

# Ocean Beach Fire Rings

Donated Art, Clean Burning Practices Allow Fires to Continue

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Ocean Beach  
Golden Gate National Parks



## Background

In response to beachgoers' concerns that beach fires were leaving unsafe debris on the beach, as well as concerns about smoke blowing into neighborhood homes, Golden Gate National Parks initiated a public process to consider the future of fires on Ocean Beach.

Instead of banning fires, Golden Gate NP joined several organizations in a creative partnership to install artistic fire rings on portions of the beach away from neighborhood homes. Those organizations, Surfrider Foundation, Burners Without Borders, Ocean Beach Foundation, and Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, are working with Golden Gate NP to allow fires to continue.

Burners Without Borders has begun donating artistic fire rings so that fires can be physically contained. Surfrider, Ocean Beach Foundation and Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy are organizing beach cleanups to keep Ocean Beach clean and safe for both humans and wildlife.

## Beach Fire Rules

You can help keep the tradition of Ocean Beach fires alive by following these simple rules:

- No fires outside rings.
- No glass in the fires.
- No alcohol on the beach
- Burn only untreated, unpainted wood, to keep pollutants and poisons out of the air.
- Don't burn pallets or any wood containing nails or other hardware—these sharp metal objects can be dangerous.
- Bring your own firewood—don't use driftwood or other natural debris, as they serve as wildlife habitat. Gathering, cutting or scavenging of firewood or kindling is not permitted at the beach or in the park. Locally grown firewood is best.
- Burn Clean. Avoid using accelerants such as lighter fluid, as they leave pollution and poisons in the sand and the air. Paper and kindling are preferred.
- Don't burn trash. Most trash gives off pollution and poisonous gases.
- Don't try to put out a fire with sand. It only hides and insulates the fire, leaving it more dangerous. Instead, leave the fire to burn out, or put it out with water.
- Minors must be supervised by one person 21 or over for each 10 people under 18.
- Groups of more than 25 people must obtain a permit by calling (415) 561-4300.
- Overnight camping is prohibited.
- Observe all posted regulations.
- Please observe "Spare the Air days" and do not burn beach fires when air pollution is severe. When air pollution reaches unhealthy levels, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District notifies the public by declaring a "Spare the Air day." To find out if today is a "Spare the Air day," visit [www.sparetheair.org](http://www.sparetheair.org) or call 1-800-HELP-AIR.



**Universal Access**

The GGNRA is committed to universal access for all visitors. The new fire rings at Ocean Beach have the following accessibility provisions:

- Future accessible parking spaces, beach route and fire rings located at stairwell 15 & 16.
- Visitors may reserve an all-terrain wheelchair as an assisted device by calling (415) 561-4958, TTY (415) 561-4724, email richard\_delao@nps.gov. Allow 5 days' notice for reservation.



**More Information**

Fire regulations are online at: [www.nps.gov/goga/parkmgmt/fire\\_info.htm](http://www.nps.gov/goga/parkmgmt/fire_info.htm)

If you have questions or comments about beach fires and other issues affecting Ocean Beach, please e-mail: [goga\\_pase@nps.gov](mailto:goga_pase@nps.gov) or call (415) 561-4741.

**Volunteer Cleanup Days**



Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy  
 (415) 561-3077  
[www.parksconservancy.org](http://www.parksconservancy.org)  
[volunteer@parksconservancy.org](mailto:volunteer@parksconservancy.org)

Ocean Beach Foundation  
[www.oceanbeachfoundation.org](http://www.oceanbeachfoundation.org)

Surfrider Foundation  
[www.sfsurfrider.org/prog\\_cleanup.htm](http://www.sfsurfrider.org/prog_cleanup.htm)  
[info@sfsurfrider.org](mailto:info@sfsurfrider.org)

**Donate to the Public Art Project**

Burners Without Borders  
[www.burnerswithoutborders.org](http://www.burnerswithoutborders.org)