

**ORDINANCE NO. 8 - 2023**

**TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD**

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**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 252, ARTICLE III,  
ENTITLED “STORAGE OF FIREWOOD” OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD,  
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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**WHEREAS**, the Fairfield Township Committee seeks to regulate the delivery and outside storage of firewood on any type of property (i.e., residential, commercial, business, etc.) throughout Fairfield Township (“Township”) in order to maintain and promote safety, appearance, and minimize nuisances within the Township; and

**WHEREAS**, the presence, storage, and sale of firewood can create safety hazards and nuisances including, but not limited to, excessive noise, on-street parking, accumulation of trash, and diminished public safety; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee recognizes that the unregulated storage and sales of firewood can further exasperate safety hazards and nuisances; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the public interest that the storage, sale, and delivery of firewood be further regulated to minimize any potential deleterious effects in the surrounding residential neighborhoods in which they are located.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Fairfield, County of Cumberland, and State of New Jersey, as follows:

**SECTION 1.**

Chapter 252, Article III, Storage of Firewood is hereby amended as follows:

[New Title] Chapter 252, Article III, Outside Storage and Delivery of Firewood in Residential Areas.

**§ 252-14. Definitions.**

As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

**FIREWOOD** – Any and all wood logs, sticks, twigs, branches, stumps, stakes, and includes wood items of every kind and description used for fireplaces or wood-burning stoves.

**§252-16 Firewood Storage, Prohibition.**

No persons shall store firewood in the front yard on any property, except that firewood may be temporarily stored in a front yard for a period of five (5) days from the date of its delivery. Firewood may not be stored in a side yard and shall be required to meet all of the setback

requirements for an accessory structure. Storage in the yard of a property shall be effectively screened from view so it is not visible from the front yard or any street. For the purpose of this section, when a residential structure is on a corner lot, fronting on two roads, the front yard of the structure will be the portion of the structure facing the longest street frontage. Any firewood storage on the portion of the property fronting on a street but not considered the front yard will still require screening from view so it is not visible from the street. Firewood as defined herein shall not be stored on any areas on any vacant lot in any zone without obtaining a business license from the Township.

**§252-17 Outside Storage of Firewood, Generally.**

(1) For the purposes of this section a “cord of firewood” shall be defined as: a pile of stacked wood four (4) feet high by four (4) feet wide, and eight (8) feet in length, and a total of thirty-two (32) square feet in base area.

(2) The firewood shall be cut, split, prepared for use, and stored in neat, secure stacks. The firewood shall be neatly stacked and may not be stacked closer than one foot to any lot line and not higher than four feet from grade, except adjacent to a fence where firewood can be stacked as high as the fence. If the fence is on the lot line, firewood must remain one foot from the fence and the maximum height of the firewood shall be four feet. “Fences” as used in this section shall not include hedges and other vegetation. The firewood shall be stored a minimum of eight inches off the ground and on a well-supported, non-rotting base.

The maximum amount of firewood that may be stored on any property at any one-time is three (3) cords of firewood per 1,000 square feet of improvements/structures at a property. The 1,000 square feet of space can include homes, garages, barns and other exterior structures. As an example, if a property contains a 2,000 square foot home, and a 1,000 square foot pole barn, this would be a total of 3,000 square feet, which would permit storage of nine (9) cords of wood.

(4) All brush, debris and refuse from processing of firewood shall be promptly and properly disposed of within five (5) days and shall not be allowed to remain on the premises.

(5) Woodpiles that contain diseased wood that is capable of transmitting disease to healthy trees, and woodpiles that harbor or are infested or inhabited by rats or other vermin, are public nuisances and may be abated pursuant to the provisions of this Code.

(6) Firewood may be stored on a property solely for use on the premises by the occupant of the dwelling and not for resale unless a business license is obtained from the Township.

**§252-18 Violations and penalties.**

Any violation of this article shall be punishable as provided in Chapter 331, Nuisances, §331-4, Violations and Penalties. The Fairfield Township Code Enforcement Officer shall enforce the provisions of this article.

**SECTION 2.** Each section of this ordinance is an independent section, and the holding of any section or part thereof to be unconstitutional, void, or ineffective for any cause shall not be deemed to affect the validity of constitutionality of any other sections or parts thereof.

**SECTION 3.** Any ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed as to their inconsistencies only.

**SECTION 4.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication in accordance with law.


**STATE OF NEW JERSEY** :


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**COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND** :

Please take notice that the above Ordinance was adopted by the Township Committee of Fairfield Township after a public hearing on the 18th day of October, 2023.

ATTEST

  
Linda M. Gonzales, Municipal Clerk

  
Marvin Pierce, Jr., Mayor

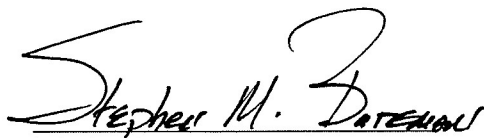
First Reading: October 4, 2023

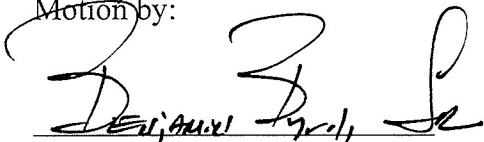
Publication on First Reading: October 11, 2023

Second Reading/Public Hearing: October 18, 2023

Publication on Second Reading: October 24, 2023

Final Adoption:

  
Motion by:

  
Seconded by:

Roll Call Vote:

Bateman 15; Byrd 2nd; Clark ✓; Peterson ✓; Pierce ✓