

Majestic Outdoors Prioritizes Firepit Safety Before Cooler-Weather Outdoor Gatherings Begin

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DURHAM, NC - October 29, 2026 -
Majestic Outdoors builds firepits and fireplaces in the Durham area, where placement, fuel choice and clearance matter to cooler-weather gatherings. A September 23 bulletin from the N.C. Forest Service urges residents to take extra care with outdoor burning as leaves fall, vegetation dries and weather changes, making fire-feature safety timely for homeowners preparing cooler-weather gatherings.

The Forest Service says wildfire activity typically increases from October through early December. Its advice is to check local restrictions and weather before burning, clear nearby leaves and other flammable material, keep an extinguishing method available, and remain with the fire until it is out. The warning covers a statewide season, not a current ban at every address. Homeowners still have to check their own conditions before the first guests pull up chairs.

A firepit location should be evaluated against the house, deck boards, railings, landscaping, furniture, and anything overhead. National Fire Protection Association guidance recommends keeping a firepit outdoors, on

level ground that will not catch fire, and at least ten feet from anything that can burn. That is general safety advice, not a universal permit clearance for every Durham property. The specific unit, fuel type, manufacturer instructions, and applicable local rules still determine what is suitable at a particular site.

The surface under the feature matters as much as the space around it. Patio blocks, brick or concrete can provide a noncombustible setting for a suitable pit, but they do not eliminate the need to consider embers and nearby structures. Wood and composite decks raise a different set of questions about radiant heat, falling embers, and the location of a hot unit among people using the deck.

A heat mat alone is not proof that a wood-burning pit belongs there. A portable unit brought onto an existing deck is not the same as a fire feature designed for that setting; its product instructions and site clearances still matter. A built-in fireplace also calls for a suitable supporting structure and clear space for heat and exhaust. Those choices are best resolved while the area is being designed, rather than on the evening a fire is lit.

Thoughtful firepit planning also helps homeowners enjoy their outdoor spaces with greater confidence. Choosing the right location, materials, and fuel type early can help prevent avoidable hazards and make cooler-weather gatherings more comfortable.

Wood-burning and gas features call for different checks. Wood fires can throw sparks and leave live embers after flames appear to have died down. Gas removes that wood-ember issue but still requires a suitable installation, equipment inspection, and use according to the manufacturer's directions.

Neither fuel makes an enclosed or roofed space automatically suitable for an open flame. Seating should leave people room to move, and children and pets need supervision around any hot feature. Keeping a means of extinguishing a fire nearby and remaining with it until it is fully out are operating decisions, not optional design details.

A homeowner in the city also needs to distinguish recreational burning from burning yard waste. The City of Durham says firepits and outdoor fireplaces may be used under applicable recreational-burning rules, but burning trash or debris inside city limits is prohibited. County regulations are separate, and restrictions can change with conditions.

Before lighting a fire, the property owner should check the rules for the actual address and any current burn ban. The Forest Service specifically cautions against burning on dry or windy days. A carefully planned feature does not override a restriction or make poor weather safe.

Majestic Outdoors designs and builds firepits and fireplaces as part of its Durham-area outdoor living work,

with wood-burning and gas options. Planning connects the feature to the surrounding patio or deck, then addresses materials, clearances and the way the area will be used. Use of the finished space still depends on weather, local rules, and attentive operation each time a fire is lit. More information about the company's fire pit service is available on its website.

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