A recreational fire is an outdoor fire (like a campfire) that has a total area of 3 feet or less wide and 2 feet or less in height. In wildland fire areas, the maximum area is 2 feet or less wide.

Open flames or campfires can be dangerous and can cause injuries or wildfires. Some things to know to help prevent these kinds of accidents:

- Get permission from the property owner or make sure a fire is permitted.
- Clear away flammable plants such as leaves and sticks, overhanging low branches, and shrubs.
- Never leave the fire unattended. Fires should be closely monitored by a responsible adult so that everyone remains safe.
- Pour lots of water on the fire. Continue to add water and stir with a shovel until all material is cool.
- Keep your fire to a manageable size. A small fire is easier to control.
- Maintain at least 25 feet of separation from structures and combustibles.
- Keep a bucket of water, fire extinguisher, or garden hose nearby.
- Never burn trash, rubbish, garbage or yard waste as it is prohibited by law.

Talk to your kids about fire safety.
Teach your children about fire safety and what they can do to prevent fires. The more they know, the less likely they are to cause an accident. Keep matches and lighters in a safe place, and out of reach. If clothing catches fire, Stop, Drop and Roll. Stop. Drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands. Roll over and over or back and forth until the fire is out.

For more information, visit www.vcfd.org/recreationalfiresafety