



# CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-5035

## Growth Management Department

300 Sixth Street

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### MEMORANDUM

TO: Rapid City Area Air Quality Board

FROM: Keri Schiferl, Air Quality Specialist <sup>KS</sup>

DATE: November 30, 2010

RE: Fire Pits and Recreational Open Burning

The Rapid City Air Quality Division received a complaint regarding fire pits and recreational open burning. The complainant requested that the Air Quality Board consider ordinance amendments to ban fire pits and recreational open burning. The complainant's concern is that the house windows cannot be left open at night because smoke from fire pits and recreational open burning fills the house.

The complainant's argument for banning fire pits and recreational open burning is that the practice is for recreational purposes only and is not used for heating. Since 2000, four other documented complaints were received by the Air Quality Division regarding smoke from fire pits. Numerous other smoke complaints were received by the Air Quality Division with the majority of the complaints originating from smoke from residential wood burning devices.

**Recommendation: The Air Quality Board may wish to consider if ordinance amendments should be adopted banning fire pits and recreational open burning.**



EQUAL HOUSING  
OPPORTUNITY

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER