

ORDINANCE NO. 2023 - 30

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PORTIONS OF
THE SEARCY MAINTENANCE OF
PROPERTY REGULATIONS; DECLARING
AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, the City of Searcy, Arkansas has a responsibility to regulate open burning in order to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of Searcy; and

WHEREAS, the City Council previously requested Fire Chief of the City of Searcy to develop a proposal for the institution of regulations governing the burning of organic waste within the city limits of the City of Searcy; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed the proposal and does hereby adopt the additions to the Searcy Code of Ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF SEARCY, ARKANSAS:

Chapter 9 – Maintenance of Property, of the Searcy Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to add the following:

Article 9-6 – Open Burning Policy

9-6-1 – Prohibition

There shall be a general prohibition, subject to the exceptions outlined in this Article 9-6-2, on the open burning of trash, leaves, limbs, or brush all areas in the City of Searcy.

9-6-2 – Permissible Burning

The following shall be permissible instances for burning within the city limits of the City of Searcy.

9-6-2-1 – Searcy Fire Department Approved Bonfires

Upon approval by the Searcy Fire Department, recreational bonfires may be permitted. In any case, such bonfire shall only be fueled by untreated wood and no manmade materials. Upon request for approval, the Searcy Fire Department shall inspect the area, offer guidance, and render final opinion of approval, or denial, of the request.

9-6-2-2 – Recreational Residential Burning

It shall be permissible to burn untreated wood, liquid propane, or natural gas in recreational fire pits or chimeneas so long as they are at least ten

(10) feet from any structure or other combustible material. In no event shall any such fire be fueled by any manmade material.

9-6-2-3 - Any Other Instance Approved by the Searcy Fire Department

Burning shall be permissible in any other instance where the Searcy Fire Department has offered approval in writing.

EMERGENCY CLAUSE. The regulation of open burning being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare, an emergency is hereby declared, and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JULY, 2023

/s/ Mat Faulkner

Mayor of Searcy

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris

City Clerk