

CHAPTER 202

FIRE ORDINANCE

MARCH 6, 1950

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TOWN OF GRAY, MAINE  
ADOPTED MARCH 6, 1950

**SECTION 202.1 – TITLE**

This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the Fire Ordinance of the Town of Gray, Maine.

**SECTION 202. 2 – PROHIBITION OF FIRES**

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to burn, kindle, ignite or set fire to any household accumulation, paper, cardboard, or other light combustible material, on his own land or elsewhere. Except when such burning shall be done in a screened receptacle having a screened covering, or a steel barrel or drum with a metal cover, and under proper safeguards, said screened receptacle, barrel or drum to be located not less than twenty-five (25) feet from any building or structure and providing at least five (5) feet of mineral soil completely surround said receptacle, barrel or drum, or except when the ground is covered with snow, without first obtaining a permit from the Fire Chief.
- B. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to burn, kindle or set fire to or ignite any combustible material of any sort within the limits of any public way, within the Town of Gray without the written permission of the Fire Chief or said Town.
- C. The Chief of the Gray Fire Department shall by publication in a Portland newspaper prohibit or ban all outdoor burning of trash, leaves, grass or other combustible materials for such period of time as he deems necessary, when in his opinion a condition of serious fire hazard exists due to drought or other reasons. During the period of such prohibition or ban it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to set fire to, burn, kindle, or ignite any trash, lumber, leaves, straw, grass or other combustible materials anywhere out-of-doors, except that during such period of prohibition or ban the Chief may grant specific written permission for burning at such time and in such manner as he deems necessary to assure safe control of fire.

**SECTION 202.3 – EQUIPMENT**

- A. No person shall use any Fire Department apparatus or equipment for any private purpose, nor shall any person willfully and without proper authority take away or conceal any article used in any way by the said Department.

- B. No person shall enter any place where Fire Department apparatus is housed or handle any apparatus or equipment belonging to said Department unless accompanied by, or having special permission of an authorized officer of the said Fire Department or by permission of the Town Manager.
- C. The Town of Gray is hereby authorized to enter into agreements or contracts with nearby communities or governing bodies of other organizations to provide the members of such communities or organization with fire protection or to establish a mutual aid system.
- D. No apparatus shall be used by the Department or any person or persons for any purpose except public fire prevention and control, or permitted to leave the Town of Gray except in response to a call for aid at a fire in a neighboring community, without the consent of the Chief of the Fire Department or the Town Manager. The officer in charge of the Department shall have power to assign equipment for response to calls for outside aid in accordance with Section 202.3.C and in any other cases only when the absence of such equipment will not jeopardize protection in the Town of Gray.

#### SECTION 202.4 – GENERAL

- A. No person shall drive any vehicle over fire hose except on specific order from the Fire Chief or other authorized officer of the Fire Department in charge, where such hose is used.
- B. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to park any vehicle in any manner which will obstruct the entrance to any fire station in said Town of Gray, or obstruct the entrance to any such fire station in any other manner, or to park any such vehicle within ten (10) feet of any fire hydrant or cistern.
- C. No unauthorized person in any vehicle shall follow within three hundred (300) feet of any apparatus belonging to the Fire Department, proceeding to answer an alarm, nor park any vehicle within three-hundred (300) feet of a fire.
- D. All motor equipment of the Fire Department, and all personal cars or vehicles of department members shall have right-of-way over all other traffic when responding to a fire alarm.
- E. No person shall maliciously turn in or cause to be turned in a false fire alarm.

#### SECTION 202.5 – PENALTIES

Any person or persons found guilty of a violation of this ordinance under Sections 1. 202-2, 202-3, or 203-4 shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty (50) dollars nor more than five hundred (500) dollars for each such violation, to be recovered by complaint to the use of the inhabitants of the Town of Gray.