



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 3, 2012**

**OUTDOOR FIREPLACES, FIRE PITS AND  
CHIMINEAS ARE PROHIBITED IN SOMERVILLE.**  
*Open Air Fires Create Significant Risks, Especially in Densely  
Populated Areas*

**SOMERVILLE** – Chief Fire Engineer Kevin Kelleher has issued his annual warning pertaining to the banning of outdoor fire pits, outdoor fireplaces and chimineas.

With the summer in full swing, the Somerville Fire Department wants to remind people that the use of any device allowing a fire to be kindled is **prohibited in Somerville**. Somerville is a densely populated city, with an older housing stock predominantly constructed of wood frame dwellings which are built closely together. With this density of the houses, it is imperative that **ALL OUTSIDE BURNING AND FIRES ARE PROHIBITED TO PREVENT FIRES FROM STARTING AND SPREADING TO MULTIPLE HOUSES.**

*All fires used for cooking should be on a charcoal briquette grill or a propane gas grill.*

If firefighters respond to your home for one of the above listed fires they will ask you to extinguish the fire and advise you that this type of fire is prohibited in the City of Somerville.

If repeat calls are made to the same unit for repeated offences, you will be subjected to fines by the Somerville Fire Department.

**- END -**

Contact:  
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