

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL



SAFETY ALERT

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SAFETY ALERT #25-1

Discontinue Use of Alcohol or Other Liquid-Burning Fire Pits — Severe Burn and Fire Hazard

Purpose:

This bulletin is issued to raise public awareness and ensure community safety regarding the significant fire and burn risks associated with alcohol or other liquid-burning fire pits. These products are commonly marketed and sold as tabletop fire pits, fire pots, portable fires, or miniature indoor fireplaces.

Background:

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has issued a Consumer Alert warning for the public to immediately stop using and cease the sale of these products due to the high risk of flash fires and explosions. These incidents have led to numerous severe burn injuries and fatalities, particularly when users attempt to refuel the fire pits with liquid fuel that is not fully extinguished.

These devices often use ethanol or other flammable liquid fuels that pool and burn with an almost invisible flame. Refueling them — even seconds after a flame appears extinguished — can result in violent flare-ups, engulfing nearby persons or objects in fire.

Key Hazards:

- Flashback or explosion during refueling
- Invisible flames leading to unintentional contact
- Instability or tip-over risks on indoor surfaces
- Proximity burns on children, pets, and bystanders
- Improper ventilation when used indoors

Please refer to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) Consumer Alert on this matter, available at:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Warnings/2025/Consumer-Alert-Stop-Using-Alcohol-or-Other-Liquid-Burning-Fire-Pits-That-Violate-Voluntary-Standards-and-Present-Flame-Jetting-and-Fire-Hazards-Two-Deaths-and-Dozens-of-Serious-Burn-Injuries-Reported>

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