in the immediate area where open flame devices are used.
- D. Open flame devices shall never be left unattended
- E. Caution is used when placing materials near the fire devices, such as cloth, paper, candles, etc. Consider their combustibility and flame spread rating. Candles are prohibited on tables covered with paper tablecloths.

[Request for Use of Flame Effects Before an Audience](#)