



# GPI POLICY – OPEN AIR FIRES



Careful consideration must be given when lighting fires on Pitcairn as out of control fires affect EVERYONE.

Due to the increased open air fire incidents on Pitcairn Island caused by the burning of green waste/debris, the Island Council has assessed the risks and in the best interest of the community declared a Fire Restriction on all green waste/debris Open Air Fires so to reduce the risk of damaging or destroying life, property and the environment.

## 1. Open Air Fires

- The lighting of fires in an open air environment should be avoided if the activity is likely to cause an out of control fire.
- The burning of green waste/debris must be controlled with the use of an incinerator and the following conditions apply:

### 1.1. Accepted incinerators

- 1.1.i. A non-combustible containment with a non-combustible ember control lid such as a steel drum with steel lid;
- 1.1.ii. A dug out pit; and
- 1.1.iii. A factory made incinerator.

### 1.2. The use of incinerators

- 1.2.i. It is under the direct control of a responsible adult, who is present at all times while the fire is active;
- 1.2.ii. No combustible material is allowed within two metres of a burning incinerator; and
- 1.2.iii. An immediate supply of water or fire extinguisher is available when an incinerator is in use.

## 2. Open Air Fire Activities.

Activities such as fish fry's, camp fires, sugar cane processing, use of fireworks or ceremonial fires i.e. Bounty day celebrations must adhere to the following:

- 2.1. It is under the direct control of a responsible adult, who is present at all times while the fire is active;
- 2.2. No combustible material is allowed within two metres of the fire;
- 2.3. An immediate supply of water or fire extinguisher is available; and
- 2.4. The fire must be extinguished by a responsible adult before leaving the site.

## 3. Council Properties.

The use of mosquito coils, candles and fragrance sticks in or around any Council property must be contained on a non flammable surface and extinguished before leaving the property.

## 4. Penalties for lighting an unauthorised Open Air Fire on Pitcairn Islands.

- 4.i. Civil law suits or other activities may be taken against the person responsible for a fire by those seeking compensation for losses sustained.

Date Policy last reviewed: 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021  
Date Policy due for next review: October 2023