



Fire Pits And Outdoor Fireplaces Pose Risk

Fire pits and outdoor fire places are fun to use, nice for social activities, great for cooking, and warm to stand near.

When the wind shifts, you can move to another side of the fire to avoid the smoke. However the neighbors cannot move their houses, their yards, their decks, or their patios.

Smoke from fire pits consists of small particles that can be drawn deeply into the lungs, exacerbating cardiovascular diseases, including asthma. Children are at great risk because their lungs are developing and exposure to pollution can harm them. Since children breathe more rapidly than adults, they are exposed to larger quantities of air pollution.

The American Lung Association reports that 7.9% of adult Iowans have asthma while 5.8% of Iowa students are afflicted with asthma. ¹

If you are thinking about installing a fire pit. . .

Think before you install a fire pit; your neighbors do not want to breathe your smoke nor do they want to suffer health problems from the particles in the smoke.

If you are plagued by the neighbor's smoke. . .

If your neighbor's smoke is causing a nuisance, you can contact the local fire department.

¹ "Current Asthma by State, 2018", American Lung Association, www.lung.org/research/trends-in-lung-disease/asthma-trends-brief/data-tables/asthma-current-state